



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 172

BY REPRESENTATIVES NOGRALES (K.A.), NOGRALES (J.J.)
VILLARICA, SUANSING (E.), SUANSING (H.), NOEL, TUPAS,
ABAYON, AGLIPAY-VILLAR, SILVERIO, SY-ALVARADO,
TAMBUNTING, SAVELLANO, TAN (A.), LAZATIN, ALEJANO,
PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, TING, MENDOZA, GO (M.), CORTUNA
AND ROBES

AN ACT PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO NEW GRADUATES
BY WAIVING GOVERNMENT FEES AND CHARGES
COLLECTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISSUANCE
OF DOCUMENTS REQUIRED IN THEIR APPLICATION
FOR EMPLOYMENT

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

1 SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the
2 State to protect the interest of the youth. It shall endeavor to
3 provide them opportunities for development by creating policies
4 that will improve their access to employment.

5 SEC. 2. *Waiver of Fees and Charges.* – Subject to exceptions
6 provided in Section 4 of this Act, all government agencies and
7 instrumentalities, including government-owned and -controlled
8 corporations (GOCCs), and local government units (LGUs) shall
9 not collect fees or charges from new graduates: *Provided, That*
10 *such fee or charge is paid in connection with the application*
11 *for and the granting of licenses, proofs of identification, clearances,*

1 certificates, or other documents usually required in the course of
2 employment: *Provided, further, That the application for such*
3 *license, proof of identification, clearance, certificate, or other*
4 *documents is submitted within one (1) year after graduating*
5 *from high school, college or any vocational or technical course.*

6 SEC. 3. *Proof of Graduation.* – A copy of the new graduate's
7 diploma or a certification from the concerned academic, vocational
8 or technical institution that the said graduate has successfully
9 completed the course required must be submitted before the
10 waiver authorized under this Act can be availed of. The diploma
11 or certification should clearly state the date of graduation or
12 completion of the degree earned, and should be signed by the
13 institution's duly authorized representative.

14 Such copy of the diploma or the certification submitted
15 shall serve as *prima facie* evidence of the fact of graduation and
16 shall be sufficient for the government agency concerned to grant the
17 waiver: *Provided, That any person found to be guilty of fabricating*
18 *or falsifying any proof of graduation as described in this section*
19 *shall be liable under Article 172 of the Revised Penal Code.*

20 SEC. 4. *Exceptions.* – The fees and charges to be waived
21 shall not include those collected in connection with an application
22 to take a professional licensure examination conducted by the
23 Professional Regulation Commission or an application for a
24 Philippine passport.

25 SEC. 5. *Administrative Offenses.* – No government agency
26 or instrumentality shall issue unduly restrictive regulations which
27 will render nugatory the benefit of the waiver as prescribed under

1 this Act. Such shall constitute an administrative offense punishable
2 under the Administrative Code and other pertinent laws.

3 SEC. 6. *Interagency Monitoring Committee.* – An interagency
4 monitoring committee is hereby created with the Executive
5 Secretary as Chairperson, and the heads of the Civil Service
6 Commission, the Department of Labor and Employment, the
7 Department of Finance, the Department of Education, the
8 Commission on Higher Education and other departments whose
9 participation the committee may deem necessary as its members.
10 The committee shall monitor the compliance of the concerned
11 government agencies and instrumentalities, and may recommend
12 to the proper authorities the filing of an administrative complaint
13 against any person who refuses to comply with the provisions of
14 this Act.

15 SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is
16 declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the
17 other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

18 SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders,
19 ordinances, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent
20 with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

21 SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
22 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper
23 of general circulation.

Approved,