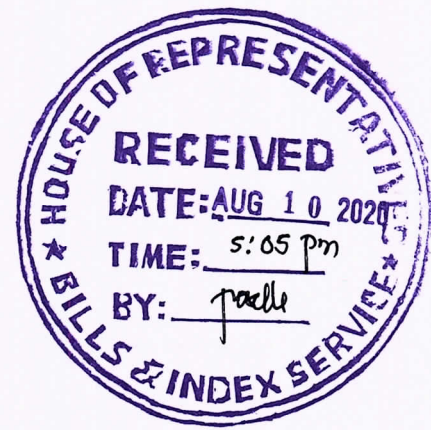


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7344



Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVES FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ, YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ, JUAN MIGUEL ARROYO, ALETA C. SUAREZ, MARILOU ARROYO, YASSER BALINDONG, LEONARDO L. BABASA JR., FREDENIL H. CASTRO, GERRYBOY J. ESPINA JR., ROGER MERCADO, WILTER WEE PALMA, PAZ RADAZA, GERALDINE B. ROMAN, HECTOR SANCHEZ, CHRISTIAN UNABIA, PROSPERO A. PICHAY, SONNY L. LAGON, SERGIO C. DAGOOC, ADRIANO A. EBCAS ANNA VILLARAZA-SUAREZ, MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR, ROMEO S. MOMO SR. JOSE GAY G. PADIERNOS, PRESLEY C. DE JESUS, GODOFREDO N. GUYA, JOSE "BONG" J. TEVES JR., RODANTE D. MARCOLETA, ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is known as the top exporter of nurses in the world. Filipino nurses are world-renowned for their skill, inherent compassion, and eagerness to provide care for their fellow people. The success of our nurses has brought recognition of our skill and qualities as a nation. Further, there has never been any doubt as regards the contribution Filipino nurses have made for the benefit of our economy.

It must be noted, however, that despite the perception of having a burgeoning and successful local nursing industry, there are aspects of the profession which remain to have great room for improvement. Nursing education is one such area.

The education programs employed by our local nursing educational institutions, at times, appear to be too short-sighted and focused on churning out batches of graduates for immediate forays abroad in search of opportunities. Too much emphasis

has been placed in producing nursing degree-holders, that the opportunity to further educate our nurses in advanced programs has been overlooked.

Advanced nursing education programs have the capacity to further catapult our nurses to realize greater opportunities through the opening up of leadership roles, specialization in specific practice areas, and recognition in the fields of research and advanced nursing education. Given the immense number of nursing degree holders produced in this country, the development of advanced nursing programs shall benefit not only our nurses, but also the educational institutions who shall cater to a potentially large demand for advanced nursing education.

By introducing a new dimension to the local nursing education program and opening a whole new aspect of nursing education not previously tapped, we can elevate our status further to be recognized as a producer of leaders, experts, and authorities in the field of nursing.

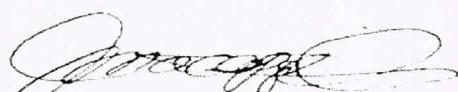
In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill hereby earnestly sought.



Rep. Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez
Leyte, 1st District



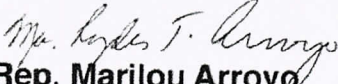
Rep. Yedda Marie K. Romualdez
TINGOG Partylist



Rep. Juan Miguel Arroyo
Pampanga, 2nd District

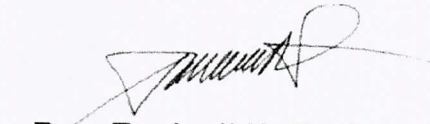


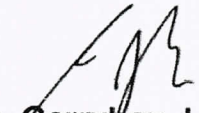
Rep. Aleta C. Suarez
Quezon, 3rd District

