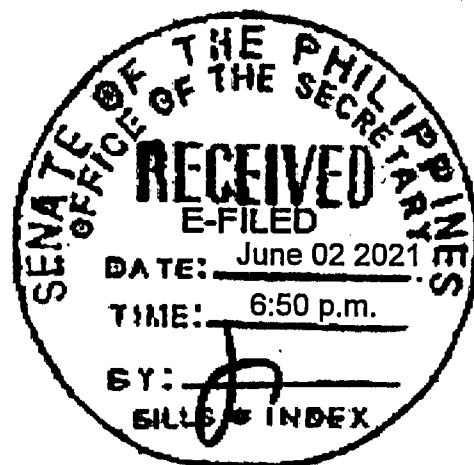


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*Second Regular Session*

]  
]  
]

SENATE

S.B. No. 2273



---

Introduced by SENATORS WIN GATCHALIAN and JOEL VILLANUEVA

---

**AN ACT  
RECOGNIZING CCF LIFE ACADEMY FOUNDATION INC. AS AN  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER,  
GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES TO HASTEN ITS GROWTH AS  
SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The origins of international schools in the Philippines can be traced back as early as 1924. These schools were established to ensure that the children of foreign diplomats, overseas personnel, and the staff of non-governmental organizations will have a western education while their parents are working in a foreign country.<sup>1</sup>

In 2009, the International Association of School Librarianship (IASL) outlined a list of criteria where a majority of such conditions should be met in order to be established as an international school. The eight specified criteria are: 1. transferability of students' education across international schools; 2. a moving population; 3. multinational and multilingual student body; 4. an international curriculum; 5. international accreditation; 6. a transient and

---

<sup>1</sup> Wechsler, A. (2017, June 16). How Demand for a 'Western' Education Reshaped International Schools. The Atlantic. See <https://www.theatlantic.com/education/archive/2017/06/the-international-school-surge/528792/>, last accessed on May 25, 2021.

multinational teacher population; 7. non-selective student enrollment; and 8. usually English or bi-lingual as the language of instruction.<sup>2</sup>

Over time, these international schools were no longer dominated by the children of expatriates, as they have started catering to the children of wealthy locals who want their kids to compete to have a spot in western colleges and universities.<sup>3</sup>

In the Philippines, a Foreign or International School is defined under DepEd Order No. 88, series of 2010, as “one that is duly established and authorized in accordance with existing Philippine laws to operate certain educational programs which primarily and principally adhere to either universally accepted and recognized educational policies and standards or the unique differentially prescribed system of education of a particular country other than the Philippines.”

CCF Life Academy Foundation, Inc. was created not only in pursuit of academic excellence, but also to foster Christian character and servant leadership in its students to influence the society for Christ. Its core values are love, integrity, faith and excellence. The school aims to develop internationally-minded individuals who, despite the differences in cultures and nationalities, recognize their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet to help create a better and more peaceful world. The programs recognize multilingualism as a fact, a right, and a resource.

Since its founding in 2013, the School has grown from offering pre-school to senior high school with a current population of 603 students, comprised of at least 7 nationalities, including Filipinos. It is also accredited with the

---

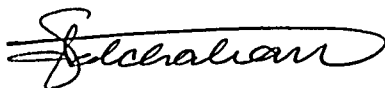
<sup>2</sup> Nagarath, C. (2011, August 26). What Makes a School International? The International Educator (TIE Online). See <https://www.tieonline.com/article/87/what-makes-a-school-international->, last accessed on May 25, 2021.

<sup>3</sup> *Supra* Note 1

Association of Christian Schools International and has been accepting children of church workers and missionaries, including expatriates worldwide. The School is recognized by the American, Singaporean and other Christian international organizations.

In this age of globalization, both Filipino personnel and students would benefit from a school environment fostering intercultural learning and respect. Recognizing CCF Life Academy Foundation, Inc. as an educational institution of international character would enable the school to offer the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, considered as the gold standard among college admissions officials, as well as adopt the International Christian curriculum with emphasis on Math and Science. This bill also seeks to accept more foreign students and recruit foreign personnel with ease. While adopting the Filipino First policy with respect to recruitment and selection, the school intends to engage the best possible personnel in teaching and administration. Employment of foreign teachers and administrators is a necessity to continuously keep its educational programs current and accredited on an international setting.

In view of the foregoing, we urge the passage of this legislation which seeks the recognition of CCF Life Academy Foundation, Inc. as an international school and be a global innovative learning institution that provides transformative education to help build holistically developed Christ-like influencers.



