

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 33



Introduced by **Representative Jaime R. Fresneda**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed legislative measure aims to enhance private sector involvement in education. It seeks to achieve this by proposing necessary amendments to Republic Act No. 8525 (RA 8525), otherwise known as the “Adopt-A-School Act of 1998”.

Republic Act No. 8525 encourages private entities to support public schools through financial and in-kind donations. However, since its enactment in 1998, said law has had very limited impact due to bureaucratic challenges and insufficient incentives. Data from the Second Congressional Commission on Education’s (EDCOM 2) Year 2 Report suggests that in 2023, the total value of financial and in-kind resources generated through the Adopt-A-School Program (ASP) was P4.8 billion. This is lower by P55.2 billion from the income generated by Brigada Eskwela, which highlights a major gap in private sector participation as Brigada Eskwela is known as the program that mobilizes volunteers to help the country’s public schools prepare for the annual opening of classes.

Moreover, lack of permanent staffing also pose a significant threat to the implementation of the program as there are only two (2) employees who handle tax filing and processing. Between the years 2018 to 2023, the number of tax endorsements issued under ASP fluctuated with only 66 issued in 2023 despite total tax claims amounting to P413.4 million.

The amendments to RA 8525 under this bill aim to address such issues by streamlining processes, expanding the scope of adoption and increasing benefits for donors. This proposed legislation also seeks to expand ASP benefits to cover technical-vocational and higher education institutions, which are both underserved in the existing law. Additionally, the bill also proposes the establishment of an “Adopt-A-School One-Stop Shop”. This shall aid in the simplification of administrative procedures so as to encourage greater private sector participation. This centralized system will not only streamline the application process, but will also ensure that tax incentives and other benefits that were initially promised are processed efficiently and correctly. Under the bill, tax deductions for participating partners or business entities is also being proposed to be enhanced. Companies who provide scholarships, infrastructure support and learning materials will be entitled to a fifty-percent (50%) deduction from their taxable income. Other donations such as technology, books and educational resources will also be exempted from import duties and taxes.

The provisions of this proposed legislation aim to make the current Adopt-A-School Program a more efficient and effective mechanism for mobilizing resources. It ensures that private sector assistance meets the pressing needs of education through enhanced private sector engagement, improved tax incentives and streamlined processes.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



JAIME R. FRESNEDI
Representative
Lone District, Muntinlupa City

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AN ACT
FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE INCENTIVES FOR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS BY AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8525, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ACT OF 1998”

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8525, otherwise known as the “Adopt-A-School Act of 1998”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as the “Adopt-a-School Act [of 1998]”.

Sec. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 2. *Declaration of policy.* – It is the policy of the State to provide quality and relevant education to the Filipino youth and to encourage private initiative to support [public education] **THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC**. Towards this end, the State shall institute programs to encourage **AND INCENTIVIZE THE** private [companies and enterprises] **SECTOR** to [help] **ASSIST** in the **DEVELOPMENT**, upgrading and modernization of **THE** public [schools] **EDUCATION SYSTEM** in the country[, particularly those in poverty-stricken provinces.] **AND ESTABLISH PROPER LINKAGES BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND INDUSTRIES PARTICULARLY IN THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) STUDENTS.**”

Sec. 3. Section 3 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 3. *Adopt-a-School Program.* – There is hereby established the "Adopt-a-School Program" which will allow private **INDIVIDUALS OR** entities **WHETHER LOCAL OR FOREIGN, OF GOOD STANDING** to assist [a] public [school] **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**, whether **EARLY CHILDHOOD**, elementary, secondary, **TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL, ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM (ALS)**, or [tertiary] **HIGHER EDUCATION**, preferably located in [any of the twenty (20) poorest provinces identified by the Presidential Council for Countryside Development or any other government agency tasked with identifying the poorest provinces] **FOURTH AND FIFTH CLASS PROVINCES, CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF) AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS), EXPERIENCING SEVERE SHORTAGES, INSUFFICIENT BUDGET OR HAVING NUMEROUS POOR BUT HIGH PERFORMING LEARNERS** in, but not limited to, the following areas: [staff and faculty development for training and further education; construction of facilities; upgrading of existing facilities, provision of books, publications and other instructional materials; and modernization of instructional technologies.]

