

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 1523



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVES ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr. and
ELIZALDY S. CO

AN ACT
GRANTING PRIVILEGES TO STUDENTS AT ALL LEVELS
IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

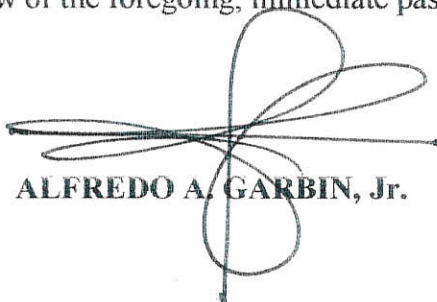
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Many of today's youth fail to enter and finish school due to the rising cost of tuition fees and the price hike of commodities such as books and school supplies. The cost of education has considerably increased over the years and at present, only a fortunate handful are able to go to school and actually finish tertiary education.

The proposed bill seeks to ease the pressure of high educational costs imposed upon students on a day-to-day basis by granting additional privileges and discounts to students on basic goods and services such as transportation, basic school supplies, tuition fees, and admission fees to galleries and museums.

If the government is able to pass a law providing discounts to senior citizens and persons with disabilities, then it is about time that we consider the plight of students who are our nation's future.

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


ALFREDO A. GARBIN, Jr.


ELIZALDY S. CO

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Student Privilege Act of 2016.”
2

3 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to prioritize
4 quality education and take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all by easing the
5 pressure of high educational costs through the grant of privileges and discounts to students on basic
6 goods and services.
7

8 **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- 9 a. Student – refers to any resident citizen of the Philippines, regardless of age, and duly
10 enrolled in the elementary, secondary, or tertiary level in any public or private academic
11 institution recognized by the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on
12 Higher Education (CHED);
13
14 b. Discount – refers to an amount deducted or counted off from the cost of goods or services;
15
16 c. Education Services – refer to education-related expenditures such but not limited to the
17 purchase of books and school supplies.
18

19 **SECTION 4. Benefits and Privileges.** – Upon presentation of a Student Privilege
20 Identification Card provided for under Section 5 of this Act, a student shall be entitled to the following:

- a. Twenty percent (20%) discount in actual fare for land transportation travel in Public Utility Buses (PUBs), Public Utility Jeeps (PUJs), taxis, Asian Utility Vehicles (AUVs), shuttle services and public railways, including Light Rail Transit (LRT), Mass Rail Transit (MRT), and Philippine National Railways (PNR);
- b. Ten percent (10%) discount on the sale of textbooks and other basic school supplies;
- c. Five percent (5%) discount on admission fees charged by theaters, art galleries, libraries, stage theaters, and cultural events; and
- d. Free admission to museums and national historical shrines except during school activities such as field trips, and subject to capacity and availability to be determined by the National Museum and/or the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.

All establishments and institutions concerned shall post or caused to be posted, in conspicuous places within their premises, notices indicating the benefits provided for under this Act.

SECTION 5. Student Privilege Identification Card. – For purposes of this Act, the DepEd or the CHED, as may be applicable, shall issue a Student Privilege Identification Card to students, duly signed and validated by the heads of their respective schools. The Student Privilege Identification Card shall properly identify the student and contain the list of privileges granted by this Act and shall be renewed annually. It is non-transferable and violation hereof shall be a ground for the forfeiture of the privileges.

SECTION 6. Non-Diminition of Benefits. – Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish or abolish existing privileges granted by other laws to students.

SECTION 7. Penalties. – Violation of any provision of this Act shall be punished, after due notice and hearing, according to the following:

- a. For the first violation, suspension of the license to operate or the business permit of the establishment or person concerned for not less than two (2) weeks but not more than four (4) weeks and a fine of not less than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) but not more than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00).
- b. For any subsequent violation, suspension of the license to operate or the business permit of the establishment or the person concerned for not less than four (4) weeks and a fine of not

1 less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00), but not exceeding Two Hundred Fifty
2 Thousand Pesos (P250,000.00).

3
4 If the offender is a corporation, partnership, organization or any similar entity, the officials
5 thereof directly involved such as the president, general manager, managing partner, or such other
6 officer charged with the management of the business affairs shall be liable therefor.

7
8 **SECTION 8. Implementing Rules.** – The DepEd and the CHED, in consultation with the
9 Department of Finance (DOF) and Department of Transportation (DOTr), National Museum (NM), and
10 National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), and other concerned private and public
11 agencies, shall issue the implementing rules and regulation to ensure the effective implementation of
12 this Act.

13
14 **SECTION 9. Repealing Clause.** – All provisions of laws, orders, decrees, including rules and
15 regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

16
17 **SECTION 10. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
18 unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

19
20 **SECTION 11. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

22 *Approved,*