

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FIRST REGULAR SESSION

17 FEB 27 P 6:41

SENATE S. B. NO. <u>1357</u>

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT

EXPANDING THE PURPOSES AND APPLICATION OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND (SEF) AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 272 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE OF 1991, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Special Education Fund arises from the additional one (1%) tax on real property and is allotted by the Local Government Code to the local school boards. This Fund is allocated by the Code for the operation and maintenance of public schools, construction and repair of school buildings, facilities and equipment, educational research, purchase of books and periodicals, and sports development in amount determined by the local school boards themselves.

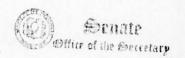
At the outset, basic public education is the responsibility of the central government, carried out by the Department of Education. Nonetheless, the local government units may provide supplementary funding to public basic education since they have access to a sustainable source of financial resources to augment school resources and to upgrade educational quality.

However, these purposes and applications do not respond to the challenges of the changing times. Thus, there is need to amend the Local Government Code. To ensure the quality of our education system, the purposes and applications of Special Education Fund must be expanded.

Earnest passage of this bill is highly sought.

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JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO



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

SECTION 1. Section 272 of Republic Act No. 7160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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"The proceeds from the additional one percent (1%) tax on real property accruing to the Special Education Fund shall be automatically released to the local school boards; Provided, that in case of provinces, the proceeds shall be divided equally between the provincial and municipal school boards; Provided, however that the proceeds shall be allocated for the operation and maintenance of public schools, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF ELECTRIC AND WATER BILLS; construction and repair of school building, facilities and equipment, PAYMENT OF SALARIES, ALLOWANCES, AND OTHER BENEFITS OF TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL, ESTABLISHMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF EXTENSION CLASSES, INCLUDING THE CREATION OF TEACHER ITEMS FOR SAID CLASSES, educational research, purchase of [books] PRESCRIBED TEXTBOOKS, periodicals, TEACHING AIDS, OTHER INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, and

sports development as determined and approved by the local school board."

17 18 SECTION 2. Repealing Clause. All laws, order, decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

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6 **SECTION 3.** *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Adopted,