

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



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 374

---

---

**Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

---

---

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Fundamental in our Constitution is the State's policy of inculcating patriotism and nationalism among Filipino youth through education. Thus, Article XIV Section 3 (2), provides:

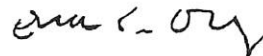
"They shall inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, reach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientific and technological knowledge and promote vocational efficiency."

Currently, the High School curriculum focuses on the appreciation of our national heroes, their works, and their country's historical development. To further strengthen patriotism and nationalism among the Filipino youth, it is proposed that the

High School curriculum, both in public and private schools, should likewise include Voter's Education that will teach High School students the rights and duties of citizenship.

Voter's Education aims to teach High School students who are about to be first-time voters, the significance of the right of suffrage, how the voters should evaluate and choose the right candidates, and their consequent duty to maintain the sanctity of the ballots and the electoral process.

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



**ERIC OLIVAREZ**

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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 374

---

---

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

---

---

**AN ACT MAKING VOTERS' EDUCATION MANDATORY IN THE  
HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE  
SCHOOLS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the  
"Voter's Education Act of 2013".

**SECTION 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* The State recognized the  
vital role of the Filipino youth in nation building and encourages  
their involvement in public and civic affairs. The State likewise  
recognizes the role of educational institutions in inculcating  
among the Filipino youth patriotism and nationalism, and in  
teaching the Filipino youth the rights and duties of citizenship in  
support of the latter's role in nation building. Moreover, the State  
recognizes the need to educate High School students, who are

about to become first-time, in becoming responsible members of the electorate through curriculum-based Voter's Education.

**SECTION 3.** *Mandatory Voter's Education.* Voter's Education shall be taught by adequately trained teachers in formal and non-formal educational system in Fourth Year High School through lectures, demonstration, and other approaches. The Voter's Education shall commence at the start of the school year immediately following one (1) year from effectivity of this Act to allow the training of concerned teachers. The Department of Education (DepEd), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) shall formulate the Voter's Education curriculum. Such curriculum shall be common to both public and private schools, out of school youth, and enrollees in the Alternative Learning System (ALS) shall be integrated in all relevant subjects and shall include, but not limited to the following topics;

- (a) Values Formation;
- (b) Importance of the Right to Suffrage and the Sanctity of the Ballot;
- (c) Factors in Evaluating and Choosing Candidates;
  - i. Procedure in voter's registration
  - ii. Prohibited acts during election period
  - iii. Procedure in filling out and casting ballots
  - iv. Procedure for automated elections

**SECTION 4.** *Appropriations.* The sums necessary for the implementation of this Act, including but not limited to the development of the Voter's Education Curriculum, training and deployment of teachers, transportation of Vote Counting

Machines (VCM) shall be appropriated shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 5.***Implementing Rules.* The Secretary of Education shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations to carry into effect the purposes of this Act.

**SECTION 6.***Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or any Newspaper of General Circulation.

**APPROVED.**