

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10917, July 21, 2016]

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9547, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS AN ACT STRENGTHENING AND EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7323, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENTS

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 9547 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, any person or entity employing at least ten (10) persons may employ poor but deserving students, out-of-school youth (OSY) or, dependents of displaced or would-be displaced workers due to business closures, or work stoppages, or natural calamities, intending to enroll in any secondary, tertiary or technical-vocational institutions, fifteen (15) years of age but not more than thirty (30) years old, paying them a salary or wage not lower than the minimum wage for private employers and the applicable hiring rate for the national and local government agencies: *Provided*, That students enrolled in the secondary level shall only be employed during summer and/or Christmas vacations, while the OSY and those enrolled in tertiary, vocational or technical education may be employed at any time of the year: *Provided, further*, That their period of employment shall be from twenty (20) to seventy-eight (78) working days only, except that during Christmas vacation, employment shall be from ten (10) to fifteen (15) days which may be counted as part of the students’ probationary period should they apply in the same company or agency after graduation: *Provided, finally*, That students employed in activities related to their course may earn equivalent academic and practicum or on-the-job training credits as may be determined by the appropriate government agencies.

“For purposes of this Act, poor but deserving students, OSY, and dependents of displaced or would-be displaced workers due to business closures, or work stoppages, or natural calamities refer to those whose parents’ combined income, together with their own, if any, does not exceed the annual regional poverty threshold level for a family of six (6) for the preceding year as may be determined by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA). Employment facilitation services for, applicants to the program shall be done by the Public Employment