

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session



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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 494**

Submitted by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture, Committee on Appropriations, and Committee on Ways and Means on 28 NOV 2017.

Re : **House Bill No. 3222**

Recommending its approval in consolidation with House Bills Numbered 1387 and 2822.

Sponsor : Reps. Durano, Nograles (K.A.), Cua and Cayetano

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Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture, Committee on Appropriations, and Committee on Ways and Means to which were referred House Bill No. 3222, introduced by Rep. Pia S. Cayetano, titled:

**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL VISION SCREENING PROGRAM  
FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR**

House Bill No. 1387, introduced by Rep. Alfredo D. Vargas III, titled:

**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL VISION SCREENING PROGRAM  
FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR**

and House Bill No. 2822, introduced by Rep. Estrellita B. Suansing, titled:

**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL VISION SCREENING PROGRAM  
FOR ALL PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN PUPILS AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

have considered the same and recommend the approval of House Bill No. 3222, in consolidation with House Bills Numbered 1387 and 2822, with the following amendments:

1. On Section 9, page 3, line 3, between the acronym "NVSP" and punctuation mark period (.), insert the phrase "WHICH SHALL BE SUBJECT TO EXISTING BUDGETING, ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING RULES AND REGULATIONS";

2. On Section 10, page 3, lines 6 to 11, delete the entire Section and in lieu thereof, substitute the following:

**“SEC. 10. TAX EXEMPTION.** – ALL GRANTS, BEQUEST, ENDOWMENTS, DONATIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO THE DEPED, DOH, OR PERI FOR THE NVSP AND FOR THE VSCR FUND TO BE USED ACTUALLY, DIRECTLY AND EXCLUSIVELY BY THE DEPED, DOH, OR PERI FOR THE NVSP AND FOR THE VSCR FUND SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM DONOR’S TAX AND THE SAME SHALL BE ALLOWED AS ALLOWABLE DEDUCTION FROM THE GROSS INCOME OF THE DONOR FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING THE TAXABLE INCOME OF THE DONOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1997, AS AMENDED.”; and

3. On Section 11, page 3, lines 12 to 20, delete the entire Section and in lieu thereof, substitute the following:

**“SEC. 11. APPROPRIATIONS.** – THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO COVER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT FOR PUBLIC KINDERGARTEN PUPILS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE BUDGETS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT. HOWEVER, FOR KINDERGARTEN PUPILS ENROLLED IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, THE FUNDING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE SCHOOL’S VISION SCREENING PROGRAM SHALL BE ASSUMED BY THE PRIVATE SCHOOLS CONCERNED.”

and with Reps. Cayetano, Vargas (A.), Suansing (E.), Durano, Escudero, Nograles (K.A.), Cua, Acop, Bagatsing, Bordado, Chavez, Del Mar, Go (M.), Labadlabad, Tan (A.), Sagarbarria, Salceda, Dimaporo (M.K.), Lobregat, Bataoil, Defensor, Abaya, Arcillas, Alonte-Naguiat, Tupas, Deloso-Montalla, Savellano, Caminero, Roque (R.), Amatong, Gonzalez (F.) and Acosta as authors thereof.

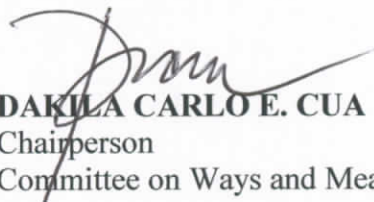
Respectfully submitted,



**KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Appropriations



**RAMON “RED” H. DURANO VI**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Basic Education and Culture



**DAKILA CARLO E. CUA**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Ways and Means

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY

**House of Representatives**  
**Committee Affairs Department**

**FACT SHEET**

House Bill No. 3222

(In consolidation with House Bills Numbered 1387 and 2822)  
As approved by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture,  
Committee on Appropriations and Committee on Ways and Means,  
respectively, on 6 Dec. 2016, 22 Feb. 2017 and 9 Oct. 2017

**NATIONAL VISION SCREENING PROGRAM ACT**

*Introduced by:* **REPS. CAYETANO, VARGAS AND SUANSING (E.)**

*Committee Referral: Committee on Basic Education and Culture (Primary)*

*Committee Chairperson:* **REP. RAMON "RED" H. DURANO VI**

*Committee Referral: Committee on Appropriations (Secondary)*

*Committee Chairperson:* **REP. KARLO ALEXEI B. NOGRALES**

*Committee Referral: Committee on Ways and Means (Secondary)*

*Committee Chairperson:* **REP. DAKILA CARLO E. CUA**

**OBJECTIVE:**

- To safeguard the health and well-being of children by providing immediate attention and care to visually impaired kindergarten pupils

**KEY PROVISIONS:**

- Establishes the National Vision Screening Program (NVSP) primarily intended to screen the eye vision of kindergarten pupils
- Mandates Department of Education (DepEd) to act as the lead implementing agency for the NVSP, in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH) and Philippine Eye Research Institute (PERI)
- Encourages private schools to adopt their own system of vision screening for kindergarten pupils enrolled in their respective schools, subject to standards under the NVSP
- Directs Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) to develop a benefit package for the consultation and treatment of eye diseases of children
- Tasks the PERI with the responsibility of training Vision Screening Trainers for purposes of quality assurance
- Vests DOH and PERI with technical authority to conduct continuing research and in providing evidence-based recommendations to the DepEd on matters pertaining to the NSVP
- Creates the Vision Screening Continuing Research (VSCR) Fund to be sourced from donations and bequests made to DepEd in favor of the NVSP for the purpose of funding PERI's continuing research program, subject to existing budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations

- Provides tax incentives to private donors of funds intended for the NVSP and, in return, allows deduction from the gross income of the donor for purposes of computing taxable income, in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended
- Allocates funds for the vision screening program of public kindergarten pupils to be included in the budgets of DepEd and DOH in the annual General Appropriations Act
- Mandates private schools concerned to assume the costs of their respective school's vision screening program
- Mandates DepEd, in consultation with DOH, PERI and other participating government agencies, to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act

**RELATED LAW:**

- 1987 Philippine Constitution