

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4032



Introduced by Representative Salvador B. Belaro, Jr.


EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Filipinos are known to be one if not the best maritime worker in the world. In fact, we are known to be the "crewing capital" or alternatively the "manning capital" of the world mainly because the Philippines supply the biggest number of maritime crews that man and provide support and services to ships all over the world.

The role of Filipino maritime workers and seafarers in our economy could not be set aside. In 2014 alone, the overseas maritime workers sent home \$5.6 billion in cash, equivalent to PhP 252 billion which is equivalent to about a fifth of the \$26.9 billion OFW remittance for the year.

This position of Filipino seafarers in the global maritime industry is however being threatened by their Chinese and Indonesian counterparts who have always been showing consistent improvements year in and year out by way of having advanced technologies and modernized facilities in their respective maritime schools. If our education system will not support the maritime industry, there is always the danger of being delisted from the whitelist of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) that will prejudice the chances of Filipino seafarers and maritime workers of being hired in international ships.

It is but fitting and proper that we put our money where our mouth is, so to speak, and support maritime education given the proven and potential contribution of the industry to our national growth and progress.


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

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**AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE MARITIME EDUCATION IN THE
PHILIPPINES**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Maritime Education Act of 2016.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. The State shall establish means to promote quality maritime education across the country.

SEC. 3. The Commission on Higher Education (CHED), in consultation with the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA) and the Department of Transportation (DoTr) are mandated to establish a comprehensive maritime education policy that will ensure that the policies and standards being implemented across all public and private schools offering maritime courses and trainings are consistent with the requirements of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). Specifically, the CHED is herein mandated to establish advanced learning methodologies and standardized and modern facilities that will define the competitive advantage of Filipino seafarers.

SEC. 4. 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.

SEC. 5. All laws, orders, issuances rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.