

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H. No. 3194

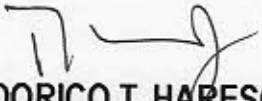
Introduced by **Representative Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The implementation of Republic Act 9258 entitled, An Act Professionalizing the Practice of Guidance and Counseling and Creating for this Purpose a Professional Regulatory Board of Guidance and Counseling, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes otherwise known as the "Guidance and Counseling Act of 2004" has recognized the vital role of guidance counselors in nation-building. The act has set new professional standards which is internationally recognized and globally competitive.

However, it is our belief that those Guidance Counselors who are graduates of allied courses such as Psychology, Bachelor of Secondary Education major in Guidance and Counseling who had been found by the Civil Service Commission as qualified to permanent and regular positions and had rendered services for at least five years prior to the approval of the Guidance and Counseling Act of 2004 shall be exempted from taking the licensure examination. Their solid educational background and professional experience, as affirmed by the Department of Education and the Civil Service Commission are sufficient to prove that they are highly qualified to be registered guidance counselors.

For this reason, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


TEODORICO T. HARESCO, JR.
Representative

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Introduced by Representative Teodorico T. Haresco Jr.

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 14 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9258 ENTITLED
"GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING ACT OF 2004"

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

SECTION 1. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 9258 entitled, An Act Professionalizing the Practice of Guidance and Counseling and Creating for this Purpose a Professional Regulatory Board of Guidance and Counseling, Appropriating Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes otherwise known as the "Guidance and Counseling Act of 2004" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Registration Without Taking Licensure Examination. - A person who possesses the pertinent qualifications required for admission in the examination for registration as guidance counselor pursuant to the provisions of this Act maybe registered without examination: *Provided,* That the applicant files with the Board within two (2) years after its creation, an application for registration and issuance of a Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card by submitting credentials showing that the applicant before the effectivity of this Act;

(a) Had been doctoral and masters degree holders in Guidance and Counseling with at least three (3) years of teaching Guidance and Counseling courses and/or full-time counseling practice for the same period;

(b) Had passed at least eighteen (18) units of Master's level courses in Guidance and Counseling such as Counseling Techniques/Theories, Organization or Administration of Guidance Services, Test and Measurements, Group Process/Counseling and Career Guidance/Counseling; and have at least seven (7) years of experience in counseling work; [and]

(c) Has completed academic requirements for a master's degree in guidance and counseling and have five (5) years experience as full-time guidance counselors; AND

(d) HAD RENDERED SERVICES AS GUIDANCE COUNSELORS FOR ATLEAST FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT AFTER BEING APPOINTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND APPROVED BY THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION TO THEIR PERMANENT AND REGULAR POSITIONS AS GUIDANCE COUNSELORS.

Section 2. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 3. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,