

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session



House Bill No. 8452

Introduced by **Kabataan Party-list Representative Sarah Jane I. Elago**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is a truism that learning should not be confined within the four walls of the classroom. Even the 1987 Philippine Constitution recognizes this as Article 14, section 2 provides that the State shall encourage nonformal, informal and indigenous learning system, as well as self-learning independent, and out-of-school study programs particularly those that respond to community needs. Students should not only learn through formal learning instruction and textbooks, but also through immersion into the larger society that exists beyond their private lives.

Pursuant to the foregoing, we now file a bill to institutionalize student-led alternative classes in secondary and tertiary educational institutions at least once a semester or term.

The bill was inspired by the student council-led activity in UP Diliman called the Alternative Classroom Learning Experience or ACLE. The ACLE is a one-day alternative classes festival organized by the student council and participated in by student organizations who invite speakers, conduct trainings, and similar activities. The ACLE aims to educate the students with additional learning not usually taught within the classroom—a radical departure from the academic-based curriculum of schools. It is a venue wherein the students are given the opportunity to earn various skills and knowledge through thematic for a, symposia, film showings, and workshops. With its success in UP Diliman, the ACLE has since then been institutionalized in other UP campuses.

Alternative classroom activities are also held in other schools such as Ateneo de Manila High School (KLIK or Klaseng Ibang Klase), University of Santo Tomas, and Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

During the 3rd National Youth Parliament of the National Youth Commission, the delegates approved a resolution urging the Commission on Higher Education to institutionalize the ACLE to all universities and colleges.

The Alternative Classes bill was originally filed and refiled under the 15th Congress and 16th Congress by then Kabataan Party-list Representatives Raymond V. Palatino and Terry L. Ridon, respectively. In our commitment to holistic development of the youth, we refile it under the present Congress, and urge the House of Representatives to see through the passage of the bill.



HON. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Representative, Kabataan Party-list

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **8452**

Introduced by **Kabataan Party-list Representative Sarah Jane I. Elago**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM LEARNING EXPERIENCE
(ACLE) PROGRAM TO ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Short Title* . – This act shall be known as the “Alternative Classes Act”

2 **SECTION 2** . *Alternative Classroom Learning Experience*. – The Alternative
3 Classroom Learning Experience (ACLE) Program is a student-led and -organized activity
4 that fosters academic freedom inside our nation’s campuses. It aims to provide students
5 with alternative viewpoints, perspectives, ideas, and concepts not usually discussed
6 through formal learning instruction and not usually found in textbooks and official
7 educational materials. Activities related to the ACLE Program shall include but not limited
8 to the following: workshops, educational discussions, training, fora, symposia, film
9 showing and/or audio-visual presentations, lectures.

10 **SECTION 3** . All secondary and tertiary educational institutions are mandated to
11 conduct an Alternative Classroom Learning Experience (ACLE) activity at least once
12 every semester or term, as the case may be. Student councils or student governments
13 shall be primarily in charge of organizing the said activity. School administrations shall
14 provide the necessary assistance to the student body to carry out the aim of this activity.

15 **SECTION 4 . *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The College Editors Guild of
16 the Philippines as the oldest, broadest and only-existing alliance of tertiary student
17 publication in the Asia-Pacific region and the National Union of Students of the Philippines
18 as a nation-wide alliance of student councils/governments/unions committed to the
19 advancement of the students' democratic rights and welfare, and both are Securities and
20 Exchange Commission (SEC)-registered national formation of student councils and
21 government, in coordination with youth groups and organizations, shall promulgate the
22 necessary rules and regulations to enforce the objectives of this Act.

23 **SECTION 5 . *Effectivity.*** – This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the
24 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
25 circulation.

Approved,