

AMENDING R.A. NO. 3478 AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS SUBSIDY ACT, SO AS TO INCLUDE THE BARRIO HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE COVERAGE THEREOF.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 479, June 06, 1974

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WHEREAS, R.A. No. 3478 as amended by R.A. No. 4128 provides an appropriation of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) as aid to all provinces, municipalities and cities, except Manila and Quezon City, in the maintenance of public high schools;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 6054 enacted much later authorizes the establishment of barrio high schools funded mainly from tuition fees of students and from a very meager share of the realty tax collected on real property situated thereat;

WHEREAS, the growth in the number of barrio high schools today has clearly demonstrated the concern of local officials with the educational welfare of the barrio youth in their thirst for secondary education;

WHEREAS, said barrio high schools are part and parcel of the educational system but are not included within the coverage of the national aid annually allocated to public secondary schools under R.A. No. 3478;

WHEREAS, due to inadequate fund resources as now authorized by law, most barrio high schools today are beset with financial problems for their continued operation and maintenance;

WHEREAS, with improved funding of secondary schools including barrio high schools, the reorientation of the secondary curriculum towards increased emphasis on work-oriented programs particularly supervised training and allied activities can be better achieved;

WHEREAS, the State, in assuming the obligation to give financial assistance to public institutions rendering service to a great number of people, is committed to the continuing program of human resource development, more particularly the youth who must be encouraged and provided the opportunity to strive for social and economic uplift, thereby enabling them to contribute more effectively to the development of their communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FERDINAND E. MARCOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers in me vested by the Constitution do hereby decree and order the following:

SECTION 1. Provisions of existing law to the contrary notwithstanding, there is appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000) in addition to such sums as have been appropriated in the Appropriations Decree for FY 1973-74 as aid to public general secondary schools including barrio high schools.

SEC. 2. Excluded from the benefits of this Decree are general secondary schools in the cities of Manila and Quezon City and all First Class A cities and municipalities.

SEC. 3. All barrio high schools shall be converted into vocational schools and work-oriented programs related to community development needs shall be emphasized.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Education and Culture shall promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary to convert barrio high schools into vocational schools and carry out the provisions of this Decree: Provided, however, That in the allocation of the aid herein provided, distribution to beneficiaries shall be as equitable as possible based on the need instead of mainly on the basis of student population.

SEC. 5. All Acts or parts of Acts, administrative orders and rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Decree are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Decree shall take effect immediately.

Done in the City of Manila, this 6th day of June, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and seventy-four.

(Sgd.)

FERDINAND E. MARCOS

President of the Philippines

By the President:

(Sgd.)

ALEJANDRO MELCHOR

Executive Secretary

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