

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH (17th) CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5199



Introduced by ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Education is the only effective weapon we have against poverty. It is through education that the people learn about their fundamental rights and make well-informed decisions. It is decent education that fuels people to be vigilant in defending their place, status and stance in society and in transforming the nation into a better-functioning government. In short, a country with well-educated citizens is easily lead towards progress and development.

That being said, it is just proper that academic excellence be given high regard. In a nation where poverty is very prevalent, students who do well in school and who strive to finish college in order to help themselves and their families, despite the hardships they are experiencing at present brought about by lack of resources and means, shall not go unnoticed or overlooked. Rather, their brilliance coupled with perseverance and undying fighting spirit must be rewarded and their enthusiasm to learn must be further encouraged.

Every student who performs well academically most definitely possesses an intense passion for learning and love for knowledge. This kind of young people are the nation's hope towards better governance and leadership. This kind of students who genuinely pursue excellence in what they do will be and should be the future leaders of our country. And it is the State's responsibility to make sure that these young intelligent people get an opportunity to finish their studies regardless of their station in life. It is the state's duty, as it is also for its own benefit, to ensure that such brilliant minds will not be wasted just because of financial restraints.

Through this bill, the top 3 graduating high school students, the best among the best in every graduating batch so to speak, shall be automatically given scholarship grants in the form of cash incentives to help them advance to college/tertiary level, the matriculation for which, as we all know, is getting more expensive by the year.

Through this simple cash incentive, the deserving students will have sufficient stepping stone to pursue the career they want and reach for their dreams.

It is for this reason that the approval of this bill is being sought.


ERIC OLIVAREZ

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH (17th) CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5199

House Bill No. _____

Introduced by ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

**AN ACT GRANTING CASH INCENTIVES TO THE TOP
THREE GRADUATING STUDENTS OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS
IN THE COUNTRY**

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as “The Cash Incentive for the top 3 High Schools Students Act of 2014”;

SECTION 2. *Coverage.* This Act shall cover only public high schools in the country.

SECTION 3. *Cash Incentives.* The Top 3 graduates of every public high school in the country shall be awarded cash incentives on the day of their commencement exercises, as follows:

VALEDICTORIAN = P10,000.00

SALUTATORIAN = P5,000.00

FIRST HONORABLE MENTION = P3,000.00

SECTION 4. *Appropriations.* The said cash incentives shall be sourced from the funds of the Local Government Unit where the high school is under.

SECTION 5. *Non-Prejudicial Clause.* Said cash incentives granted under this Act shall be without prejudice to the other existing scholarship grants being enjoyed by high school graduates.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, letters of instructions, executive orders, rules and regulations insofar as they are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or amended as the case may be.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – In the event that any provision of this Act or any portion thereof is declared unconstitutional by a competent court, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby and shall remain valid and enforceable.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after its complete publication in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED.