

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **3724**



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Introduced by Representative Aileen C. Radaza

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Providing quality education to its citizenry is a state obligation. This obligation does not only include the provision of affordable and quality education but also the advancement of sound and favorable environment for learning.

The need for the creation of such environment is highlighted by the state of dormitories and boarding houses that students have to live with. This reality is even made worse for those students who belong to the lower income families, majority of them from the provinces.

This bill seeks to encourage the private sector to invest in the establishment of student dormitories or housing projects by providing them incentives. It also mandates the National Housing Authority and the Commission on Higher Education to take the lead in ensuring accessibility and affordability of living quarters to students.

Through this we can facilitate the creation of a safer and better learning environment that our students deserve, most especially for those pursuing higher education in places far away from home.

  
AILEEN C. RADAZA

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STUDENT HOUSING ACT OF 2016

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress Assembled.*

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared the policy of the state to develop a comprehensive and integrated student housing and dormitory program in order to promote the welfare of the students.

SECTION 2. The National Housing Authority, in addition to the powers granted under existing laws, is hereby authorized to:

- 2.1 finance under liberalized credit terms student housing or dormitories under any of the following schemes:
  - a. affordable interest rates and long-term payment schemes;
  - b. graduate amortization scheme that will ensure smaller amortization during the initial period of payment; and
  - c. subsidy of a portion of the interest payments, or a portion of the capital cost of construction
- 2.2 establish throughout the country student housing or dormitories in places where educational institutions are located;
- 2.3 regulate the reasonable margin of profit of any person, corporation or partnership investing in student housing or dormitory under this Act.

SECTION 3. Any provision of the law to the contrary notwithstanding, all lands, buildings and improvements, actually directly and exclusively used under the purposes of this Act and shall the incomes derived therefrom shall be exempt from all kinds of taxes, duties, fees and charges and other assessments for five (5) years from the actual use of the student housing of dormitory.

SECTION 4. The National Housing Authority shall, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education, establish a program whereby a minimum of five percent (5%) and a maximum of ten percent (10%) of the occupancy spaces of the student housing or dormitories constructed pursuant to this Act, shall be furnished for free in favor of poor and deserving students. The provision shall be made an integral part of the credit arrangement granted by the National Housing Authority under this Act.

SECTION 5. The National Housing Authority shall, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SECTION 6. For the purpose of carrying out the provision of this Act, the sum of One Hundred Million Pesos (P100,000,000.00) shall be appropriated annually for five (5) years from the effectivity hereof.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes first.

*Approved,*