

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1573

Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to declare the conferment of a doctorate degree equivalent to entry level Career Executive Service Officer (CESO) eligibility in the civil service.

Section 3, B, Article IX of the 1987 Constitution provides:

"The Civil Service Commission, as the central personnel agency of the Government, shall establish a career service and adopt measures to promote morale, efficiency, integrity, responsiveness, progressiveness, and courtesy in the civil service. It shall strengthen the merit and reward system, integrate all human resources development programs for all levels and ranks, and institutionalize a management climate conducive to public accountability..."

It envisions that appointments in the civil service be made only according to merit and fitness to be determined by competitive examination, except those positions which are policy determining, primarily confidential or highly technical.

Pursuant to this, the Commission regularly conducts professional and sub-professional examinations all over the country. With regard to executive positions in the civil service, appointments and promotions thereto require a CESO eligibility.

By virtue of Republic Act No. 1080, the bar examinations and the examinations given by the various boards of examiners of the Government are declared as civil service examinations. Hence, those who passed these examinations may be appointed into the civil service without the necessity of passing the civil service examinations, except those positions requiring highly specialized knowledge not covered by the ordinary board examinations.

This bill aims to grant the same if not a more fitting privilege to holders of doctorate degrees recognizing their educational competence and fitness for appointment or promotion to executive positions in the civil service by reason of their having completed post graduate studies which is equivalent, if not more than passing the bar or board examinations. This is to grant them, many of whom are academicians, the equal opportunity with CESO holders in terms of growth and career advancement in the civil service.



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**AN ACT DECLARING THE CONFERMENT OF A DOCTORATE DEGREE
AS EQUIVALENT TO ENTRY LEVEL CAREER EXECUTIVE
SERVICE OFFICER ELIGIBILITY IN THE CIVIL SERVICE**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** The conferment of a doctorate degree by an institution
2 of higher learning duly accredited by the Commission on Higher Education
3 is hereby declared as equivalent to entry level Career Executive Service
4 Eligibility (CESO) eligibility in the civil service for purposes of appointment
5 to executive positions in the classified service in the Government or any
6 of its branches, subdivisions, instrumentalities and agencies including
7 government-owned or controlled corporations with original charters,
8 except with regard to positions requiring highly specialized knowledge not
9 covered by the doctorate degree of the holder.

10 **SEC. 2.** The registrars or other responsible officers of duly
11 accredited colleges and universities offering doctorate degrees shall
12 regularly furnish the Civil Service Commission with a list of graduates of
13 their respective colleges or universities who have been conferred with
14 doctorate degrees within sixty days from conferment.

1 **SEC. 3.** Eligibility shall commence on the date of conferment.

2 Provided, that for those who have already been conferred doctorate
3 degrees prior to the passage of this Act, their eligibility shall be deemed
4 to commence from the approval hereof.

5 **SEC. 4.** The Civil Service Commission shall promulgate the rules and
6 regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

7 **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the
8 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of
9 general circulation.

 Approved.