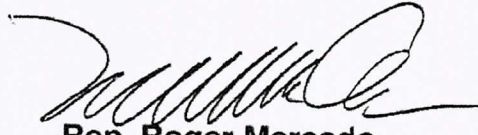

Rep. Marilou Arroyo
Negros Occidental, 5th District


Rep. Yasser Balindong
Lanao del Sur, 2nd District


Rep. Leonardo L. Babasa Jr.
Zamboanga del Sur, 2nd District

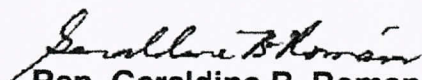

Rep. Fredenil H. Castro
Capiz, 2nd District


Rep. Gerryboy J. Espina Jr.
Biliran, Lone District


Rep. Roger Mercado
Southern Leyte, 1st District


Rep. Wilter Wee Palma
Zamboanga Sibugay, 1st District


Rep. Paz Radaza
Lapu-Lapu City, Lone District


Rep. Geraldine B. Roman
Bataan, 1st District

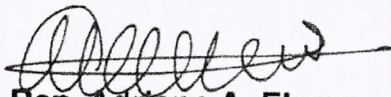

Rep. Hector Sanchez
Catanduanes, Lone District


Rep. Christian Unabia
Misamis Oriental, 1st District

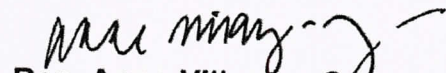

Rep. Prospero A. Pichay
Surigao del Sur, 1st District


Rep. Sonny L. Lagon
AKO BISAYA Partylist


Rep. Sergio C. Dagooc
APEC Partylist



Rep. Adriano A. Ebcas
AKO PADAYON PILIPINO Partylist



Rep. Anna Villaraza-Suarez
ALONA Partylist



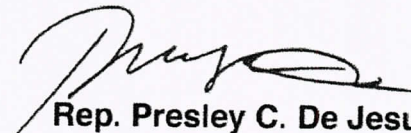
Rep. Michael T. Defensor
ANAKALUSUGAN Partylist



Rep. Romeo S. Momo Sr.
CWS Partylist



Rep. Jose Gay G. Padernos
GP Partylist



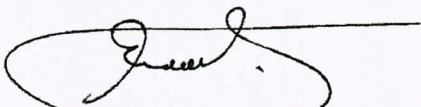
Rep. Presley C. De Jesus
PHILRECA Partylist



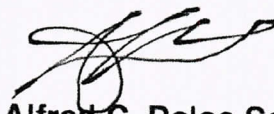
Rep. Godofredo N. Guya
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Rep. Jose "Bong" J. Teves Jr.
TGP Partylist



Rep. Rodante D. Marcoleta
SAGIP Partylist



Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos
ANG PROBINSYANO Partylist

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7344

Introduced by

REPRESENTATIVES FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ, YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ, JUAN MIGUEL ARROYO, ALETA C. SUAREZ, MARILOU ARROYO, YASSER BALINDONG, LEONARDO L. BABASA JR., FREDENIL H. CASTRO, GERRYBOY J. ESPINA JR., ROGER MERCADO, WILTER WEE PALMA, PAZ RADAZA, GERALDINE B. ROMAN, HECTOR SANCHEZ, CHRISTIAN UNABIA, PROSPERO A. PICHAY, SONNY L. LAGON, SERGIO C. DAGOOC, ADRIANO A. EBCAS ANNA VILLARAZA-SUAREZ, MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR, ROMEO S. MOMO SR. JOSE GAY G. PADIERNOS, PRESLEY C. DE JESUS, GODOFREDO N. GUYA, JOSE "BONG" J. TEVES JR., RODANTE D. MARCOLETA, ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS.

AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 9173 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002, PROVIDING FOR AN ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

Section 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Advanced Nursing Education Act of 2019".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to 4 assume responsibility for the protection and improvement of the nursing profession 5 by instituting measures that will result in relevant nursing education, humane working 6 conditions, better career prospects and a dignified existence for our nurses.

Sec. 3. Section 25 of Republic Act No. 9173, otherwise known as the Philippine Nursing Act of 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

~~"Section 25. [Nursing Education Program. The nursing education program shall provide sound general and professional foundation for the practice of nursing. The learning experiences shall adhere strictly to specific requirements embodied in the prescribed curriculum as promulgated by the Commission on Higher Education's policies and standards of nursing education.]~~ **NURSING EDUCATION. NURSING EDUCATION SHALL REFER TO THE FORMAL LEARNING AND TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE AND ART NURSING PROVIDED BY HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DULY RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED BY THE CHED. THERE SHALL BE STANDARD BASIC AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7722, 7 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CHED LAW".**

Sec. 4. A new Section is hereby inserted after Section 25 of RA 9173, to read as follows:

