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**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Section: Bsinfotech 3a**

**Score:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **ACTIVITY 2:**

**Direction:** Explain your answers in your own words.

1. Who sponsored the Rizal Bill in Congress?

Senator Claro M. sponsored the Rizal Bill, also known as Republic Act No. 1425. Recto in the Senate and Congressman Jose P. Laurel Jr. as a member of the House of Representatives. The bill was chiefly advocated by Recto, with Laurel providing its defense in Congress.

2. What are their arguments in support of the bill?

- Promotion of Nationalism – Advocates contended that an examination of Rizal's works would instill in Filipino students a love for their country and a patriotic spirit.
- Comprehending Philippine History – Rizal's literary works illustrated the injustices of the Spanish colonial era, aiding students in grasping their historical context and the significance of advocating for liberty.
- Moral and Civic Education – Rizal's works impart values like bravery, perseverance, and civic responsibility, making them crucial for character development.
- Preserving Filipino Identity – The legislation was regarded as a means to bolster Filipino identity and unity, particularly in the face of political and economic challenges.



3. What are the arguments of the opposition of the bill?

- Religious Concerns – The bill faced strong opposition from the Catholic Church due to criticisms of Spanish friars and the Church's abuses during colonial times found in Rizal's novels. They were afraid that this would undermine the students' faith.
- Infringement of Religious Freedom – Certain legislators and faith-based organizations argued that requiring students to read Rizal's works could compel them to engage with material that contradicts their religious convictions.
- Alternative Learning Materials – Critics proposed that selected passages could be used to teach Rizal's teachings, rather than requiring students to read the whole novels.
- Political Motives – Certain critics contended that the bill's sponsors were using it to serve political ends, specifically as a means of confronting the Catholic Church's influence in governmental matters.