

On Taxing the Income of Religious Educational Institutions

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I ATENEO 191 (1952)

SUBJECT(S): TAXATION

KEYWORD(S): TAX, RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

The Article looks at Republic Act. No. 82 which seeks to tax, among other things, the income of religious educational institutions derived from tuition fees. Sometime in 1946, the government, for the first time, sought to tax the income of private educational institutions taken from tuition fees of paid by students. From this, the Article aims to analyze and interpret the law according to its spirit and the intent of the legislators while bearing in mind the other means adopted by the government for the purpose of stabilizing the economy. The role of education in the Philippines coincides with the democratic form of government upheld by the country. There arises an obligation to provide education and simultaneously maintain it at a standard that will insure the production of intelligent people. This is necessary in preserving sovereignty. The State, in citing Section 4, Article II of the Constitution has the power to reasonably regulate all schools, to inspect, supervise, and examine teachers and pupils. Private religious schools, as highlighted by the Author, plays an even more important role by developing morality amongst its citizens which, admittedly do not apply to public schools for their insufficiency in handling this phase of education. The importance of religious educational institutions is their capacity to relieve the government of the task of educating the citizens through elevated standards. Republic Act No. 82 destroys the harmonious relationship between the State and private educational institutions, whose collaboration and harmonization could relieve the government of the entire burden of educating the Filipino people.