- (A) **CONTINUOUS TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT OR EDUCATION OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKERS AND TEACHERS, BASIC EDUCATION TEACHERS, SCHOOL HEADS, TVET TRAINERS AND HIGHER EDUCATION FACULTY MEMBERS;**
- (B) **EDUCATION OF LEARNERS IN THE ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM;**
- (C) **ASSESSMENTS IN PURSUIT OF RELEVANT WORK-RELATED CERTIFICATIONS AND CREDENTIALS;**
- (D) **DONATION OF REAL ESTATE PROPERTY FOR THE BENEFIT OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS;**
- (E) **CONSTRUCTION OF SCHOOL FACILITIES SUCH AS LIBRARIES AND LABORATORIES, INCLUDING THOSE RELATED TO POWER, WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE, AS WELL AS INCLUSIVE LEARNING RESOURCES;**
- (F) **UPGRADE AND REPAIR OF EXISTING FACILITIES;**
- (G) **PROVISION OF ANY AND ALL FORMS OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES, LEARNING MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT, SUCH AS BUT NOT**

LIMITED TO, PRINT AND ELECTRONIC BOOKS (E-BOOKS), OTHER FORMS OF PUBLICATIONS, EDUCATIONAL FILMS AND OTHER MULTIMEDIA MATERIALS, TECHNOLOGICAL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE AND TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL LIVELIHOOD (TVL) TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT;

(H) HEALTH AND NUTRITION PACKAGES, ESPECIALLY IN THE EARLY YEARS (FOR AGES ZERO TO FIVE);

(I) ASSISTIVE LEARNING DEVICES AND EQUIPMENT FOR LEARNERS WITH DISABILITIES;

(J) MODERNIZATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES; AND

(K) ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS, ESPECIALLY IN LEARNING RECOVERY.”

“[A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) specifying the details of the adoption shall be entered into between the adopting entity and the head of the school concerned: *Provided*, That such MOA shall be subject to review and approval of the Superintendent of Schools of the province or district concerned: *Provided, further*, That the agreement shall last for at least two (2) years with the possibility of extension: *Provided, finally*, That such period may be shortened only in cases where the adopting entity is dissolved before the end of such period unless otherwise earlier terminated in accordance with the succeeding section.]”

Sec. 4. Insert two (2) new sections after Section 3 of the same Act which shall be designated as Section 3-A and Section 3-B respectively, and which shall read as follows:

“SEC. 3-A. ADOPTION AND AGREEMENT PROCEDURE. – A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) SPECIFYING THE DETAILS OF THE ADOPTION SHALL BE ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL/S OR ENTITY/ENTITIES AND THE HEAD OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION CONCERNED: *PROVIDED*, THAT

(A) IT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF, DEPENDING ON THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION CONCERNED, AS FOLLOWS:

1. FOR ALL EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS, THE RELEVANT LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE INVOLVED;

2. FOR ALL BASIC EDUCATION UNITS AND TVET INSTITUTIONS, THE CONCERNED FIELD OFFICE SUPERVISING THE BENEFICIARY INSTITUTION; AND
 3. FOR ALL HIGHER EDUCATION UNITS, THE BOARD OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTION CONCERNED.
- (B) THE DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT SHALL BE DULY AGREED UPON BY THE PARTIES WITH A POSSIBILITY OF EXTENSION: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER*, THAT SUCH PERIOD MAY BE SHORTENED ONLY IN CASES WHERE THE ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL DIES PRIOR TO THE END OF THE PERIOD OR THE ENTITY INVOLVED IS DISSOLVED BEFORE THE END OF SUCH PERIOD UNLESS OTHERWISE EARLIER TERMINATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT;
- (C) THE MOA ENTERED INTO BETWEEN AN INDIVIDUAL AND AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION MUST BE BRIEF AND CONCISE SPECIFIC TO THE GOODS OR SERVICES BEING DONATED TO PROVIDE FOR A MORE STREAMLINED MANNER IN WHICH SUCH GOODS AND SERVICES DONATED TO THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION INVOLVED MAY BE DELIVERED.

THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL SHALL ALSO DEVELOP THE APPROPRIATE MECHANISMS TO ENABLE ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL/S AND ENTITY/IES TO ENTER INTO A MOA WITH SEVERAL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS WITHIN A REGION, SUBJECT TO THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE CONCERNED FIELD OFFICES OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN ORDER TO FACILITATE AND INCENTIVIZE THE PROVISION OF SUPPORT TO A LARGER NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS.

