

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 842



Introduced by CIBAC Party List Representative
Sherwin N. Tugna

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE TEACHING AND INCULCATION OF THE
NEED OF EVERY PERSON TO FIGHT THE EVILS OF GRAFT AND
CORRUPTION IN THE SOCIETY, OF THE VARIOUS PROCESSES AND
PROCEDURES IN GOVERNMENT AND OF TRANSACTIONS
OCCURRING IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR, OF THE STEPS THAT CAN
BE UNDERTAKEN IN CASE GRAFT AND CORRUPTION OCCURS,
AND OF THE RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENS IN
GOVERNANCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The evils of graft and corruption have always plagued both the public and private sectors of our society in the Philippines. Graft and corruption in our society weakens our democracy and the integrity of our various institutions, leads to violations of human rights, distorts markets, prevents the proper delivery of basic services to the people, increases inequality and injustice in the society and allows organized crime, terrorism and other threats to human security to flourish.

In order to address this problem, the United Nations adopted an instrument to address globally the problem of graft and corruption. The United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) provides the clear message that the international community is determined to prevent and control corruption.

Article II, Chapter 5 of UNCAC provides the preventive measures that states shall adopt in order to combat the problem of graft and corruption. Paragraph 1 states "Each State Party shall, in accordance with the fundamental principles of its legal

system, develop and implement or maintain effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies that promote the participation of society and reflect the principles of the rule of law, proper management of public affairs and public property, integrity, transparency and accountability. Paragraph 2 provides "Each State Party shall endeavour to establish and promote effective practices aimed at the prevention of corruption."

In our fight against graft and corruption both in the public and private sectors of the society, education is an effective preventive tool. People's trust in the system can be regained if they take part in the fight against graft and corruption. In order that people participate, it is necessary that they be informed and educated. And it would be more effective if the information-campaign and education start in school. Our students at an early stage would be informed of the need of every person to participate in the eradication of graft and corruption in the society, of the various process and procedures in government and of transactions occurring in the private sector, of the steps that can be undertaken in case graft and corruption occurs, and of the right and responsibilities of citizens in governance.

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



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

SECTION 1. **Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Information and Education Act of 2013”.

SECTION 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – Teaching and inculcation of the need of every person to participate in the eradication of graft and corruption in the society, of the various process and procedures in government and of transactions occurring in the private sector, of the steps that can be undertaken in case graft and corruption occurs, and of the right and responsibilities of citizens in governance are hereby required to be part of the curriculum of all primary and secondary schools in the Philippines.

SECTION 3. **Rules and Regulations.** – The Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) shall adopt the necessary rules and regulations, upon consultation with reputable Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Government Organizations, (NGOs), and other private entities and government offices which particularly have programs to prevent corruption, to implement the provisions of this Act. DECS shall be guided by the principle that the information to be disseminated shall be given or

taught in a positive manner in such a way that the students will be inspired and encouraged to participate in the fight against graft and corruption and recognize their role in the achievement of a better nation as well as the appropriateness of the information given to the capacity of the students to understand and appreciate ideas and lessons depending on their grade levels.

SECTION 4. **Funding.** -The funds needed for this purpose shall be taken from the appropriation of DECS.

Thereafter, such amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. **Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

Section 6. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, proclamations, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly: *Provided*, That no person shall be deemed to be vested with any property or other right by virtue of the enactment or operation of this Act.

Section 7. **Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and flourishes, located in the bottom right corner of the page.