

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4716** \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representatives  
Eduardo "Bro. Eddie" C. Villanueva and Domingo C. Rivera

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**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT  
CONDUCT (GMRC) IN THE K-12 CURRICULUM**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It was on the school year 1991-1992 when the then Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) implemented the Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) / Values Education as a 30-minute subject in the elementary and high school education curriculum respectively—a subject focusing on the character development and moral values formation of students relating to self, to the community, to the country, to the environment, and to God.

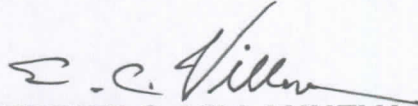
Subsequently, in 2002, the restructuring of the Basic Education Curriculum resulted to the dissolution of the GMRC/Values Education subject and its integration, instead, to Social Studies and other related subjects.

Today, the K-12 curriculum, which has taken effect since 2016, includes the Edukasyon sa Pagpapakatao subject in the elementary level which focuses on honing an individual's capacity to make moral and ethical decisions and actions. On the other hand, the high school level focuses on ethics and career guidance.

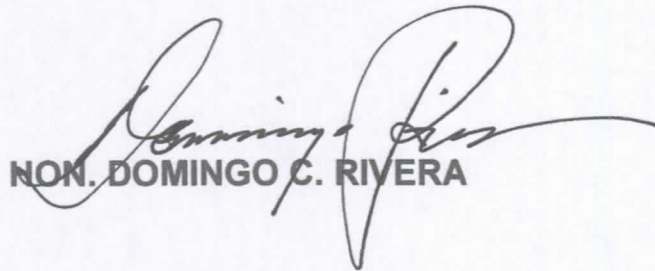
While these programs cover some concepts of the GMRC subject, this generation greatly influenced by modern technology and changing culture direly needs the holistic concept of character development and moral values formation that the GMRC subject can provide.

In view of the abovementioned concerns, this bill seeks to restore the GMRC subject in the K-12 curriculum so as to better guide our youth in facing contemporary society.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA



HON. DOMINGO C. RIVERA

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1       **AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT**  
2       **CONDUCT (GMRC) IN THE K-12 CURRICULUM**

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

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9       **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "GMRC Act of 2019."

10       **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to recognize the vital  
11       role of the youth in nation-building and to promote and protect their physical, moral,  
12       spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and  
13       nationalism, love for humanity, respect for human rights, duties of citizenship,  
14       involvement in public and civic affairs, ethical and spiritual values, and moral discipline.

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17       **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** – The terms in this Act are defined as follows:

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19       (a) *K-12 Program* – refers to Kindergarten and twelve years of basic education  
20       comprising of six (6) years of elementary, four (4) years of junior high school,  
21       and two (2) years of senior high school education

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23       (b) *Mother Tongue* – refers to the first language learned by the child

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25       (c) *Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC)* – pertains to:  
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- (i) The education of values to young people which aims for student grasp of underlying principles, together with the ability to act on those principles, and the settled disposition to do so;
- (ii) Different pedagogies, methods, or programs that teachers and/or educators use to create learning experiences for students when it comes to value questions and valuing processes;
- (iii) Inculcating among the young people holistic learning—personal, social, national, and spiritual—in a systematic and scientific way through formal education;

**SECTION 4. – Institutionalization of Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) as a Separate Subject in the K-12 Curriculum.** – Department of Education (DepEd) is herein tasked to include as a separate subject in the curriculum of the present K-12 program in basic education the Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) which shall inculcate among our students the basic tenets of the promotion and observance of respect for oneself, for others, for country, and for God. It shall include theoretical practical, and biblical principles to enforce holistic values formation to all students.

**SECTION 5. Medium of Instruction.** – The teaching of GMRC shall hereby adopt the mother tongue-based multilingual education (MTB-MLE) method. The mother tongue of the majority of the learners shall be the primary medium of instruction for teaching this subject.

**SECTION 6. Subject Schedule.** – There shall be a minimum of thirty (30) minutes daily for the teaching of GMRC. If, for practical reasons and/or time constraint, a school is unable to schedule the subject as a regular 30-minute subject, a school may schedule a weekly or bi-weekly GMRC gathering for as long as the following number of hours per school year are met:

- (1) Elementary (Grades 1-6): 60 hours
- (2) Junior High School (Grades 7-10): 80 hours
- (3) Senior High School (Grades 11-12): 100 hours

**SECTION 7. GMRC Program for Students under Disciplinary Action.** – DepEd shall formulate a "GMRC program" for students under disciplinary action to further inculcate lesson, values, and character. The GMRC program shall include, but not be limited to, in-school student assistantship, community services, and one-on-one values formation sessions with the school's guidance counselors or GMRC teachers to rectify mistakes committed, as well as to reform and re-evaluate the character of students under disciplinary action.

**SECTION 8. Qualifications for GMRC Teachers** – In addition to the general qualifications of DepEd for teachers, persons-in-charge of teaching GMRC must also possess the following criteria:

- (a) Must have taken up a course or taken at least 18 units of subjects related to morality, ethics, religion, values, or Philippine culture and history
- (b) Must possess a character worth emulating as evidenced by any of the following:

- Certification or recommendation signed by three (3) reputable people in the community, government, academe, religion, or corporate sector; or
- Award/s given by reputable institutions/organizations on character, excellence, or exemplary behavior

**SECTION 9. *Funding.*** – An initial budget of twenty million pesos (Php20,000,000) shall hereby be allocated for this Act. The funds necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

**SECTION 10. *Implementing Agency.*** – The authority to regulate the implementation of this Act in the K-12 curriculum shall be vested upon the DepEd.

**SECTION 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** –The Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with relevant stakeholders, is hereby tasked to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act, including penalties, for all educational institutions with elementary and secondary levels with ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act.

**SECTION 12. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 13. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, or rules inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 14. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation

**Approved,**