

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 8028



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. GARY C. ALEJANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines have been well-endowed with a young population, whose potential if skillfully developed and managed can boost Philippine competitiveness in the years to come, however due to various constraints, we are unable to fully utilize such an abundant resource to the fullest.

Among these constraints is the seemingly unending menace of drugs and substance abuse. Often we hear of news about young people whose lives have been ruined and their potential, stifled, because of illegal drugs. These unfortunate events could have been prevented, if only the government is consistent with a pro-active stance to combat this bane of society.

It is often said that prevention is always better than a pound of cure. Be that as it may, this proposed measure seeks to prevent the youth from falling victim to illegal drugs through a program that shall educate the youth on the personal and social consequences of drug dependency and substance abuse. If the government seeks to deter the mass proliferation of illegal drugs, it must rally the educational institutions, the community, and law enforcement agencies for such endeavor in order for it to succeed. With such a young population, it is only fitting that the youth be the focal point of this proposed measure.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


GARY C. ALEJANO
Representative
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT
CREATING THE YOUTH DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION AND
PREVENTION PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SEC. 1. Short Title.-** This Act shall be known as the Youth Drug Abuse Resistance
2 Education and Prevention Program (Y-DARE) Act of 2018.

3
4 **SEC.2. Purpose.-** This Act is enacted for the purpose of providing the youth with the
5 appropriate skills to avoid opportunities of drug abuse and live productive drug- and violence-
6 free lives, by helping establish positive relationships between and among students and law
7 enforcement agencies; teachers; parents and other community leaders.

8
9 **SEC.3. Implementation.-** The Department of Health (DOH) shall take the lead role in
10 implementing the Youth Drug Abuse Resistance and Prevention Program. The DOH shall
11 closely coordinate with the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education
12 (CHED) and other appropriate agencies in pursuing its mandate under this Act.

13
14 The DOH shall administer, coordinate and recommend policies and programs that are
15 designed to:

- 16
17 a) Provide financial assistance for drug prevention activities and promote the health and
18 well-being of students in elementary and secondary schools and institutions of higher
19 education; *Provided, That* these activities may be carried out by the national and local
20 government educational agencies or by other public and private non-profit
21 organizations;
22
23 b) Participate in the formulation and development of policy and legislative proposals
24 and in over-all administration policies related to drug prevention, drafting program
25 regulations;
26
27 c) Participate in inter-agency committees, groups and partnerships related to drug
28 prevention, coordinate with other government agencies on issues related to
29 comprehensive school health, and advise the Secretary of the DepEd on the
30 formulation of comprehensive school health education policy;
31
32 d) Participate with other government agencies in the development of national research
33 agenda for drug prevention; and
34
35 e) Provide national leadership on issues and programs in correctional education.
36

1 The DepEd and CHED shall supervise the following courses of action:

- 2
- 3 a) Ensure that schools with the help of the community shall be provided an environment
- 4 where the youth shall be provided with avenues that shall assist them in achieving
- 5 their potential and shall hone their talents;
- 6
- 7 b) Provide the schools with proper, adequate and effective materials that tackle the
- 8 problem of substance abuse and discuss preventive mechanisms to ensure that the
- 9 youth will not be lured to try illegal drugs;
- 10
- 11 c) Develop a safe school plan which provides for (i) a mechanism for the reporting of
- 12 the sale and use of prohibited drugs and (ii) a procedure that will trigger rehabilitation
- 13 efforts of the youth who were reported to have bought or used illegal drugs under
- 14 subsection (i) above; and
- 15
- 16 d) Build effective channels of communication between the school and the parents to
- 17 ensure that the educational and/or intervention programs are adequately carried out in
- 18 and out of school.
- 19

20 **SEC.4. Implementing Rules and Regulations.-** The DOH and DepEd, in consultation

21 with the National Youth Commission and local and national organizations that serve the youth

22 and promote drug prevention shall issue the implementing rules and regulations within 90 days

23 from the effectivity of this Act.

24

25 **SEC.5. Livelihood and Training Programs.-** The Youth Drug Abuse Resistance

26 Education and Prevention Program shall include livelihood and training programs. For this

27 purpose, the DepEd and other concerned government agencies shall coordinate with the

28 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

29

30 **SEC.6. Appropriations.-** The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall

31 be taken from the appropriations of the DOH, DepEd and CHED under the General

32 Appropriations Act.

33

34 **SEC.7. Separability Clause.-** If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional,

35 the other provisions shall remain valid.

36

37 **SEC.8. Repealing Clause.-** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts

38 thereof inconsistent with the Act or the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto are

39 hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

40

41 **SEC.9. Effectivity Clause.-** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication

42 in two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

43

44 *Approved,*