

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

4024
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



Introduced by Representative Salvador B. Belaro, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"A rolling stone gathers no moss." This is an old proverb credited to Publilius Syrus to characterize someone who keeps moving and do not take roots in one place. Sometimes we also hear that figure of speech, "jack of all trades, master of none."

Both adages are often used to refer to our teachers who have failed to specialize in any specific subject matter. At present, our primary and secondary school teachers finish education degrees under specific fields of specialization (e.g. mathematics, sciences, social sciences, etc.) and are expected to pass the corresponding licensure examinations for teachers (LET). The reality, however, is when they teach in schools and practice their profession, they actually are expected to handle other subjects apart from their major area of expertise. Perhaps due to the lack of qualified teachers, the Department of Education (DepEd) has somehow tolerated this practice.

The result of course is that students do not get to maximize their learning because the teachers handling the subjects are not experts in the subject matter. This act seeks to address that dilemma in our educational system.

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

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AN ACT
MANDATING SPECIALIZATION/EXPERTISE DEVELOPMENT OF
TEACHERS ALONG SUBJECTS TAUGHT

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 "Teacher Area Specialization and Subject Matter Expertise Act of 2016."

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

SEC. 3. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall form a group of academic experts to study and recommend a policy that will mandate the specialization and development of teachers as subject matter experts with the end in view of allowing only teachers to handle subjects within their areas of expertise.

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.