EXPLANATORY NOTE

Diligent college students deserve the accolade they get. It bears testimony to their hard work, patience, determination, and many days of sacrifice. In recognition of their exceptional academic feat, Latin honors are conferred them. They graduate, as may be the case, *summa cum laude* or with highest distinction; *magna cum laude* or with great distinction; and *cum laude* or with distinction.

Such conferment highlights their commencement exercises and accords them their moment to savor the fruits of their labor and trace their steps back and relish their conscious and deliberate effort to excel in their studies. Such recognition reinforces their positive values and affirms their victory. That moment will define the kind of leaders they will be in their chosen realm.

By granting them monetary reward, their success is all the more accentuated and the incentive sets a very positive precedence.

The immediate passage of this proposed measure is most earnestly sought.

[Signature]

PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO
AN ACT
GRANTING CASH REWARD TO RECIPIENTS OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARDS OR LATIN HONORS IN COLLEGE

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Cash Reward for Academic Excellence Awardees Act."

SEC 2. There shall hereby be granted cash reward to recipients of Academic Excellence Award or Latin Honors on the occasion of their commencement exercises, as follows:

- **Summa Cum Laude:** P30,000.00
- **Magna Cum Laude:** P20,000.00
- **Cum Laude:** P10,000.00

SEC. 3. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the 2020 appropriations of the Commission on Higher Education. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,