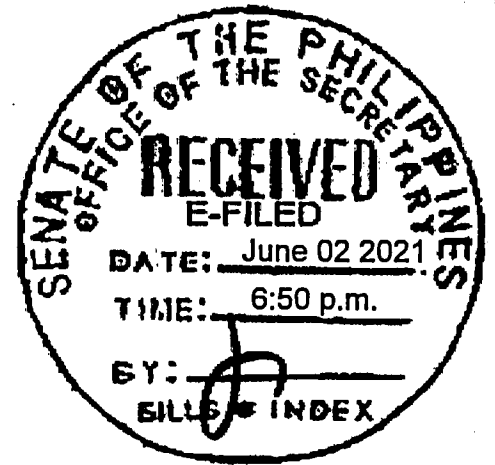
**WIN GATCHALIAN**



**JOEL VILLANUEVA**

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*Second Regular Session*

] ] ]



SENATE

S.B. No. 2273

---

Introduced by SENATORS WIN GATCHALIAN and JOEL VILLANUEVA

---

**AN ACT  
RECOGNIZING CCF LIFE ACADEMY FOUNDATION INC. AS AN  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER,  
GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES TO HASTEN ITS GROWTH AS  
SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1           SECTION 1. CCF Life Academy Foundation Inc., herein referred to as  
2 the School, is hereby declared an educational institution of international  
3 character authorized to operate educational programs that primarily and  
4 principally adhere to universally accepted and recognized educational  
5 policies.

6  
7           SEC 2. "CCF Life Academy International" shall be the registered name  
8 of the School, which was established by religious groups and mission boards  
9 and shall be governed by a Board of Trustees, elected at large from among  
10 the School's members of good standing.

11  
12           SEC. 3. To enable the School to continue carrying out its educational

1 program, improve its standard of instruction, and meet the special needs of  
2 the foreign temporary resident community for quality education, it shall:

3 (a) Be able to accept provisions and donations of every  
4 kind to carry out the purposes of the School and be entitled to  
5 use properties, real or personal, so donated and to construct and  
6 own buildings thereon exclusively for educational purposes:  
7 *Provided*, that for any reason, the School ceases to occupy or use  
8 real properties it may acquire by virtue of this Act, the properties  
9 and all improvements thereon of permanent nature shall accrue  
10 to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines;

11 (b) Whenever necessary to carry out its objectives, have  
12 the right to obtain leases on real properties, acquire personal  
13 properties, tangible or intangible, or any interests in such  
14 properties other than real, by purchase, lease, barter, donation,  
15 gift or otherwise, and dispose of, mortgage or encumber them for  
16 the benefit of the school concerned, subject to the limitations  
17 provided by law;

18 (c) Accept applicants for admission, regardless of  
19 nationality, in accordance with its own eligibility standards, and  
20 rules for admission and grade placement: *Provided*, that no single  
21 alien nationality shall consist more than thirty percent (30%) of  
22 the entire student population in a given school year, as stated in  
23 the records of the school, except in case of dependents of foreign  
24 diplomatic personnel or other foreign temporary residents, as  
25 may be provided by law;

26 (d) Be managed and administered by a President,  
27 Headmaster or Superintendent, who possesses the qualifications  
28 prescribed by the Board;

29 (e) Upon consultation with the Secretary of Education,  
30 determine its own curriculum and teach whatever language or  
31 languages it may deem proper and determine the amount of fees

1 and assessments which may be reasonably imposed upon its  
2 pupils and students, to maintain or conform to the School's  
3 standard of education;

4 (f) Maintain the international standards of education  
5 compatible with those obtained in similar schools of generally  
6 recognized standing;

7 (g) Upon reasonable determination of the non-  
8 availability of Filipino personnel, employ its own teaching and  
9 management personnel selected by the Board either locally or  
10 abroad, from the Philippines or other countries or nationalities,  
11 such foreign personnel being exempt from otherwise applicable  
12 laws and regulations attending their employment, except laws  
13 that have been or will be enacted for the protection of employees:  
14 *Provided*, that such exemption shall not extend to their liability  
15 for income taxes, unless otherwise provided by a bilateral  
16 agreement;

17 (h) Promote international friendship, goodwill and  
18 understanding among members of the foreign community and  
19 citizens of the Philippines; and

20 (i) Not to teach anything derogatory to the prestige and  
21 well-being of the Philippines and its people, nor those which will  
22 subvert its institutions and government.

23  
24 SEC. 4. The Secretary of Education, in consultation with the members  
25 of the Board of the School, shall issue such rules as may be necessary to  
26 carry out the provisions of this Act.

27  
28 SEC. 5. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act is  
29 subsequently declared unconstitutional, the validity of the remaining  
30 provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

31

1           SEC. 6. Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the rules under Section  
2 4 herein, this Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
3 the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*