

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. _____ 85

Introduced by **HONORABLE RAMON JOLO B. REVILLA III,**
HONORABLE LANI MERCADO-REVILLA, and
HONORABLE BRYAN B. REVILLA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish an educational assistance program called “Baon Para sa Iskolar ng Bayan” that shall grant an annual stipend for public school students from Kinder to Grade 12. Public school students enrolled in Kindergarten to Grade 8 shall receive an amount of P1,000.00, and those enrolled in Grades 9 to 12 shall receive an amount of P2,000.00. Further, the Department of Education is mandated to lead the program and establish a standardized monitoring system to ensure that such program is effectively implemented.

Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution affirms that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. It shall also establish a system of incentives which shall be available to deserving students, most especially to the underprivileged.

Quality education is an inherent right deserve by most if not all Filipinos. Beyond our individual differences, educational plays a pivotal role in driving social change, fostering empowerment, and promoting equality.

However, due to factors such as poverty and other financial challenges, many students in the country are hindered from finishing their studies. According to a 2021 report of UNESCO, at least 36% of Filipino families have to obtain loans or incur debts to afford their children's education.¹

This measure seeks to address such perennial problem by granting a stipend to most public school students to alleviate their educational expenses. It upholds our initiative and commitment to education and our staunch belief in the potential of the Filipino youth.

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


RAMON JOLO B. REVILLA III


LANI MERCADO-REVILLA


BRYAN B. REVILLA

¹ Inquirer. Unesco: 36 percent of PH families incur debts to send kids to school. Information retrieved from Unesco: 36 percent of PH families incur debts to send kids to school | Inquirer News. Dated 15 December 2021.

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**AN ACT GRANTING THE ANNUAL STIPEND FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL
STUDENTS FROM KINDER TO GRADE 12, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
'BAON PARA SA ISKOLAR NG BAYAN ACT'**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Baon Para sa
2 Iskolar ng Bayan Act”.

3
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State
5 to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality and accessible education at
6 all levels and to establish and maintain a financial assistance system that shall be
7 available to all students, especially the underprivileged. Towards this end, the State
8 shall provide for an annual stipend program to grade school students in public
9 schools in the country to provide financial aid and help them meet their educational
10 expenses.

1
2 **SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.*** – As used in this Act, the following shall mean:

- 3
- 4 (A) ***Department*** refers to the Department of Education;
- 5
- 6 (B) ***Primary Education*** refers to Grades 1 to 6 under the K-12
7 Program of Republic Act No. 10533, also known as the
8 “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013”;
- 9
- 10 (C) ***Junior High School*** refers to Grades 7 to 10 under the K-12
11 Program of Republic Act No. 10533, also known as the
12 “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013”; and
- 13
- 14 (D) ***Senior High School*** refers to Grade 11 to 12 under the K-12
15 Program of Republic Act No. 10533, also known as the
16 “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013”.

17
18 **SEC. 4. *Coverage.*** – This Act shall public school students in kindergarten,
19 primary education level, junior high school and senior high school levels under the
20 basic education program of the Department of Education.

21
22 **SEC. 5. *Annual Stipend Program.*** – It is hereby established the “Baon Para
23 Sa Iskolar ng Bayan” Program that shall grant an annual stipend to eligible public
24 school students as defined in Section 4 hereof.

1 **SEC. 6. *Stipend Amount.*** – The amount to be given to eligible public students
2 shall be as follows:

- 3
- 4 (A) Kindergarten and Grades 1 to 8 – P1,000.00; and
5 (B) Grades 9 to 12 – P2,000.00.

6

7 **SEC. 7. *Lead Agency.*** – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall be the
8 lead agency in the implementation of this Act.

9

10 **SEC. 8. *Monitoring, Reporting, and Evaluation of the Baon Para Sa Iskolar ng Bayan Program.*** – The Department shall establish a standardized monitoring,
11 reporting, and evaluation system to properly document every approved project under
12 the Program. *Further*, however, That existing laws on privacy and confidentiality
13 such as Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”
14 shall be complied with.

16

17 **SEC. 9. *Appropriations.*** – During the initial year of the implementation of
18 this Act, the requisite fund shall be sourced from the available funds of the
19 Department and subsequently the amount necessary to implement the provisions
20 thereof shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

21

22 **SEC. 10. *Congressional Oversight Committee.*** – There is hereby created a
23 Congressional Oversight Committee to oversee, monitor, and evaluate the
24 implementation of this Act. The Oversight Committee shall be composed of five (5)
25 members from the Senate and from the House of Representatives, including the
26 Chairs of the Committees on Basic Education, Arts, and Culture, and Finance in the
27 Senate and Appropriations in the House of Representatives, respectively. The

1 membership of the Committee for each House shall have at least one (1) opposition
2 or minority member.

3

4 **SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days
5 from the effectivity of this Act, the Department, in coordination with relevant
6 government agencies and stakeholders, shall issue the necessary rules and
7 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

8 **SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part of this Act is declared
9 invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts of this act shall remain
10 in full force and effect, and the application of such provision to other persons or
11 circumstances shall not be affected.

12
13 **SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, orders, issuances, rules, and
14 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
15 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

16
17 **SEC. 14. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
18 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,