FURTHERMORE, ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY THAT DOES NOT AIM TO AVAIL OF ANY OF THE TAX INCENTIVES UNDER THIS LAW SHALL BE ALLOWED TO PROVIDE ANY AND ALL FORMS OF SUPPORT THAT MAY BE NEEDED BY THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED THROUGH A DEED OF DONATION, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE RELEVANT OR SUPERVISING BODIES CONCERNED.”

“SEC. 3-B. *CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ONE-STOP SHOP.* – THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) AND THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(TESDA) SHALL, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT (ECCD) COUNCIL, BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR), BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT), DEVELOP A STREAMLINED PROCESS FOR TAX INCENTIVES APPLICATION AND ESTABLISH AN INTEGRATED AND FULLY OPERATIONAL ONLINE PORTAL CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING LAWS AND GUIDELINES, ON THE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT SERVICE DELIVERY.

THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAID ONE-STOP-SHOP SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING KEY COMPONENTS SUBJECT TO FURTHER DETAIL UPON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SUCH:

- (A) THE ONLINE PORTAL SHALL BE DESIGNED TO RECEIVE QUERIES AND CONCERNS FROM PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES THAT ARE INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM AS WELL AS RECEIVE AND PROCESS APPLICATIONS FOR TAX INCENTIVES JOINTLY WITH THE BIR AND THE BOC;**
- (B) DEPED, CHED AND TESDA, AS WELL AS THE ECCD COUNCIL SECRETARIAT, SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**
 - 1. ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO IDENTIFIED PRIORITY AREAS FOR INTERVENTION;**
 - 2. ESTABLISH AN ADOPT-A-SCHOOL UNIT WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE AGENCIES AND REQUEST FOR THE CREATION OF THE APPROPRIATE PLANTILLA POSITIONS, EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF THE ECCD AS SUCH WILL BE HANDLED BY THE RESPECTIVE LGUS INVOLVED;**
 - 3. ENSURE THAT PERSONNEL IN THE FIELD UNITS ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM THROUGH MEASURES SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO PERIODIC ORIENTATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES AND OPERATIONAL MANUALS; AND**
 - 4. SUBMIT QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM TO THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL.**

(C) THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL UNIT SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. RESPOND TO QUERIES AND CONCERNS FROM PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM;**
- 2. RECEIVE, REVIEW AND PROCESS APPLICATIONS FOR TAX INCENTIVES;**
- 3. PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES THROUGH PROACTIVE COORDINATION WITH THE BIR, BOC AND OTHER RELEVANT AGENCIES;**
- 4. CRAFT AN ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION PLAN INCLUDING ITS CORRESPONDING TARGETS;**
- 5. CASCADE INFORMATION ON ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM TARGETS AND GUIDELINES TO ALL FIELD UNITS AND PRIVATE SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS;**
- 6. MONITOR AND PERIODICALLY ASSESS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM;**
- 7. PREPARE AND SUBMIT QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORTS TO THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL; AND**
- 8. CONSULT WITH PRIVATE SECTOR STAKEHOLDERS, WHEN NECESSARY, TO BE ABLE TO CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM.**

(D) ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS CONCERNED SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR ECCD IN LINE WITH THE LGU RESPONSIBILITIES STIPULATED IN THE EARLY YEARS ACT;**

2. REVIEW AND ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS WITH ENTITIES THAT PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR ECCD PROGRAMS; AND
3. DEVELOP ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES TO PROMOTE THE SUPPORT OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR FOR ECCD.

(E) THE BIR AND THE BOC SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. ENSURE AND AID IN THE CREATION OF A STREAMLINED PROCESS ALLOWING FOR THE QUICK AND EFFICIENT RECEIPT OF TAX INCENTIVES FOR ALL PARTIES THAT ENGAGE IN THIS PROGRAM;
2. IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES AND COORDINATION MEASURES THAT ALLOW FOR THE QUICK ACCESS AND TRANSFER OF INFORMATION TO AND FROM ALL THE RELEVANT OFFICES AND AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THIS PROGRAM; AND
3. CREATE A SEPARATE OFFICE OR WORKING GROUP, AS NEEDED, IN ORDER TO FOCUS ON THE ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM ALLOWING FOR THE TIMELY RESPONSE TO QUERIES AND NEEDS OF THE PROGRAM.”

