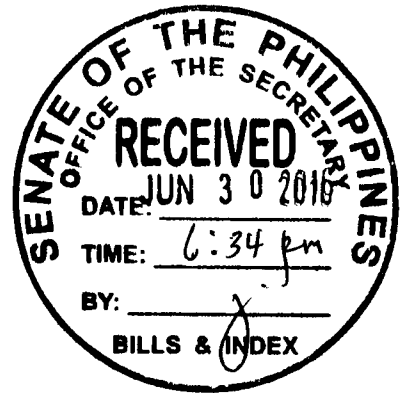


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE]
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES]
First Regular Session]

SENATE
S.B. No. 206



Introduced by SEN. SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN

AN ACT
INSTITUTING A PROGRAM FOR THE MANDATORY CONTINUING
EDUCATION OF TEACHERS IN THE PRIMARY AND SECONDARY
LEVELS IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Despite increased spending in education and various efforts for reform, the Philippines has not substantially improved learning in its schools over the past few decades. Although progress has been made in the access of education, the country still lags in educational aptitude and achievement compared to its regional neighbours.

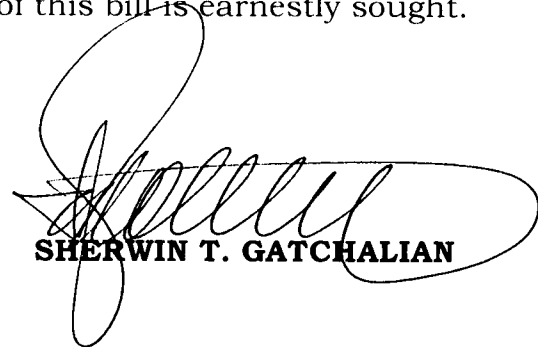
Current literature supports the fact that teachers are the main drivers of in-school effects on student attainment. The difference made by a well-trained and effective teacher cannot be understated. Teachers are the essential link in the chain from education spending to student learning, so improving teacher effectiveness is a critical component for improving student outcomes.

Teacher effectiveness depends on whether they know what to teach and the best way to teach it. The environment in which teachers work has significantly changed over the past decades, yet the method of teaching has not been sufficiently adapted to the current times. Unless actions to update teaching in the new environment take place, there will not be a substantial improvement in the quality of our students.

Teaching is a noble and thankless profession. As of this moment, there are no existing free programs for continuing teacher education in our country. Teachers are left to their own devices if they wish to further develop their training and education. Acknowledging the need to continually educate our teachers and to further develop the teaching profession, this Bill seeks to provide a mandatory teacher's education program to be implemented by the government at no cost to our teachers.

Teaching is a learned skill. It must be nurtured and developed. In order for teachers to realize their full potential, they must be given the opportunity to hone their craft. The establishment of a program for mandatory continuing education for teachers will improve and enrich the effectiveness of teachers in delivering the education that the students of our country greatly deserve.

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

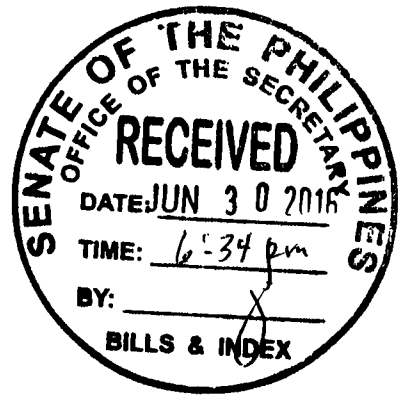


SHERWIN T. GATCHALIAN

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

1 SECTION 1. **Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as "The Continuing
2 Education for Teachers Act".

3 SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** - The State recognizes the vital role of
4 teachers in nation-building and development through a responsible and
5 literate citizenry. It is the declared policy of the State to protect and promote
6 the right of all citizens to receive quality education. It is likewise universally
7 recognized that the teacher is the key to the effectiveness of the teaching-
8 learning process by drawing out and nurturing the best in the learner as a
9 human being and a worthy member of society. Towards this end, the State
10 shall endeavour to provide and ensure quality education by strengthening the
11 education and training of teachers nationwide and equipping them with the
12 necessary training and skills so that they may keep abreast with
13 developments in instructional and teaching techniques.

1 SEC. 3. **Definition of Terms.** - For purposes of this Act, the
2 following terms are defined as follows:

- 3 a) "*Education Activity*" shall refer to an organized method of
4 learning chosen by the Provider to conduct the continuing
5 education of teachers;
- 6 b) "*Mandatory Continuing Education*" shall refer to an
7 institutionalized system whereby teachers shall complete once
8 a year, at least sixteen (16) hours of mandatory continuing
9 education activities or any number of hours not less than
10 twenty four (24), as may be determined by the Executive
11 Committee, such as but not limited to training in professional
12 education and general education and teaching methods in
13 their field of specialization;
- 14 c) "*Program*" shall refer to the system determined by the
15 Department of Education (DepEd) with which to deliver and
16 implement the continuing education of teachers;
- 17 d) "*Provider*" shall refer to the person or entity that shall be
18 determined by the Executive Committee to conduct the
19 Education Activities that will continually educate the teachers
20 concerned.
- 21 e) "*Teacher*" shall refer to all persons engaged in teaching at the
22 primary and secondary levels, whether on full-time or part-
23 time basis, and all other persons performing supervisory
24 and/or administrative functions in all schools in the aforesaid
25 levels and qualified to practice teaching under Republic Act
26 No. 7836.

