

Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2797**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ABIGAIL FAYE C. FERRIOL-PASCUAL**

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The increase in tuition and other fees in schools have become a burden to Filipinos. Oftentimes occurring annually, this has been experienced both in public and private schools. With wages not able to keep up with the rising cost of education, aside from other basic needs, parents have faced increasing difficulty in providing for the quality education of their children.

In order to mitigate this situation, this bill prohibits public and private schools from disallowing their students from taking the midterms and final exams because of delinquency in paying tuition fees. While serving as advocate of the primacy of meeting the educational needs of students, this bill considers the interests of the school authorities as well.

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

  
**ABIGAIL FAYE C. FERRIOL-PASCUAL**  
Representative  
Kalinga Party list

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Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ABIGAIL FAYE C. FERRIOL-PASCUAL**

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**AN ACT**  
**PROHIBITING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS FROM DISALLOWING**  
**STUDENTS WITH DELINQUENT TUITION FEES TO TAKE THE MIDTERM OR**  
**FINAL EXAMINATIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. *Unlawful Practice.*** – It is hereby declared unlawful for any school, whether public or private, to disallow any student from taking any midterm or final examination due to non-payment of tuition fees not exceeding one installment under the established terms of payment prescribed by the school concerned and approved by the Department of Education.

**SEC. 2. *Rights of Schools.*** – Students permitted to take mid-term or final examinations notwithstanding, the school authorities have the following rights:

- a. The school authorities concerned are entitled to withhold the release of the grades of such students until the unpaid tuition, plus interest charges, are fully paid;
- b. A student with an unpaid tuition fee may not be admitted by the school authorities concerned in the succeeding semester classes or in the succeeding opening of a new academic year, as the case may be, until prior delinquencies are fully paid;
- c. The school authorities concerned cannot be compelled to issue clearance to students with financial obligations to their schools, which remain due and unpaid.

**SEC. 3. *Obligation of Students.*** – The students and/or their parents, unless waived by the school authorities concerned shall be obligated to pay an interest for the unpaid tuition fees, an amount equivalent to not more than 5% per annum, computed from the date of the examination taken until the tuition due and unpaid, are fully liquidated.

**SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Secretary of the Department of Education shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 5. *Penal Clause.*** – Violations of the provisions of this Act shall be punished by the suspension and/or cancellation of the permits of the offending schools.

**SEC. 6. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,