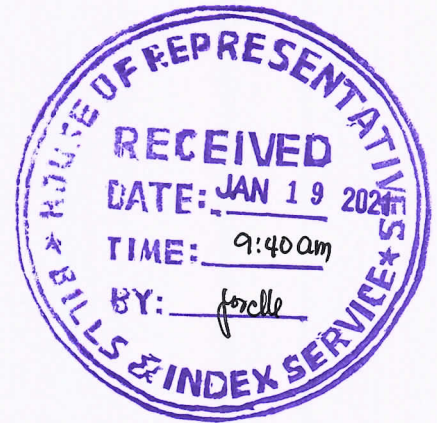


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 8419



Introduced by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The importance of the rights of the people as enshrined in our Constitution is often brushed aside, as Constitutional Law or even the narrower subject of Bill of Rights, is not even considered as a mandatory subject in all levels of education in the Philippines. Constitutional Law is only required in some courses in the tertiary level when it is considered as vital to the curriculum.

It is thus the overarching intent of this humble measure to inculcate among the youth, specifically to Senior High School students, a basic understanding of what the Constitution is. Everyone should be able to appreciate the importance of the Constitution as it is the basic and paramount law to which all the other laws must conform.

In Article 3 of the Civil Code of the Philippines, it is provided that: "Ignorance of the law excuses no one from compliance therewith." Nevertheless, this legal provision is not an excuse for the perpetuation of ignorance. To be able to live and breathe the essence of the Constitution, it is vital for every Filipino to at least comprehend it.

This proposal strives to empower the youth to be active, engaged, and socially aware citizens. It is thus the intent of this bill to add a Constitutional Law subject in the curriculum of Senior High School students.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

Republic of the Philippines
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AN ACT

INTEGRATING INTO THE CURRICULUM OF THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL OF THE PHILIPPINE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, BOTH PRIVATE AND PUBLIC, A MANDATORY SUBJECT ON CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be referred to as the “Constitutional Law 101 Act”.

SEC 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs. Towards this end, it is important to inculcate to the youth a basic understanding of the Constitution as it is the supreme law of the land.

SEC. 3. *Constitutional Law 101 in Senior High School Level.* – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall prescribe a mandatory subject in Constitutional Law for senior high school students.

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from its approval, DepEd shall formulate and promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part, section or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations and other issuances, or part or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,