

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4993

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Introduced by Representative **TYRONE D. AGABAS**  
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**AN ACT**  
**PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE**  
**CURRICULA IN ALL LEVELS OF EDUCATION**

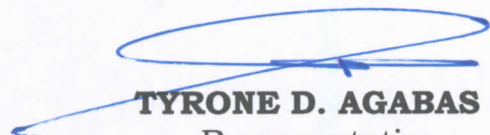
**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to include human rights as a mandatory curricula subject in all levels of education.

The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees **full respect for human rights** (Section 11, Article II, 1987 Constitution). All educational institutions shall inculcate patriotism and nationalism, **foster love of humanity, and respect for human rights** (Section 3[2], Article XIV, 1987 Constitution). Section 1, Article III of the 1987 Constitutions mandates that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws. Human right is therefore of primordial importance

To this end, it is the responsibility of the State to ensure that the subject "Human Rights" be included in the curricula of students to fully understand the meaning and significance of the term "human rights" in all levels of education.

Hence, this earnest request for the immediate passage of this bill.

  
**TYRONE D. AGABAS**  
Representative  
6<sup>th</sup> District, Pangasinan

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

1       **SECTION 1.** Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Human  
2       Rights Education Act.”

3       **SECTION 2.** *Human Right Education.* – All public and private  
4       schools in all levels shall include the study of human rights in their  
5       curricula. No school shall be established or be allowed to operate  
6       unless this requirement is complied with.

7       **SECTION 3.** The Department of Education and the Commission on  
8       Higher Education, in consultation and close coordination with the  
9       Commission on Human Rights and various non-government  
10      organizations, advocacy groups and human rights organization,  
11      shall formulate courses, subjects, and/or special lectures on  
12      human rights to be taught as separate courses or incorporated in  
13      existing subjects now being taught in all levels of education  
14      throughout the country.



15       **SECTION 4.** The Department of Education and the Commission on  
16       Higher Education shall consult and coordinate with the  
17       Commission on Human Rights and various non-government  
18       organizations, advocacy groups and human rights organizations, in  
19       the writing, printing, and publication of textbooks, manuals, and  
20       other reading materials to be used in the human rights courses.

21       **SECTION 5.** This Act shall be implemented initially within the  
22       framework budget of the Department of Education, Commission on  
23       Higher Education, and state universities and colleges for the year it  
24       is enacted into law.

25               Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for the  
26       implementation of this Act shall be included in the Department of  
27       Education, Commission on Higher Education, and state  
28       universities and colleges in the annual General Appropriations Act.

29       **SECTION 6.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The  
30       Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education  
31       and the Commission on Human Rights shall promulgate and issue  
32       the necessary implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60)  
33       days after the effectivity of this Act.

34       **SECTION 7.** *Separability Clause* – If any provision or part thereof is  
35       held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the  
36       provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid or subsisting.

37       **SECTION. 8.** *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or  
38       issuance, executive order, later of instruction, administrative order,  
39       the rule regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of  
40       this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

41       **SECTION 9.** Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen  
42       (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of  
43       general circulation.

44       Approved,