Sec. 5. Section 4 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 4. *Periodic Review.* – A review of the adoption shall be undertaken by the [local school board of the province or city where the school] **CONCERNED FIELD OFFICE WHERE THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOL** is located. The standards and guidelines for the review shall be formulated by the **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council created under Sec. 7 hereof. The results of the review shall be taken into consideration in the assessment of the application for tax credits by the adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity. The [school board] **CONCERNED FIELD OFFICE** may, after an appropriate review, recommend to the **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council the termination of the adoption. The adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity may appeal the assessment to the **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council whose decision shall be final and unappealable.”

Sec. 6. Sections 5 and 6 of the same Act are hereby repealed. The following sections, which shall be designated as the new Sections 5 and 6, shall be inserted after Section 4 and shall read as follows:

"SECTION 5. INCENTIVES FOR ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES. – PROVISIONS OF EXISTING LAWS TO THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES SHALL ENJOY THE FOLLOWING INCENTIVES:

(A) ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION – EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES FOR THE "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM" SHALL BE ALLOWED AN ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION EQUIVALENT TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF SUCH EXPENSES FROM THEIR GROSS TAXABLE INCOME. THIS PROVISION SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE EXCLUSIVE TO:

- 1. ANY AND ALL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TEACHERS AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKERS;**
- 2. ALL SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDED AT THE TERTIARY LEVEL IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IF THE FUNDING AND SUPPORT INVOLVED IS FOR TECHNICAL TRAINING AND GRADUATE STUDIES OF UNDERPRIVILEGED STUDENTS AND THOSE WHO ARE PRODUCTS OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS;**
- 3. LABOR TRAINING EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISE-BASED TRAINEES ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS, PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OR PUBLIC TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DULY COVERED BY AN APPRENTICESHIP AGREEMENT UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 12063 OR THE ENTERPRISE-BASED EDUCATION AND TRAINING FRAMEWORK ACT: PROVIDED, THAT FOR THE ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FOR ENTERPRISE-BASED TRAINING OF STUDENTS FROM PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, SUCH DEDUCTION SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE TOTAL DIRECT LABOR EXPENSES. THIS DOES NOT PRECLUDE THE ENTITY FROM AVAILING OF OTHER BENEFITS AND INCENTIVES AS PROVIDED FOR BY THE PREVIOUSLY STATED ACT;**

VALUATION OF ASSISTANCE OTHER THAN MONEY SHALL BE BASED ON THE ACQUISITION COST OF THE GOODS, SERVICES AND REAL PROPERTY INVOLVED. SUCH VALUATION SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE DEPRECIATED VALUE OF THE GOODS AND REAL PROPERTY IN CASE THE SAID GOODS OR REAL PROPERTY INVOLVED HAVE ALREADY BEEN USED.

THE GOODS AND SERVICES AS INDICATED UNDER THIS PROVISION SHALL INCLUDE ALL THOSE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY USED BY THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOL OR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION INCLUDING BUT NOT EXCLUSIVE TO THE DONATION OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES, TRANSPORTATION, TECHNOLOGICAL SUPPORT, TECHNOLOGICAL HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE, ESSENTIAL AND NUTRITIONAL FOOD AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT: *PROVIDED* THAT SUCH ARE USED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE AND BENEFIT OF THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOL OR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION.

- (B) ASSISTANCE IN THE EXPEDITION OF AVAILMENT OF TAX EXEMPTIONS AND CUSTOMS CLEARANCES. – COORDINATION SHALL BE MADE BETWEEN THE CONCERNED FIELD OFFICES WHEREIN THE SCHOOLS ARE LOCATED AND THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES INVOLVED IN CERTIFYING THE TRANSFER OF GOODS AND SERVICES FROM THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY DONATING TO A PARTICIPATING SCHOOL OR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION;
- (C) ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FOR HIRING OF PUBLIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) GRADUATES. – ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES WHO HIRE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM THEIR PARTNER PUBLIC SCHOOL SHALL ENJOY AN ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION EQUIVALENT TO TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF THE SALARIES, WAGES AND BENEFITS PAID TO THE EMPLOYED SHS GRADUATE DURING THE ENTIRE FIRST YEAR OF EMPLOYMENT; AND
- (D) ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES. – IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING LAWS AND SUBJECT TO THE GUIDELINES THAT SHALL BE PROVIDED IN THE IRR, RELEVANT LGUS SHALL BE ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR OWN TAX INCENTIVE MEASURES THAT WILL INCENTIVIZE INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES TO TAKE PART IN THIS PROGRAM AND AID IN THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE EDUCATION SECTOR.”

