



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2666

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
RECEIVED	
DATE:	08 AUG 2016
TIME:	5:05 PM
BY:	poli
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Honorable Antonio R. Floirendo, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The recent decision of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) in *The Hague* affirms our right to the islands we are claiming in the West Philippine Sea. As a consequence, incidence of bullying has been experienced by our fishermen against Chinese Coastguard and Navy that soured the relationship between the Philippines and China. Mighty China is not inclined to honor the decision of the PCA and continuously ignored calls of the international community to obey the verdict.

In preparation for a possible confrontation, we have to look for possible ways to preserve and protect our territory by way of activating our Citizen Armed Force or Reserved Force that we may readily call them in times of war, invasion or rebellion. To reiterate our policy as enshrined in Republic Act No. 7077, otherwise known as the *Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservists Act*, we have declared that the State shall maintain a standing or regular military force in times of peace consonant to its adequate and actual needs for the security of the State but which can be rapidly expanded by the well-disciplined Citizen Forces in the event of war, invasion or rebellion.

The Citizen Armed Force shall be so organized, trained, developed and maintained as to ensure their readiness to immediately respond to the call to service. The State shall promote and develop public support to and awareness of the important role of the Citizen Armed Force as protector of the people and the State.

The mission of the Citizen Armed Force, alternately referred to as the Reserve Force, is to provide the base for the expansion of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in the event of war, invasion or rebellion; to assist in relief and rescue during disaster or calamities; to assist in socioeconomic development; and to assist in the operation and maintenance of essential government or private utilities in the furtherance of overall mission.

The manpower objective of the Citizen Armed Force shall conform to projected and actual needs. It is not envisioned by the State to have a nation under arms, unless extremely necessary. The necessity of activating our Reserve Force and expanding our Armed Forces is necessary to meet an imminent danger.

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



ANTONIO R. FLOIRENDO, JR.



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AN ACT

MAKING MANDATORY FOR ALL MALE COLLEGE STUDENTS TO
UNDERGO RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)
AMENDING SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9163, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE “NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM (NSTP)
ACT OF 2001”

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

SECTION 1. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9163 is hereby amended to
read as follows:

“Section 4. *Establishment of the National Service Training
Program.* – There is hereby established a National Service Training
Program, which shall form part of the curricula of all baccalaureate
degree courses and of at least two (2)-year technical vocational
courses and is a requisite for graduation, consisting of the following
service components:

(1) The Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)[, which is
hereby made optional and voluntary upon the effectivity of this Act];

(2) The Literacy Training Service [;], **WHICH IS
OPTIONAL** and

1 (3) The Civic Welfare Training Service **WHICH IS ALSO**
2 **OPTIONAL.**

3
4 The ROTC under the NSTP shall instill patriotism, moral
5 virtues, respect for rights of civilians, and adherence to the
6 Constitution, among others. Citizenship training shall be given
7 emphasis in all three (3) program components.
8

9 The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical
10 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in
11 consultation with the Department of National Defense (DND),
12 Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC),
13 Coordinating Council of Private Educational Associations of the
14 Philippines (COCOPEA) and other concerned government agencies,
15 may design and implement such other program components as may be
16 necessary in consonance with the provisions of this Act.”
17
18

19 **SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules.*** – To implement this Act, the DND, CHED
20 and TESDA shall have the joint responsibility for the adoption of the
21 implementing rules within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act.
22

23 **SEC. 3. *Transitory Provisions.*** – Students who have already started
24 component of the NSTP other than the Basic ROTC may either continue in the
25 program component they are currently enrolled or shift to the Basic ROTC:
26 *Provided,* That in case he shifts to the Basic ROTC course, the other program
27 component he has completed shall be counted for the purpose of completing the
28 Basic ROTC.
29

30 **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
31 publication in two (2) newspapers of national circulation, but the implementation
32 of this Act shall commence in the school year of 2017-2018.
33

34 Approved,