27 SEC. 4. **Coverage.** - The National Government shall engage and
28 undertake a complete and comprehensive national program ("Program") for
29 mandatory continuing education for all primary and secondary teachers in
30 both private and public educational institutions as well as formal and non-
31 formal institutions of learning. Teachers who possess a post-graduate degree
32 are not covered by this Act, but they may voluntarily attend and participate
33 in the Program.

1 SEC. 5. **Implementation of the Program** - The Program shall consist
2 of at least twenty four (24) hours of mandatory continuing education activities
3 each year or any number of hours not less than twenty four (24) per year that
4 may be determined by the Executive Committee to be preferably conducted
5 at least eight (8) hours per day on consecutive days, at the end of every school
6 year and before the resumption of classes. As far as practicable, the Program
7 shall be conducted in the school district where the teachers belong to as
8 determined by the DepEd.

9 This Section shall in no case, be a restriction on the ability of the
10 Executive Committee concerned to provide for the manner in which the
11 required hours of continuing education must be completed.

12 SEC. 6. **Guiding Principles**. - In the formulation and implementation
13 of the Program, the State shall be guided by the following principles:

- 14 a) The Program should include training and practice in the different
15 techniques, approaches and strategies that would help teachers
16 to plan and impart instruction, provide appropriate
17 reinforcement and conduct effective assessment. It shall likewise
18 provide effective classroom management skills, preparation and
19 use of instructional materials and communication skills, as well
20 as training in new developments in the school curriculum;
- 21 b) The State shall ensure that the Program is not only beneficial for
22 the students but must also be beneficial for the teacher's
23 professional growth and development;
- 24 c) The State shall provide a Program that is globally competitive and
25 at the same time customized and suited to the Philippine
26 education setting;
- 27 d) The Program shall be free and no cost shall be passed on to the
28 teachers for attendance and completion;
- 29 e) The State shall ensure that the Program shall be implemented in
30 a venue that is accessible and will not cause undue burden to

1 the teachers. It shall ensure that the venue is accessible by the
2 usual modes of travel and is at a place which will be most
3 convenient for teachers;

4 f) The Program must likewise provide, upon its completion, an
5 assessment that shall adequately quantify the effectiveness of the
6 Program.

7
8 SEC. 7. **Standards for Education Activities.** - All continuing
9 teacher's education activities must meet the following standards:

10 a) The activity shall have significant intellectual or practical content, and
11 the primary objective shall be to increase the participant's professional
12 competence as a teacher and his or her ability to deliver quality
13 educational services in an efficient and competent manner;

14 b) The activity shall have a curriculum dealing with matters directly-
15 related to the practice of teaching, professional responsibility, or ethical
16 obligations of teachers;

17 c) The activity shall have programs of learning related to classroom
18 subjects and other related academic activities which enhances teaching
19 and non-teaching skills, as well as improvements in writing and oral
20 advocacy.

21 This Section shall in no case, be a restriction on the ability of the
22 Executive Committee concerned in formulating additional standards and
23 regulations with regard to the program and education activities.

24
25 SEC. 8. **The Executive Committee on Continuing Teacher**
26 **Education.** - The DepEd shall create their respective Executive Committee
27 which shall be directly responsible for the effective implementation of this Act
28 within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

29 The Executive Committee in the DepEd shall be composed of the
30 Department Secretary, as the ex-officio chairman, and a Commissioner of the

1 Professional Regulations Commission as an ex-officio member. The Chairman
2 shall appoint the other members of the committee who shall be composed of
3 the following:

4 a) A public school teacher chosen from at least three (3) candidates
5 recommended by a government-recognized public school teacher's
6 organization from Luzon;

7 b) A public school teacher chosen from at least three (3) candidates
8 recommended by a government-recognized public school teacher's
9 organization from the Visayas;

10 c) A public school teacher chosen from at least three (3) candidates
11 recommended by a government-recognized public school teacher's
12 organization from Mindanao;

13 d) A private school teacher chosen from at least three (3) candidates
14 recommended by a government-recognized private school teacher's
15 organization from Luzon;

16 e) A private school teacher chosen from at least three (3) candidates
17 recommended by a government-recognized private school teacher's
18 organization from the Visayas;

19 f) A private school teacher chosen from at least three (3) candidates
20 recommended by a government-recognized private school teacher's
21 organization from Mindanao.

22 SEC.9. **The Program for Continuing Teacher Education.** - Subject
23 to the rules that shall be adopted by the respective Executive Committees,
24 the Program shall be conducted by the Executive Committee concerned or by
25 an accredited service provider.

26 SEC.10. **Appropriations.** - The amount of One Hundred Million pesos
27 (P100,000,000.00) shall be appropriated for the initial implementation of this
28 Act which shall be incorporated in the Annual Budget of the DepEd.
29 Thereafter, the amount necessary to carry out the implementation of the

1 Program as determined by the Executive Committee of the DepEd shall be
2 incorporated in the General Appropriations Act.

3 SEC. 11. **Annual Report to Congress.** - The DepEd shall respectively
4 render an annual report to the Congress reporting on the accomplishment of
5 the Program.

6 SEC. 12. **Evaluation of the Program** - Within three (3) years from the
7 effectivity of this Act and every three (3) years thereafter, the DepEd shall
8 respectively conduct an assessment on the impact of the Program to the
9 quality of education in the country.

10 SEC. 13. **Implementing Guidelines.** - The Executive Committee of the
11 DepEd shall respectively issue the rules and regulations to implement the
12 provisions of this Act within One Hundred Twenty (120) days from the
13 effectivity of this Act.

14 SEC. 14. **Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared
15 invalid or unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall remain
16 in full force and effect.

17 SEC. 15. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive
18 orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof
19 contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
20 accordingly.

21 SEC. 16. **Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
22 its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national papers of
23 general circulation.

Approved,