Explanatory Note

Article II, Section 26 of the 1987 Constitution provides that:

"The State shall guarantee equal access to opportunities for public services, and prohibit political dynasties as may be defined by law."

It is also provided by the Civil Service Act of 1959, Section 23, that opportunity for government employment shall be open to all qualified citizens and positive efforts shall be exerted to attract the best qualified or unclassified service. Employees shall be selected on the basis of their fitness to perform the duties and assume the responsibilities of the positions whether in the competitive or classified or in the non-competitive or unclassified service.

It is the purpose of the Civil Service Act to provide within the public service a progressive system of personnel administration to insure the maintenance of an honest, efficient, progressive and courteous civil service in the Philippines.

The Government has invested in education through the Universal Access to Tertiary Education Law. Further, the law, under Presidential Decree No. 907 grants those who graduated summa cum laude, magna cum laude or cum laude a Civil Service Eligibility. In line with this, priority should be afforded to qualified honor graduates, as this will be their way of giving back to the country. It may also be a means for the students to strive academically in order for them to be prioritized in the appointment for government service.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill in earnestly sought.

JOHN MARVIN "YUL SERVO" C. NIETO
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4972

Introduced by Hon. John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto

AN ACT
GRANTING PRIORITY TO HONOR GRADUATES OF STATE COLLEGES &
STATE UNIVERSITIES IN THE APPOINTMENT OF CIVIL SERVICE
EMPLOYEES

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 "Public
School Honor Graduates Priority Act".

SEC. 2. Priority in Appointment. - In the appointment of civil service
employees, priority shall be given to honor graduates of state colleges and
state universities of the Philippines: Provided, that the employee possesses all
the minimum qualifications for the position as required by law.

SEC. 3. Penalties. - In the exercise of its disciplinary authority, the
Civil Service Commission shall impose upon the concerned official or employee
the following administrative sanctions for any willful violation of this Act: (1)
First Violation - suspension of one (1) month without pay; (2) Second Violation
- suspension of two (2) months without pay; and (3) Third Violation and
subsequent violations hereof - suspension of six (6) months without pay.

SEC. 4. Rules and Regulations. - The Civil Service Commission shall
prescribe the rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act. The Civil
Service Commission shall furnish the Senate and the House of Representatives
a copy of the rules and regulations within ninety (90) days after approval of
this Act.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree, or issuance,
exective order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation
contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed,
modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,