

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

165TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2374



Introduced by REP. EVELINA G. ESCUDERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to prohibit all pre-school and elementary schools from requiring graduating pupils to wear a toga during their graduation ceremonies.

The practice of requiring graduating pupils to wear a toga during graduation rites has become more and more prevalent. This undoubtedly imposes an additional expense and burden on their parents.

Moreover, the toga is a symbol of triumph, achievement and status. Thus, the practice of making mere pupils wear them might also be contributing to the stunting of ambition in the young (and their parents) by giving them the false impression that finishing elementary school is already a major educational achievement.

We must instill ambition in our young and encourage them to strive for more education. We must help them understand that in order to have a fighting chance at success they need to at least finish secondary school. Thus, the wearing of a graduation toga must only be allowed in graduation rites in secondary schools, tertiary schools and higher educational institutions. After all, in our highly competitive world, these have become the graduation rites of real significance.

In view thereof, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Escudero", written in a cursive style.

EVELINA G. ESCUDERO

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16TH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 2374

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AN ACT
PROHIBITING PRE-SCHOOLS AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS FROM REQUIRING
GRADUATING PUPILS TO WEAR A TOGA DURING GRADUATION RITES

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

SECTION 1. All pre-schools and elementary schools are prohibited from requiring graduating pupils to wear a toga during their graduation ceremonies.

SEC. 2. The mandatory wearing of a toga during graduation ceremonies may only be imposed on graduating students of secondary schools, tertiary schools and other institutions of higher learning.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of the Department of Education shall issue the necessary rules, orders and circulars to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,