

[PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 451, May 11, 1974]

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE TO REGULATE THE IMPOSITION OF TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES, REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6139, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, private schools, colleges and universities have been faced with increasingly serious problems arising from decreasing incomes due to slump in enrolment and increasing operational costs brought about by the rise in prices of instructional materials and educational, as well as allied services;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that private educational institutions upgrade classroom instruction by improving their facilities and hiring competent teachers in all levels of education, provide salary and/or wage increases and other benefits to their teaching, administrative and other personnel to keep up with the increasing cost of living;

WHEREAS, the procedure prescribed under R.A. No. 6139 for the increase of tuition and other school fees has been proved to be too cumbersome and time-consuming, and is not conducive to the growth and improvement of private educational institutions and the well-being of their employees, particularly those in the lower income groups; and

WHEREAS, in order to alleviate the sad plight of private schools, their personnel and all those directly and indirectly dependent on school incomes it is advisable and necessary that the cumbersome and time-consuming procedures fixed under Republic Act No. 6139 for increasing tuition fees be simplified without opening the floodgates to abuse of the right to increase tuition and other school fees.

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

SECTION 1. *Authority of the Secretary of Education and Culture.*—Within the limits and under the circumstances set forth in this Decree, the Secretary of Education and Culture shall have the authority to regulate the imposition of tuition and other school fees or charges by any and all private schools as denned under Act Numbered Two Thousand Seven Hundred and Six, as amended. No changes in the rates of tuition or other school fees or charges shall be effective without the prior approval of the Secretary of Education and Culture. New school fees or charges to be imposed by new or existing schools, whether for new courses or other matters, shall be at such reasonable rates as may be determined by the Secretary of Education and Culture based on the standard of such school.

SEC. 2. *Application and Document Required.*—Any private school which desires to revise its rates of tuition or other school fees or charges or to impose other fees or charges shall file application therefor with the Secretary of Education and Culture. The application shall include:

- a. Statement of the itemized current rates of tuition and other charges and the corresponding itemized proposed changes thereon, as well as the new fees or charges proposed to be imposed, and of the proposed allocation of the