

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1899



Introduced by Rep. Eulogio "Amang" R. Magsaysay

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 1991, the *Congressional Commission to Review and Assess Philippine Education (EDCOM)* reported the negative state of Philippine education. To combat this worse condition, the EDCOM recommended among others for the restructuring and tri-focalization of the management of the country's educational system. In accordance with the recommendations, the founding of a department of basic education (now the DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) were then initiated. Alongside this recommendation was the creation of a national council to coordinate the three education agencies.

In 2000, the *Presidential Commission on Educational Reform (PCER)* which was created in 1998 to continue and build on the work of the 1991 Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM), noted in its final report the worsened negative state of Philippine education that the EDCOM already found out in the 1990s. The PCER attributed this, among others, to the overlaps and gaps as well as inconsistencies in and non-alignment of education policies, plans and programs due to the absence of cohesiveness among DepEd, CHED, and TESDA. The PCER reiterated the adoption of 1991 EDCOM recommendation to put in place a national coordinating council for education.

Pursuant to the recommendation, former Pres. Joseph Estrada issued Executive Order 273 in 2000 creating the National Coordinating Council for Education (NCCE) in order to ensure effective coordination, planning and allocation of scarce resources among the said three subsectors of education and training. This has never been implemented however, and was eventually shelved by the next administration.

This bill revives the establishment of NCCE in prime consideration of a crucial educational reform that EDCOM and PCER had recommended. It seeks to institutionalize the system of national coordination, assessment, planning, and monitoring of the entire educational system.

Immediate approval of this proposed legislation is hence sought.

EULOGIO "AMANG" R. MAGSAYSAY

House of Representatives

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION (NCCE)
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the "National Coordinating Council for Education Act of 2013".

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the declared policy of the State to promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels. For this purpose, it shall maintain a coordinating body which shall integrate, coordinate and interface all the policies and programs at all levels of our educational system.

SECTION 3. *Creation and Composition of the Council.* The National Coordinating Council for Education (NCCE) is hereby created herein referred to as the "Council" and attached to the Office of the President for administrative purposes.

The NCCE shall be composed of the following members:

- a) The Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd);
- b) The Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
- c) The Director-General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA);
- d) The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- e) The Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA);
- f) The Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);
- g) The Chairman of the Council of Private Educational Association (COCOPEA).

The Council shall be headed by a Chairman who shall be elected by the members from among themselves for a term of four (4) years without prejudice for re-election.

SECTION 4. *Mandates and Functions.* The Council shall discharge its responsibilities in accordance with the following specific mandates:

- a) Act as the over-all advisory and coordinating body of all policy and program directions for all levels of the entire educational system;

- b) Harmonize goals and objectives of the entire education system to dovetail them to national development plans;
- c) Serve as the regular forum for sectoral and sub-sectoral consultations on cross-cutting policies and programs;
- d) Promote participation of private and non-government organizations in policy-making and program implementation;
- e) Collaborate with other government agencies in the exercise of its functions;
- f) Oversee the implementation of national policies and programs.
- g) Perform such other functions for purposed of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Meetings.* Regular meetings of the Council shall be held at least once a month. Special meetings shall be held as often as may be deemed necessary: *Provided*, That in the absence or incapacity of the members to attend any regular or special meeting of the Council, the duly designated representative of the member shall attend and be vested with the same power and functions as a regular member.

SECTION 6. *Compensation.* The members of the Council shall be entitled to per diems and honoraria as may be approved by the Council. They shall serve without service credit, benefit or pay, except the approved per diems and honoraria.

SECTION 7. *Secretariat.* The Council shall have a permanent Secretariat which shall be under the supervision and control of the Chairman. The Council shall determine the personnel requirements and organization necessary to carry out its functions and duties. All appointments shall be made in accordance with the Civil Service Law and other existing laws and regulations.

SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within thirty (30) days from the date of effectivity of this Act, the Council shall convene to formulate the rules and regulations necessary for effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 9. *Appropriation.* The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be appropriated out of any fund in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, such amount necessary to implement this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,