

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 608



Introduced by HON. RESURRECCION MARRERO-ACOP, MD

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 3(1) of the 1987 Constitution requires all educational institutions to include the study of the Constitution as part of their curricula. A perusal of the text of the Constitutional Commission's deliberations¹ reveals that it was indeed the intention for such to be constitutionally mandated.

To fulfill the said provision, this Representation seeks to propose this measure which would integrate the study of the Philippine Constitution in the senior high school curriculum, particularly in the 12th Grade, of all public and private educational institutions. It is at this level of learning, when students are preparing for higher education and beyond, that they will be able to more effectively grasp the teachings related to the fundamental law of the land.

This proposed legislation will enable the students to gain proper understanding of the framework of the government as well as their responsibilities, rights and the vital provisions that protect these rights, as embodied in the Philippine Constitution.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

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RESURRECCION MARRERO-ACOP, MD
Representative
2nd District, Antipolo City

¹ Record of the Constitutional Commission, September 5, 1986

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**AN ACT
INTEGRATING EDUCATION ON THE 1987 CONSTITUTION
OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE GRADE 12 SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
CURRICULA OF ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Constitutional Education Act of 2019."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - Article XIV, Section 3(1) of the 1987 Constitution states that all educational institutions shall include the study of the Constitution as part of the curricula.

In view thereof, it is hereby declared a policy of the State to fulfill the said provision by integrating education on the Constitution in the Grade 12 senior high school curriculum in all public and private educational institutions.

SEC. 3. *Integration of Constitutional Education.* — Constitutional Education is hereby integrated in the curricula of Grade 12 senior high school students, in all educational institutions whether public or private.

SEC. 4. *Development of the Constitutional Education Course.* - The Department of Education (DepEd), with the assistance of concerned government agencies and constitutional commissions and experts on the Constitution from the academe, shall develop the Constitutional Education course that will be integrated in the Grade 12 curriculum in all public and private educational institutions. The instruction of this particular subject matter shall be developed in a way that is suited and responsive to the capacity of students in Grade 12. The course shall also be constructed in accordance with the standards and principles in developing the enhanced

basic education curriculum stated in Republic Act No. 10553 or the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013.

SEC. 5. Constitutional Education Course Objectives. - The Constitutional Education course for Grade 12 students shall seek to accomplish the following:

- a) Raise their level of awareness and understanding of the history and provisions of the 1987 Constitution;
- b) Develop their appreciation and exercise of democratic values, such as transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights and dignity;
- c) Foster their understanding and practice of active citizenship and people's participation in government processes; and
- d) Equip them with the knowledge of the Constitution that they can use in their analysis and involvement in public issues.

SEC. 6. Constitutional Education Course Framework. - The Constitutional Education course in the Grade 12 curriculum will cover topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- a) History and Overview of the 1987 Constitution;
- b) Nationalism and Sovereignty;
- c) State Principles and Policies;
- d) Government Institutions and Processes;
- e) Rights and Duties of Citizens;
- f) Democratic Values, Social Justice, and Human Rights;
- g) Active Citizenship and People's Participation in Governance;
- h) Education, Science and Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports; and
- i) Current issues.

SEC. 7. Constitution Education Training for Teachers. - The training of teachers in carrying out the Constitution Education course shall be incorporated in the teacher education and training programs mandated by Republic Act No. 10533 or the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013.

SEC. 8. Funding. - The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the DepEd in accordance with the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The Department of Education shall promulgate within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* — Should any provision of this Act or any part hereof be declared invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,