“SECTION 6. *EXEMPTIONS FROM IMPORT DUTIES, TAXES, AND OTHER FEES.* – THE DONATED GOODS, REAL PROPERTY AND SERVICES OF AN ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES, VALUE-ADDED TAX, EXCISE TAX, DONOR’S TAX, AND OTHER FEES: *PROVIDED*, THAT SUCH

DONATIONS SHALL NOT BE RESOLD OR TRANSFERRED FOR MATERIAL CONSIDERATION"

Sec. 7. Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 7. ***ADOPT-A-SCHOOL Coordinating Council.*** – An **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council **WHICH SHALL BE UNDER THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**, is hereby created to coordinate and monitor the implementation of this Act. The Council shall be composed of the Secretary of [the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)] **DEPED**, as Chairperson; the Chairman of [the Commission on Higher Education (CHED)] **CHED**, and the Director-General of [the Technical-Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)] **TESDA** as Co-Chairpersons; **THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL (ECCD) SECRETARIAT, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF), THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR); THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC), AND** [the chairperson of the Presidential Council for Countryside Development (PCCD), and] a **PRIVATE SECTOR** representative **FROM A REPUTABLE NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION ENGAGED IN THE EDUCATION SECTOR, WHO SHALL HAVE A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS AND MAY BE REAPPOINTED FOR ANOTHER THREE (3) YEARS,** [national-federation of chambers of commerce and industry] to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, as members."

THE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT FROM A LIST OF NOMINEES SUBMITTED BY THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS. THE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE SHALL SERVE A MAXIMUM TERM OF SIX (6) YEARS: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH APPOINTMENT MAY BE TERMINATED BY THE PRESIDENT ON THE BASIS OF THE WITHDRAWAL OF ENDORSEMENT OR RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECTOR THEY REPRESENT.

APPOINTMENT TO ANY VACANCY IN THE COUNCIL SHALL ONLY BE FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF THE PREDECESSOR. HEADS OF AGENCIES MAY DESIGNATE THEIR RESPECTIVE ALTERNATES WITH RANKS NOT LOWER THAN THIRD-LEVEL POSITIONS, AS PROVIDED BY THE CAREER EXECUTIVE SERVICE BOARD, OR ITS EQUIVALENT. ALL ALTERNATES SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO DECIDE FOR OR ON BEHALF OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PRINCIPALS.

The Council shall meet once every three (3) months. The Chairpersons and members shall not receive compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursements for reasonable expenses related to the Council's activities.

THE COUNCIL SHALL COORDINATE WITH NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES (NGAS) AND EXISTING INTER-AGENCY BODIES RELEVANT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT (DEPDEV) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT."

Sec. 8. Section 9 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within [sixty] NINETY [[60] 90 days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, CHED, TESDA, ECCD COUNCIL, DTI and DOLE, in consultation with the DOF, [including the BIR, and the Bureau of Customs (BOC), as well as with the participation of the ECCD Council Secretariat,] shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations [to implement] OF this Act.

Sec. 9. Insert two new sections after Section 9 of the same Act to be designated as Sections 10-A and Section 10-B which shall read as follows:

"SECTION 10-A. TRANSITORY PROVISION. - TO PREVENT ANY DELAY IN THE DELIVERY OF GOODS, SERVICES, AND REAL PROPERTY, THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT PRIOR TO ITS AMENDMENT, SHALL STILL APPLY TO PENDING AND ON-GOING TRANSACTIONS AND/OR DONATIONS BY ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES."

"SECTION 10-B. APPROPRIATIONS. - THE INITIAL AMOUNT NECESSARY FOR THE CREATION OF ADDITIONAL OFFICES AND POSITIONS AS WELL AS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ONE-STOP-SHOP, SHALL BE CHARGED AGAINST THE CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS PROVIDED TO THE DEPED, CHED, TESDA, AND ECCD COUNCIL SECRETARIAT. THEREAFTER SUCH AMOUNTS NECESSARY FOR THE CONTINUED AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF THE YEARS FOLLOWING THE ENACTMENT OF THIS LAW."

Sec. 10. Section 11 of the same Act is hereby amended as follows:

"Sec. 11. Separability Clause. - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared INVALID OR unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect."

Sec. 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All Acts, Presidential Decrees, Executive Orders and Administrative Orders, Rules and Regulations and other such issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 12. *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,