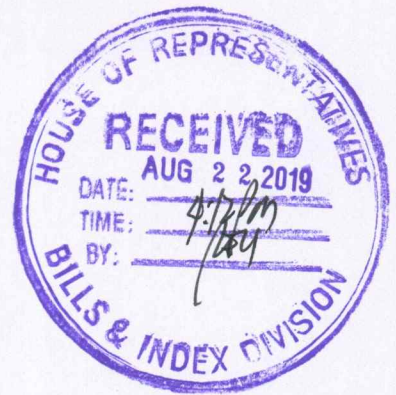


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4145



Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a mandatory Citizen Service Program in all private and public schools, colleges, universities, and similar learning institutions pursuant to Section 4, Article II of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines, which provides:

Section 4. xxx The Government may call upon the people to defend the State and, in the fulfillment thereof, all citizens may be required, under conditions provided by law, to render personal military or civil service.

A Citizen Service Program aims to promote civic consciousness among the youth and instill in them discipline, nationalism, and patriotism. This proposed measure shall cover youth development, resiliency training, community service, and other programs that will truly serve the nation.

The Citizen Service Program for elementary and senior high/high school students shall focus on youth development training, resiliency training, disaster preparedness, environment protection, and community service. It shall also cover the National Service Training Program (NSTP) under Republic Act No. 9163.

Students in the tertiary level, on the other hand, shall be given the right to choose between the Citizen Service Program as established under this proposed Act or the Reserved Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) under Republic Act No. 7077. This measure also seeks to provide incentives for tertiary students who opt to enroll in ROTC.

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


ANGELO MARCOS BARBA

Republic of the Philippines
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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4145

Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CITIZEN SERVICE PROGRAM IN ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, AND SIMILAR LEARNING INSTITUTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9163 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 “*Citizen Service Act*”.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to inculcate discipline, nationalism, and patriotism among the youth and encourages their involvement in national development.

Toward this end, there is a need to establish a Citizen Service Program to motivate, train, organize, and mobilize the youth in civic affairs.

SECTION 3. Citizen Service Program. – There shall be established a mandatory Citizen Service Program for all students enrolled in the primary and secondary levels, including those in Grade 11 and Grade 12, in both public and private schools. The program shall have the following components:

1. Youth development training
2. Resiliency training
3. Health & Nutrition
4. Disaster preparedness
5. Environment protection
6. Community service/action

The Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with the Department of National Defense (DND), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP) the League of Municipalities of the

Philippines (LMP) and the accredited associations of private schools, shall formulate and administer the training program.

SECTION 4. *Dual Streams at the Tertiary Level.* – In the tertiary level, the students may choose the dual streams of: (a) Citizen Service Program established under this Act **or** (b) the Reserved Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) under Republic Act No. 7077.

The Department of National Defense (DND), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall share responsibility for the formulation and adoption of the Implementing Rules of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Incentives.* – For ROTC enrollees, the DND shall formulate and adopt a new package of assistance and incentives, which shall include but not be limited to the following:

- a. Free hospitalization in all government hospitals for injuries sustained or sickness acquired by reason of the training program;
- b. Access to any Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) commissary and px stores nationwide, subject to the regulations to be issued by the Chief of Staff of the AFP;
- c. Philippine Health Insurance for all ROTC enrollees to cover the period of enrollment;
- d. Life insurance; and
- e. Stipend for ROTC cadet officers.

SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – The amount needed for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the remainder or any provisions thereof not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All acts and decrees, executive orders, implementing rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect upon its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,