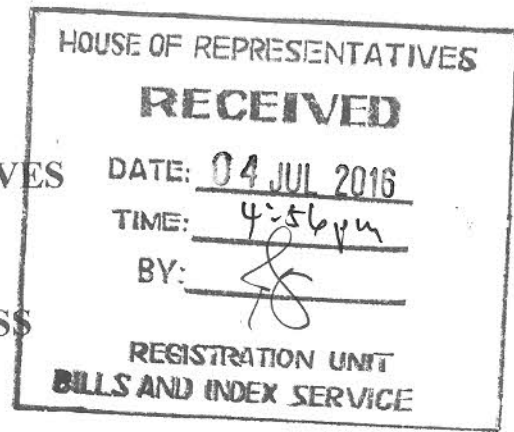


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL No. 955**



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Introduced by : **Honorable ROSENDA ANN OCAMPO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The 1987 Philippine Constitution under Article 14, Section 2 (1) provides:

*SEC. 2 (1). The State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.*

Health care has always been last among the priorities of many Filipino families. In many cases, a lot of our countrymen seek medical attention only if their condition is already at its worst.

Many children with handicap or special needs are forced to enroll in regular education classrooms due to lack of special schools for them.

As children with special needs are mainstreamed, it is critical that these children are placed in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their needs and that their teachers in regular classrooms have an understanding of their special needs.

This bill seeks to establish a comprehensive training program for teachers of children with special needs.

  
**ROSENDA ANN M. OCAMPO**

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**“AN ACT ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE  
TRAINING PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS OF CHILDREN  
WITH SPECIAL NEEDS”**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the *“Teachers of Children  
with Special Needs Enhancement Act.”*

**SECTION 2. Program Authorized.** - The Secretary of the Department of  
Education (DepEd) 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 special needs in  
such classrooms through training programs.

**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  
program teachers. The special programs shall consists of modules designed to  
increase the awareness of teachers of children with special needs on the special  
nature of such children, with emphasis on their peculiar needs and to equip them  
with strategies on how to reach out to these children.

**SECTION 4. Special Program Curriculum.** - The Secretary of DepEd, in  
coordination with the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education, 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 associated with handling of  
children with special needs, develop special materials and methods, conduct pilot  
and demonstration projects, and involve designs to enhance the teaching skills of

**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, rules or regulations contrary to or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

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

**APPROVED.**