

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
18TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6690



Introduced by Representative EVELINA G. ESCUDERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is a declared national policy that “[t]he State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.”¹ In this regard, it is mandated to “[e]stablish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.

In the light of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID 19) pandemic that has continued to date disturbed and claimed numerous lives, not only in the country but throughout the entire world, the necessary know-how and education with regard to basic medical training and disaster awareness and response to national emergency situations should be aptly integrated into the country’s education system.

This bill seeks to specifically address the integration of basic health and medical training, disaster awareness and response, and or other similar and analogous courses or subjects relevant to national disaster or emergency situations in all institutions of learning.

With the staggering number of active and emerging cases of the disease which rise to date globally, preparedness for national emergencies such as the COVID 19 pandemic cannot be understated. This is a wake-up call for all of us to inculcate relevant, appropriate, and updated learnings in this regard.

It is submitted that the passage of this bill will be of utmost importance and relevance in the light of our current situation.

¹ Section 17 Article II, 1987 Philippine Constitution.

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AN ACT
INTEGRATING BASIC MEDICAL AND HEALTH TRAINING AND RISK
REDUCTION, NATIONAL EMERGENCY OR DISASTER AWARENESS,
PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN THE CURRICULUM OF
SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known and cited as the "*Crisis Education Act of 2020.*"

Sec. 2. Integration of Basic Medical Training and Disaster Awareness or Response. - All institutions of learning, including but not limited to, schools, colleges, universities, vocational learning institutions, shall integrate into their respective curricula and make available to all its students relevant and updated subjects, units, electives or courses regarding basic medical training, national emergency or disaster awareness, preparedness and response.

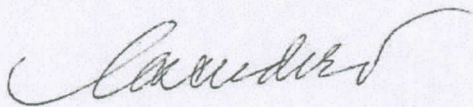
Sec. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations - The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), shall promulgate the corresponding implementing rules and regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days from the date of its effectivity.

Sec. 4. Appropriations. - The funds necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be sourced from the respective budgets of the CHED and the DepEd in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 5. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, and rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the *Official Gazette*.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lauder", is written over a light gray rectangular background.