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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

4796
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



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Introduced by REP. EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

16 The transition to adulthood is one of the most difficult periods in any person's life. The youth upon
17 taking the first step towards adulthood must adapt to new responsibilities and face new
18 challenges. The transition is made more difficult with all the heretofore unknown processes and
19 requisite skills.

21 A common complaint of education is that it fails to sufficiently prepare students for this transition.
22 While family and friends may give advice or provide support, the instructions may be mistaken or
23 unclear. Thus, I propose that a detailed, comprehensive training in necessary life skills, crafted
24 under the carefully considered plans of education specialists, is the solution to this issue.

26 This bill proposes the mandatory inclusion of a course in life skills in both high school and tertiary
27 curricula in order to aid students in the transition to adulthood. Moreover, a post-adoption review
28 is mandated to further assess the impact of the course for future action.

30 For the aforementioned reasons, the undersigned submits this bill for the consideration of this
31 august body.

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EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO
First District of Samar



1 Republic of the Philippines
2 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
3 Constitution Hills, Quezon City

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5 SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
6 First Regular Session
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9 HOUSE BILL NO. 4796
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13 Introduced by REP. EDGAR MARY S. SARMIENTO
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15 AN ACT TO INCLUDE IN THE CURRICULA OF ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH
16 SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES A COURSE ON NECESSARY LIFE SKILLS

17 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*
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19 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Act for the Development of Underutilized
20 Life Techniques and Intervention for National Growth”
21

22 **Section 2. Life Skills defined.** – For the purposes of this Act, “life skills” refers to abilities and
23 knowledge which are essential for modern everyday living and are not necessarily required in a
24 particular profession but are required in general of working-force adults.
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26 **Section 3. Course on Life Skills.** – A course on life skills shall be included in the curricula of all high
27 schools, colleges, and universities, both public and private.
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29 The course shall instruct the youth on necessary life skills and prepare them for integration with
30 adult society. Among others, the following topics shall be discussed:
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- 32 (1) Drivers and pedestrian education
33 (2) Overview of Taxation – computing income tax and other tax liabilities
34 (3) Government 101 – essential government services, acquisition of essential government
35 documents, and basic civic responsibilities
36 (4) Basic personal finance – reading financial statements, basic investing, insurance, and
37 balancing your budget
38 (5) Social media etiquette and personal information security
39 (6) Employment 101 – basic resume drafting and interview skills
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41 For the course on life skills included in the high school curriculum, an introduction to the various
42 collegiate fields and professions may be included.
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1 The course shall be a necessary requirement for graduation. However, current high school and
2 college students upon the effectivity of this Act are exempt from this requirement.

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4 **Section 4. *Course Development Committee.*** Within ninety (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, a
5 Committee for the development of course content and materials shall be formed. The Committee
6 shall be composed of the following:

- 7
8 (1) Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as Chairperson;
9 (2) Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd) or his designated representative;
10 (3) Director General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)
11 or his designated representative;
12 (4) One representative from the National University of the Philippines, to be designated by
13 the Board of Regents;
14 (5) One representative from accredited professional teacher's associations, to be designated
15 by the association; and
16 (6) One youth representative, to be selected by the National Youth Commission.

17
18 The Committee shall submit to the Office of the President the completed course description,
19 suggested content, and recommended course hours within one (1) year from the effectivity of this
20 Act. The Committee shall also prepare a timeline for adoption of the Life Skills course by all high
21 schools and universities, which shall be included in their report to the President.

22
23 **Section 5. *Subsequent review.*** – After five (5) years from the adoption of the Life Skills course, the
24 CHED, TESDA, DepED, and the National University of the Philippines shall jointly conduct an
25 evaluation of the implementation and effectivity of the Life Skills course. The aforementioned
26 institutions shall submit their report to the Office of the President.

27
28 **Section 6. *Appropriation.*** – The total amount of five million pesos (PHP 5,000,000.00) shall be
29 appropriated for the development of course materials. Any additional expenses shall be included
30 in the appropriations of the Commission on Higher Education, the Department of Education, and
31 the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

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33 **Section 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules or regulations or parts thereof
34 inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby expressly repealed, amended,
35 or modified accordingly.

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37 **Section 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If for any reason any section or provision of this Act is declared to
38 be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not affected
39 thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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41 **Section 9. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall become effective fifteen (15) days after its publication in a
42 newspaper of general circulation.

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44 Approved.