"SECTION 26. BASIC AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR NURSING EDUCATION. - THERE SHALL BE A BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL PROVIDE SOUND LIBERAL AND PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, AND SHALL EQUIP BASIC NURSING STUDENTS WITH THE NECESSARY COMPETENCIES FOR ENTRY-LEVEL SAFE AND QUALITY NURSING PRACTICE. THE CURRICULUM AND RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCES SHOULD INCLUDE COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND IMMERSION TO ENCOURAGE MORE GRADUATES TO WORK IN A COMMUNITY SETTING. ADMISSION TO THE BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE PASSING A NATIONAL NURSING ADMISSION TEST (NNAT). THE CURRICULUM AND THE RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCES MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL NURSING CORE COMPETENCY STANDARDS TO PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD AND IMPLEMENTED

THROUGH THE POLICIES, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.

THERE SHALL ALSO BE A GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL BE A POST BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM, WHICH BUILDS ON THE EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS OF A NURSE TOWARDS MASTERY, EXPERTISE, AND LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE, RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION. SUCH PROGRAMS WILL DEVELOP HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SKILLS NEEDED FOR NURSING PRACTICE IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF ADVANCED NURSING, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO; ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING, AMBULATORY CARE NURSING, CRITICAL CARE NURSING, PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING, REHABILITATION NURSING, AND OTHER SPECIALIZED FIELDS OF ADVANCED NURSING. IT SHALL INCLUDE A MASTER'S DEGREE AND DOCTORATE DEGREE IN NURSING FOUNDED ON THE PHILOSOPHIES, AND THE SCIENTIFIC BODY OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE. GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION SHALL BE OFFERED ONLY IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AS PRESCRIBED BY THE PREVAILING CHED POLICIES, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION.

THE FACULTY-TO-STUDENT RATIO MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD TO BE DETERMINED AND PRESCRIBED BY THE CHED."

Sec. 5. Section 26 of RA 9173 is hereby renumbered to Section 27.

Sec. 6. Section 27 of RA 9173 is hereby renumbered and amended, to read as follows:

"Section 2[7]8. *Qualifications of the Faculty.* — ~~[A member of the faculty in a college of nursing teaching professional courses must:~~

- a) ~~Be a registered nurse in the Philippines;~~
- b) ~~Have at least one (1) year of clinical practice in a field of specialization;~~
- c) ~~Be a member of good standing in the accredited professional organization of nurses; and~~

- d) ~~Be a holder of a master's degree in nursing, education, or other allied medical and health sciences conferred by a college or university duly recognized by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines. In addition to the aforementioned qualifications, the dean of a college must have a master's degree in nursing. He/she must have at least five (5) years experience in nursing.]~~

1) BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION. MEMBER OF THE FACULTY IN A COLLEGE OF NURSING TEACHING PROFESSIONAL COURSES:

- A. MUST BE A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE PHILIPPINES AND HOLDER OF A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AND A CURRENT PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION;**
- B. MUST HAVE AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS OF NURSING PRACTICE;**
- C. MUST BE A HOLDER OF A MASTER'S DEGREE IN NURSING, CONFERRED BY A UNIVERSITY DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES; AND**
- D. MUST HAVE THE APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATE OF NURSING PROFICIENCY, OR ITS EQUIVALENT, TO BE ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF NURSING.**

2) GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION. – A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY TEACHING GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL COURSES:

- A. MUST FOLLOW PARAGRAPHS (A) AND (B) ABOVE ON BASIC NURSING EDUCATION; AND**
- B. MUST BE A HOLDER OF A DOCTORAL DEGREE IN NURSING CONFERRED BY A UNIVERSITY DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.”**

Sec. 7. Section 28 of RA 9173 is hereby renumbered as Section 29, and all

succeeding sections of the same Act are hereby renumbered accordingly.

Sec. 8. *Implementing Guidelines.* — Within thirty (30) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Board and the Professional Regulatory Commission, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education and other concerned government agencies, shall formulate such rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act. The implementing rules and regulations shall be published in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* — Should any provision of this Act be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions unaffected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

Sec 10. *Repealing Clause.* — All other laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and other executive issuances, which are not consistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended.

Sec. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazzette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,