

## Republic of the Philippines **QUEZON CITY COUNCIL**

Quezon City 20th City Council

PR20CC-496

36th Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP. 7191, S-2017

A RESOLUTION STRONGLY EXPRESSING SUPPORT TO THE PASSAGE OF SENATE BILL NO. 1298 ENTITLED, "AN ACT PROVIDING FREE APPROPRIATE PUBLIC EDUCATION TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES", OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT (IDEA) OF 2016".

Introduced by Councilor ROGELIO "ROGER" P. JUAN. Co-Introduced by Councilors Anthony Peter D. Crisologo, Lena Marie P. Juico, Elizabeth A. Delarmente, Oliviere T. Belmonte, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Voltaire Godofredo L. Liban III, Ramon P. Medalla, Ranulfo Z. Ludovica, Estrella C. Valmocina, Roderick M. Paulate, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Gian Carlo G. Sotto, Kate Abigael G. Coseteng, Franz S. Pumaren, Eufemio C. Lagumbay, Marvin C. Rillo, Raquel S. Malangen, Ivy Xenia L. Lagman, Marra C. Suntay, Hero Clarence M. Bautista, Jose A. Visaya, Karl Edgar C. Castelo, Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, Godofredo T. Liban II, Andres Jose G. Yllana, Jr., Allan Butch T. Francisco, Marivic Co-Pilar, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Diorella Maria G. Sotto, Donato C. Matias, Eric Z. Medina and Ricardo B. Corpuz.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the objectives of Republic Act No. 7277, otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities", the State shall adopt policies ensuring the rehabilitation, self-development and self-reliance of disabled persons. It shall develop their skills and potentials to enable them to compete favorably for available opportunities;

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WHEREAS, it is also a declared policy of the said law that disabled persons have the same rights as other people to take their proper place in society. They should be able to live freely and as independently as possible. This must be the concern of everyone in the family, community and all government and non-government organizations. Disabled person's rights must never be perceived as welfare services by the Government;

WHEREAS, the said Republic Act further mandates the State to exert all efforts to remove all social, cultural, economic, environmental and attitudinal barriers that are prejudicial to disabled persons;

WHEREAS, Section 12, Chapter 2, Title II of the same Act expressly provides that the State shall ensure that disabled persons are provided with adequate access to quality education and ample opportunities to develop their skills. It shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all disabled persons. It shall be unlawful for any learning institutions to deny a disabled person admission to any course it offers by reason of handicap or disability;

WHEREAS, Senator Joel Villanueva filed Senate Bill No. 1298 entitled, "An Act Providing Free Appropriate Public Education To Children with Disabilities, Appropriating Funds Therefor And For Other Purposes", Otherwise Known As The "Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Of 2016";

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned Senate Bill aims to implement "zero-reject policy" in public schools as the bill mandates all public schools in the country to have their own SPED center and program for children with special needs. It seeks to ensure that: (i) all children with disabilities have available to them a free appropriate public education that emphasizes special education and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for further education, employment and independent living, (ii) qualified teachers and professionals are available to meet their special needs and (iii) the public is made aware of learning disabilities to facilitate their early detection and ensure that appropriate measures are undertaken to provide these children with quality education;

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WHEREAS, in the said bill, parental consent must first be given before the conduct of initial evaluation on a child with special educational needs and the use of an "Individual Education Program" or I.E.P. which is a unique curriculum designed for a specific disability. Autism, intellectual disability, developmental delay, orthopaedic impairments, deaf, and blindness are among the disabilities covered by the measure;

WHEREAS, the said measure primarily aims to prevent, if not totally eradicate, the discrimination being experienced by children with special needs by providing them accessible education as it believes that all kinds of students, regardless of their status or disabilities, must be in school;

WHEREAS, the Quezon City Government is committed to strengthen the rights and welfare of the persons with disabilities as well as its advocacy in preventing discrimination against PWDs;

WHEREAS, the City Government finds it necessary to promote and provide inclusive education to children with special needs;

WHEREAS, there are only forty-one (41) public elementary schools and thirteen (13) public high schools which offer SPED classes in Quezon City at present.

## NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to support, as it does hereby strongly support the passage of Senate Bill No. 1298 entitled, "An Act Providing Free Appropriate Public Education To Children With Disabilities, Appropriating Funds Therefor And For Other Purposes", Otherwise Known As The "Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) Of 2016".

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RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the Office of Senator Joel Villanueva be furnished a copy of this Resolution.

ADOPTED: July 31, 2017.

MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE Vice Mayor Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III

## CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on July 31, 2017 and was CONFIRMED on August 14, 2017.

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III
A City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III