

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2269



Introduced by Honorable Catalino V. Figueroa

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution mandates that the State constantly improves the standards of higher education in the Philippines to ensure that students get the best education possible from both the public and private higher education institutions, thus, Article XIV of the Constitution provides:

“The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to make quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all.”

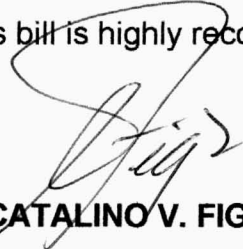
Furthermore, Section 17, Article II of the Constitution provides:

“The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress and promote total human liberation and development.”

In furtherance of this policy, the State shall provide for appropriate safeguards to maintain the high quality of professional education by arresting the perceived decline in the quality of higher education brought about by the continued onslaught of commercialization of education in higher education institutions whose administrations are more inclined to maximize the tuition revenues than the provisions of a sound and competent higher education.

The State shall ensure provision of quality relevant higher education by linking continued government accreditation of professional degree courses of higher education institutions to the performance of their graduates in the professional board examinations.

In view thereof, the approval of this bill is highly recommended.


CATALINO V. FIGUEROA

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AN ACT
PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR GENERATING QUALITY GRADUATES OF
HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS BASED ON PERFORMANCE IN
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Professional Examination Zero-Performance Policy Act."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of State Policy* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to constantly improve the standards of higher education in the Philippines to ensure that students get the best education possible both in public and private higher education institutions.

In the furtherance of this policy, the State shall likewise provide for appropriate safeguards to maintain the high quality of professional education by arresting the perceived decline in the quality of higher education brought about by the continued onslaught of commercialization of education in higher education institutions whose administration are more inclined to maximize the tuition revenues than the provision of a sound and competent higher education.

The State shall ensure provision of quality and higher education by linking continued government accreditation of professional degree courses of higher education institutions to the performance of their graduates in the professional board examinations.

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continued government accreditation of professional degree courses of higher
education institutions to the performance of their graduates in the professional
board examinations.

SECTION 6. Implementation. – The CHED in cooperation with the PRC, or the Supreme Court in case of bar examinations, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act *Provided*, That the implementation shall not be later than one (1) academic year after the passage of this Act.

SECTION 7. Appropriations – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the CHED and/or the Higher Education Development Fund (HEDF). Thereafter, such sums as maybe necessary for the continued implementation of the Professional Examination Zero-Performance Policy Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act; *Provided*, That incentives and/or rewards to be given to higher education institutions as provided under Section 5, hereof, shall be taken from the HEDF.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause - All laws, statutes, directives, orders and/or presidential issuances under Section 5, hereof, shall be taken from the HEDF.

SECTION 9. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any two (2) newspapers of general publication, whichever comes first.

Approved,