

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6042



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE TEODORO A. CASIÑO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The controversial nursing board exam of 2006 is not the first time that a furor over the supposedly erratic supervision of the whole nursing sector came under fire from critics. In fact, the problem is not confined only to the issue of cheating by some review centers. One of the major complaints of students is regarding the high fees collected by nursing schools when they include unnecessary requirements in the curriculum. One example is the inclusion of nursing board review sessions as a requirement for graduation as included in the curriculum. This partnership between a nursing school and a private review center can be viewed as a collusion to collect bigger but unjustifiable fees from students and their parents. Especially since in this set-up, the students are not given the chance to choose their review centers.

This bill aims to protect the rights of students to choose their own review centers. Any school which compels its students to study in a particular review center will be penalized and their permit to operate will be revoked. Also, the withholding of any essential scholastic document by the school to pressure the students into enrolling into any review center will be unlawful.

The immediate passage of this bill is sought for it is hoped that through this measure, the rights of students against exorbitant fees of any kind will be protected.

Representative Teodoro A. Casiño
Bayan Muna Partylist

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6042

Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE TEODORO A. CASIÑO
Bayan Muna Partylist

**AN ACT PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF STUDENTS OF COURSES REQUIRING
PROFESSIONAL LICENSING EXAMINATIONS TO STUDY IN THE REVIEW
CENTERS OF THEIR CHOICE, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS
THEREOF**

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

Section 1. Declaration of Policies. It is the declared policy of the State to promote and protect the right to education as enshrined in the Philippine Constitution. While the State recognizes the complimentary roles of public and private institutions in the enhancement and strengthening of the educational system, it is also the responsibility of the state to ensure the protection of students against abuse by Higher Educational Institutions in the interest of profit.

Section 2. Scope and Coverage. In recognition of the student's freedom to choose his/her review center:

(A) It shall be unlawful for any Higher Educational Institution (HEI) to compel its students to take review classes in a review center of the HEI's choice for any professional licensure examinations as a prerequisite for graduation.

(B) It shall be unlawful for any HEI to withhold the transcript of scholastic records, diploma, certification or any essential document of the student to be used in

support of the application for the professional licensure examinations for reasons of paragraph (A).

Section 3. *Penalties for Violation.* Any HEI found to be guilty of violating this Act shall be penalized by a fine ranging from one hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than three hundred thousand pesos (P 300,000.00) or imprisonment of the HEI officials directly responsible for the violation or both in the discretion of the courts.

The license to operate and accreditation privileges granted by the state to the institution shall likewise be revoked for a period of not less than one year.

Section 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Commission on Higher Education is tasked to draft, issue and implement the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within thirty (30) days after this Law takes effect.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

Section 6. *Effectivity Clause.* This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,