

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 50




Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Uniformed personnel from the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG, and BuCor go through life-threatening tasks – they are consistently at risk of getting killed or injured. Thus, the government should give them extra incentives for their exceptional dedication by extending help to the needs of the family members of those who are killed or permanently incapacitated in line of duty. The least that the government can provide for their families is to give them help in terms of educational assistance and benefits.

Hence, this bill seeks to give educational assistance and benefits to the dependents or surviving children of those deceased or permanently incapacitated members of the above mentioned uniformed personnel. Dependents are automatically and without qualification be granted full scholarship from elementary to tertiary level in a non-exclusive institution. Said scholarship shall include payment of tuition and miscellaneous fees, allowance for books and school supplies, and allowance for food and transportation.

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


MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III
Representative
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 50

Introduced by MAGDALO Party-List Representative
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III

AN ACT

GRANTING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI), PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (PDEA), PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD (PCG) AND BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) WHO ARE KILLED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTY OR BY REASON OF THEIR OFFICE OR POSITION

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 “*Uniformed and Law*
2 *Enforcement Personnel Educational Assistance and Benefits Act*”.

3
4 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.***— It is hereby declared policy of the State to
5 recognize the vital role of the members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP),
6 Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Bureau of Jail
7 Management and Penology (BJMP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine Drug
8 Enforcement Agency (PDEA), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and Bureau of Corrections
9 (BuCor) in the maintenance of peace and public order in our country and to ensure that the
10 dependents of those who are killed in action or are permanently incapacitated while in the
11 performance of their duty or by reason of their office or position are provided with
12 educational assistance and benefits.

13
14 **SECTION 3. *Permanent incapacity; Definition.*** – Permanent Incapacity shall refer
15 to physical or mental ill-health or infirmity which is: (i) permanent, (ii) prevents a member
16 from pursuing his or her normal employment, and (iii) seriously impairs his or her earning
17 capacity.

18
19 **SECTION 4. *Grant of Educational Assistance and Benefits.***— All the surviving
20 children of the members of the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG and BuCor who
21 are killed or permanently incapacitated while in the performance of their duty or by reason of
22 their office or position shall automatically and without qualification be extended full
23 scholarship from kindergarten to tertiary level whether baccalaureate, formal or non-formal
24 education or training program in a non-exclusive school or institution; Provided, that the

1 surviving spouse if he or she so desires may also avail of the benefit; Provided further, that, if
2 the deceased or disabled personnel is single, his or her qualified dependent siblings may also
3 avail of this benefit. The scholarship privilege shall include, but shall not be limited to,
4 payment of tuition and miscellaneous fees, allowance for books and school supplies and
5 allowance for food and transportation.

6 **SECTION 5. Uniformed and Law Enforcement Personnel Scholarship Board.**— The
7 scholarship funds collected hereunder shall be managed and administered in accordance with
8 the policies formulated by an inter-agency scholarship board to be known as the
9 Uniformed and Law Enforcement Personnel Scholarship Board, which shall be created and
10 formally organized within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act. The Board shall be
11 composed of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the
12 Secretary of Justice, the Secretary of Transportation and Secretary of the Department of
13 National Defense, or their alternatives, as Co-chairmen and one (1) member each to represent
14 the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG and BuCor.

15
16 The Board shall serve as the policy making body vested with the authority to come-up
17 with the mechanics, scope and limitations, and requirements for scholarship program
18 pursuant to the objectives of this Act. The Board shall, however, delegate the responsibility to
19 implement the screening, admission, qualification, disqualification and other scholarship-
20 related availment processes to the respective scholarship bodies of the AFP, PNP, BFP,
21 BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG and BuCor, in accordance with the guidelines to be prescribed by
22 the Board. If the agency concerned does not have an existing scholarship board or body, the
23 head of agency is authorized to create such board or body or to delegate its function to an
24 existing bureau, division or office which could concurrently perform such functions.

25
26 **SECTION 6. Authority to accept donations; Tax Exemption.** — The Uniformed and
27 Law Enforcement Scholarship Board and the respective board or bodies of the concerned
28 agencies shall have the authority to accept donations, contributions, grants in cash or in kind,
29 from appropriate sources, domestic or foreign. Said donations shall be used exclusively to
30 complement the funding requirements of the scholarship program subject to the existing
31 government accounting and auditing rules and regulations; Provided, That any donation,
32 contribution or financial aid which may be made to the Board and to respective board or
33 bodies of the concerned agencies shall be exempt from taxes of any kind and shall constitute
34 allowable deductions in full from the income of the donors, contributors or givers for income
35 tax purposes. Furthermore, the Board and to the respective board or bodies of the concerned
36 agencies are authorized to invest so much of the idle funds as may be necessary for the
37 purpose of generating additional revenue for the benefit of the scholarship program subject to
38 the guidelines as may be prescribed by the board.

39
40 **SECTION 7. Funding of Educational Assistance and Benefits.** — The amounts
41 necessary to fund the educational assistance and benefits for the surviving children of the
42 deceased or permanently incapacitated Uniformed and Law Enforcement Personnel provided
43 under this Act shall be separately sourced and utilized, as follows:

- 44
45 A. For PNP, license fees collected from the PNP firearms, and explosive office;
46 B. For AFP, prevailing funds exclusively allocated for scholarship including
47 applicable grants and donations and other service income;
48 C. For BFP, subsidy income from the National Government;

1 D. For PCG, collection from permits and licenses fees, fines, and penalties,
2 service income, and other general income; and

3 E. For NBI, income from government services, particularly new clearance fees,
4 including miscellaneous income.
5

6 For PDEA, BJMP and BuCor, the amounts necessary for the educational assistance
7 and benefits shall be included in their respective budgets under the annual General
8 Appropriation Act.
9

10 The concerned agencies may also determine or generate additional sources of funds
11 for the continuity of their scholarship assistance programs under this Act.
12

13 **SECTION 8. Appropriations.**—Any shortfall in the amount necessary to fund the
14 educational assistance and benefits specified above shall be included in the respective annual
15 budgets of the AFP, PNP, BFP, NBI, and PCG to be enacted as part of the annual General
16 Appropriations Act; Provided, That any deficiencies in the financial requirements may
17 likewise be taken from savings on the personal services of the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI,
18 PDEA, PCG and BuCor and the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Funds (MPBF); Provided,
19 further, That the Uniformed Personnel Scholarship Board may, consistent with Sec. 5 of this
20 Act, identify, develop and/or generate additional sources of funds to further support this
21 scholarship program.
22

23 **SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.**— The Uniformed and Law
24 Enforcement Personnel Scholarship Board herein created shall promulgate, formulate and
25 issue, within sixty (60) days from its creation, the necessary implementing rules and
26 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
27

28 **SECTION 10. Separability Clause.**— If any provision or part this Act is held illegal,
29 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provisions not otherwise affected
30 shall remain valid and subsisting.
31

32 **SECTION 11. Repealing Clause.**— Presidential Decree No. 577, RA 6963, and all
33 other laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction,
34 administrative orders, rules and regulation or parts thereof which are contrary to or
35 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended
36 accordingly.
37

38 **SECTION 12. Effectivity Clause.**— This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
39 its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the country or
40 in the Official Gazette, whichever comes first.

Approved,