

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session



**HOUSE BILL NO. 4248**

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Introduced by Representative Salvador B. Belaro, Jr.

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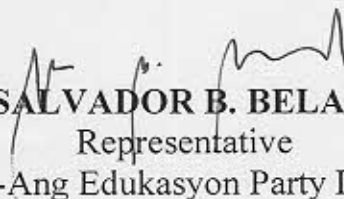
#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to integrate lessons on social media ethics in the curriculum of formal education.

Of late, we have heard of so much inappropriate behavior done in the social media, ranging from exchange of unsavory messages to indecent and altogether inappropriate postings.

There is a need to regulate behavior in social media, especially among the youth who are looking up to their elders for guidance on this relatively new arena of social media.

The first step should come from our very own homes but it should be reinforced by our formal education system, by including lessons thereon in the appropriate subjects in the school curriculum.

  
**Atty. SALVADOR B. BELARO, JR.**  
Representative  
1-Ang Edukasyon Party List

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**AN ACT TO INTEGRATE LESSONS ON SOCIAL MEDIA ETHICS  
IN THE CURRICULUM OF FORMAL EDUCATION**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Social Media Ethics  
Education Act of 2016.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to  
recognize the vital role of the youth in nation-building and to promote and  
protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It  
shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their  
involvement in public and civic affairs.

SECTION 3. As used in this Act, the term “Formal Education” shall refer  
to the educational system in the Philippines which consists of formal  
schooling starting from Kindergarten and which proceeds to the six grades

of elementary education, followed by two years each of Junior and Senior High School and thereafter, with the usual four or more years of college education.

SECTION 4. The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Skills Development Authority (TESDA) are hereby mandated to include in the appropriate subjects of the curriculum of lessons on social media ethics and appropriate behavior in social media. The said agencies are likewise mandated to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

SEC. 5. The funds necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriation Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause* — If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION. 7. *Repealing Clause*. — All laws, decrees or rules inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION. 8. *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,