

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

2943

HOUSE BILL NO. _____



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ALFRED VARGAS

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS
OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

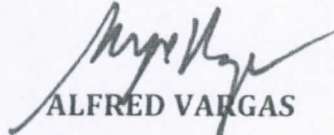
Article XIV, Section 2 (1) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

"Establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society."

Education is a key foundation towards the growth and success of every individual. Undeniably, teachers play an extraordinary part in the lives of the children with disability. The emotional, social and physical development of young children has a direct effect on their overall development and on the adult they will become. That is why understanding the need to invest in very young children is so important, so as to maximize their future well-being. Thus, major efforts should be undertaken to give our teachers adequate training in order to ensure quality education and to properly address the needs of the children with disability.

The proposed bill seeks to establish a comprehensive training program for teachers of children with disability.

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


ALFRED VARGAS

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

Section 1. – Short Title – This Act shall be known as the “Teachers of Children with Disability Enhancement Act.”

Section 2 – Program Authorized – Secretary of Education is authorized to award grants in accordance with this Act to carry out activities and programs designed to increase the preparedness of mainstream classroom teachers for the preparation of children with disability in such classrooms through training program.

Section 3 – Use of Funds – Funds provided pursuant to this Act shall be used to award grants to state universities which shall be required to put up special training programs for teachers. The special programs shall consist of modules designed to increase awareness of teachers of children with disability on the special nature of such children, with emphasis on their peculiar needs to equip them with strategies on how to reach out to these children.

Section 4 – Special Program Curriculum – The Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), shall prescribe the special program curriculum to be offered in state universities offering training programs. The special program curriculum shall include special courses on child psychology, teach the substance and teaching skills associated with handling of children with disability, develop special materials and methods, conduct pilot and demonstration projects, and involve participation of experts in child psychology in the provision of special activities designed to enhance the teaching skills of teachers of children with disability.

Section 5 – Application Required – Each entity desiring a grant under this Act shall submit an application to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

Section 6 – Appropriations – There shall be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Section 7 – Separability Clause – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

Section 8 – Repealing Clause – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

Section 9 – Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,