



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
6334
House Bill No. _____



Introduced by **HON. JOSEFINA B. TALLADO**

AN ACT STRENGTHENING EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM, REVISING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10410, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EARLY YEARS ACT OF 2013", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill endeavors to revitalize Republic Act 10410, or the Early Years Act of 2013, specifically by seeking to amend Section 11 thereof by providing additional source of funds for the establishment of National Child Development Centers (NCDCs) and conversion of existing Day Care Centers into Child Development Centers (CDCs) in various local government units.

NCDC is the flagship program of the Early Childhood Care and Development Council (the "Council") and is the centerpiece of all its ECCD initiatives. It is a child-friendly facility that serves as the first school of children 0 to 4 years old, in the barangay, and is envisioned to attain the goal of expanding the access to quality early childhood care and development.

Needless to state, this is one of the most important government program for early childhood care. However, under the current Section 11 of RA 10410, funding from the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) is only five (5) years from its enactment, or from 2013 to 2018. This, therefore, has already lapsed.

The proposed amendment will source a new funding from the PAGCOR by contributing One Billion Pesos (Php1,000,000,000.00) per year for another five (5) years.

While, data from the Council shows that since the enactment of RA 10410 on March 26, 2013, a total of Six Hundred Ninety One (691) new NCDCs have been established while One Thousand Three Hundred Thirty (1,330) day care centers have been into child development centers nationwide, there is still more to be done to achieve and implement its mandate under the law. A fresh source of funds for the establishment of additional NCDCs and CDCs is not only necessary but also indispensable to achieve this goal.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly-sought.


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

SECTION 1. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read:

Section 11. Appropriations. –The amount needed for continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

In addition, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) shall continue an increased amount of One Billion Pesos (Php1,000,000,000.00) per year for another five (5) years to fund the establishment of National Child Development Centers and the conversion of existing Day Care Centers into Child Development Centers in various LGUs upon approval of this Act. Said amount shall be directly remitted in four (4) quarterly installments to a special account of the ECCD Council. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SECTION 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, implementing rules and regulations, issuances, or any part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, including Section 11 of RA 10410, are deemed repealed and/or amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. Effectivity Clause – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,