

Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6436**



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**Introduced by Representative EDGAR R. ERICE**

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***EXPLANATORY NOTE***

It is the policy of the state to protect, promote and provide the right of the people. The same could be done through proper, adequate updated mode of education to pursue these goals regardless of creed, religion and status in life etc.

There is a special concern with our current detainees, who are awaiting trials and court hearings without conviction who wish to improve their personal status in life but could not do so because of their unfortunate and status in life and predicament of being detained.

The government should on its own initiative, establish and create government accredited schoolings to different detention and penology centers throughout to deserving and ambitious detainees who are determined to pursue higher education while in detention.

All Local Government Units (LGU) who on the side operate secondary and tertiary schools in their respective jurisdiction can create, establish and start a program to this effect by creating a special group to implement the same.

Mandatory education while in detention must be the priority of multi-sectoral body which include Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Philippine National Police (PNP), Office of the Public Prosecutor, Department of Finance, Media Organizations, Private Corporations, in pursuance to the corporate responsibility scheme on CRS etc.

Detention centers in the countries benefiting detainees awaiting court hearings for their (detainees) formal advancement and come back and participate to the mainstream of the society through the mandated educational system when their detainees go out dubbed as "Education in Detention".

  
**EDGAR R. ERICE**  
Representative  
2<sup>nd</sup> District Caloocan City

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A FORMAL AND ACCREDITED SCHOOLING IN THE**  
**COUNTRY'S VARIOUS DETENTION CENTERS**

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

**SECTION 1. *Title.*** This act shall be known as "*Education in Detention.*"

**SECTION 2. *State Policy.*** It is the policy of the state to protect, promote and provide the right of the people through proper and adequate updated mode of education to regardless of creed, religion and status in life.

**SECTION 3. *Purpose.*** The government should on its own initiative, establish and create government accredited schoolings to different detention and penology centers throughout deserving and ambitious detainees who are determined to pursue higher education while in detention.

**SECTION 4. *Persons Covered.*** All individuals who are under detention while waiting for trial and final judgment or conviction.

**SECTION 5. *Agencies Involved and their Respective Functions.***

**A. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepEd)**

1. To provide school materials and/or syllabus, appropriate to the individual/detainees who will take advantage of this proposed program.
2. To provide top competent, qualified and dedicated mentors and instructors in pursuance to the implementation of this program.
3. To screen, evaluate, study and make recommendation to detainees' individual scholastic or school records and conduct an in-depth and personal interviews on detainees who will genuinely demonstrate and show interests to the proposed education plans and activities to various detention in the society.

4. To provide state of the art system of proposed mandatory education which will be at par if not more than the standard of the quality of teachings in college and universities in Metro Manila.
5. To promote the program of mandatory education in detention through personal visits, tours, endorsement and frequent dialogues with the detainees to incite the latter's interest and become an asset in going back to the main stream of society.

#### **B. LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Provincial, Municipal or City Levels)**

1. In each level of jurisdiction, provincial, municipal or city level executives shall take the initiative to pinpoint, scout and determine the possible candidates for this program.
2. The provincial, municipal level or city executives, as the case maybe, shall coordinate with the DepEd, DSWD, PNP, Office of the Public Prosecutor, etc. for the possible recommendation for a particular detainee, as well as the corresponding evaluation to any possible candidate for this program, but only after thorough and complete evaluation of each recommendee/detainee.
3. The Provincial, Municipal, or City level Local Government Units (LGUs) has the final say as to the final recommendations on the number, scope, grade and final status of the proposed recipient of this study grant.

#### **C. OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR**

1. To recommend, together with/and in concurrence with the LGUs, detainees which upon after individual records and qualification, as to undertake and participate in the programs.
2. To evaluate the detainee individual cases and make the final approval of candidates/ participants for the specific educational prospect and endeavour.
3. To approve, after strenuous investigation, on the character, values and moral as well as the required legal qualifications of the detainee/candidate for acceptance to the educational program.
3. To evaluate, confirm and have the final disposition, whether or not, regardless of the offence charged, is in one way or another involve in drugs and legally qualified as well.

#### **D. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD)**

1. To properly evaluate the psychological well being of the individual detainee;
2. To assist the other stakeholders(LGU, PNP, etc.) in making recommendations regarding detainees' behavioral pattern, if qualified for educational program in detention centers;

3. To assist detainees immediate family in uplifting their social life and other related concerns;
4. Finally, work hand in hand with the detention officers and officials in recommending the final detainees to be admitted to the education in detention program.

**SECTION 6. *Funding.*** The budgetary allocation needed to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year immediately following its enactment into law.

**SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed and/or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,