



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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill 831



Introduced by Hon. Jonathan A. De la Cruz

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to institutionalize and enhance the role of Parent-Teacher (Community) Associations organized under PD 603 otherwise known as 'THE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE CODE' in the total development of children and the youth.

The State recognizes the critical role of children and the youth in nation building. Thus, there is a need to promote their welfare and protect their rights and enhance opportunities for a useful and happy life - a responsibility which starts at home. Necessarily, the enhancement of family life becomes a key to having a wholesome and harmonious atmosphere for child and youth development. Consequently, the State must encourage the building of strong family ties as well as responsive, responsible and stable community ties.

It therefore stands to reason that other institutions such as the schools, the churches as well as civic and welfare associations should be engaged by government to assist in preparing children and youth to the responsibilities of adulthood. In this regard, the natural right and duty of parents in rearing children and the youth for civic efficiency and proper community relations cannot be overemphasized. The same should be uplifted and sustained.

The symbiotic relations between home and school in child development becomes even more prominent in light of studies showing that such collaboration leads to a well rounded, stable and sociable person. It is imperative therefore that an integrative and coordinative mechanism for a total children and youth development program involving parents and teachers, among others, be institutionalized and enhanced. That vehicle is known as the Parent-Teacher (Community) Association or PTA(PTCA) earlier established under PD 603 otherwise known as 'THE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE CODE'.

In view of these considerations, approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.


JONATHAN A. DE LA CRUZ



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AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING AND ENHANCING THE ROLE OF PARENT-TEACHER (COMMUNITY) ASSOCIATIONS IN PROMOTING THE WELFARE AND PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN AND THE YOUTH, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 603 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'THE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE CODE'

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

SECTION 1. Article 77 Chapter II (The Home and the School) of Presidential Decree No. 603, otherwise known as "THE CHILD AND YOUTH WELFARE CODE" is hereby amended to read as follows:

“ Article 77. Parent-Teacher (Community) Associations – Every public elementary and secondary school shall organize an association of parents-teachers and, where appropriate, a duly recognized community group, for the total development of children and the youth as well rounded, stable and sociable persons and civic oriented citizens. The association, hereinafter referred to as Parent-Teacher(Community) Association (PT/CA) shall be the forum for the discussion of problems and solutions, issues and concerns relative to such a development program thus insuring the full cooperation of parents, teachers and other community stakeholders in its efficient and effective implementation. All parents who have children enrolled in a school shall be considered members of its PT(C)A and are obliged to comply with the duties and responsibilities such membership entails.

PT(C)As all over the country shall assist municipal and other local authorities and school officials in the implementation of programs and projects and activities designed to promote the welfare and protect the rights of children and the youth including but not limited to juvenile delinquency control measures, school achievement and related development initiatives.

As such associations, they shall be afforded wide latitude in working and coordinating with school officials and other concerned authorities as they complement their work in implementing a wholistic children and youth development plan.

Given their critical involvement in school and community affairs, PT (C) As shall be recognized as partners of government and, as appropriate, their principal officer, be designated as ex-officio members of the local school board and the legislative bodies provided for under the Local Government Code.

Section 2. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.