

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 933



Introduced by Representative Roman T. Romulo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to Article II Section 13 of the 1987 Constitution, it is the policy of the State to recognize 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.

Patriotism and nationalism are further accentuated during the times when our people are not only fighting for survival but also for freedom. During World War II, our nation became involved when the quest for world domination of superpowers occupied our lands. Nevertheless, this great war united the Filipino people and cemented the country as a nation of patriots ready to defend the motherland against a superpower at all costs.

World War II in the Philippines is an experience in our national past which "was felt by every Filipino of every age in every inhabited region of the archipelago" (Alfonso J. Aluit). It showed the magnificent valor and exceptional strength of character of Filipino soldiers, guerillas and civilians alike.

Inculcating the youth with an intensified sense of patriotism, nationalism, and respect for the rule of law entails a comprehensive and holistic pedagogical approach to educating them on World War II in the Philippines that will include relevant chapters in world history and, most importantly, in Philippine military history.

This bill seeks to mandate the instruction of World War II in the Philippines in Higher Education Institutions which shall result in preserving the stories about the relentless struggle and great heroism of our World War II veterans, and about the crucial role played by the Filipino guerillas who turned and advanced the tide or winning against the Japanese

which led for the Filipinos to the very freedom and liberties which we are all enjoying right now.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal line and another stylized 'R'.

ROMAN T. ROMULO

Lone District, Pasig City

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AN ACT
INTEGRATING A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF PHILIPPINE HISTORY DURING
WORLD WAR II INTO THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM

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

1 **SECTION 1.** It is the policy of the State to promote and protect the physical, moral,
2 intellectual and social well-being of the youth and inculcate the values of patriotism and
3 nationalism to foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, and encourage involvement
4 in the political and civic affairs of the country.

5
6 To this end, the State shall put in place a mechanism that shall highlight the role of
7 national heroes in the historical development of the country and thus educate the youth on
8 the values of patriotism and nationalism and preserving for posterity the stories on the great
9 struggle and heroism of Filipino soldiers who fought the Japanese occupational forces during
10 the war.

11
12 **SEC. 2.** A comprehensive study of Philippine History during World War II shall be
13 integrated into and shall cover not less than fifty percent (50%) of the mandatory Philippine
14 History subject being offered under the general education curriculum in higher education
15 courses of all higher education institutions (HEIs) in the country.

16
17 The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall, pursuant to its mandate under
18 Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994", develop in
19 close collaboration with the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office-Department of National
20 Defense (PVAO-DND), a program to execute and implement the provisions of this Act.
21

1 In support of the study of the history of World War II, all HEIs are encouraged to keep
2 in their libraries adequate books, resources, and reference materials on World War II as it
3 transpired in the Philippines.

4
5 **SEC. 3.** Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the CHED
6 shall, in coordination with the PVAO-DND, formulate and issue the rules and regulations
7 necessary to implement the provisions of this Act. Other governmental entities may be
8 tapped jointly by the principals as resource or advisory groups in this undertaking.

9
10 Resource persons such as prominent historians, history professors, members of
11 historical associations, college or university presidents or administrators, faculty members
12 and students may also be invited jointly by CHED and PVAO-DND to participate.

13
14 **SEC. 4.** If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid,
15 the other provisions not affected, shall remain in full force and effect.

16
17 **SEC. 5.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, memorandum orders, memorandum
18 circulars, administrative orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the
19 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

20
21 **SEC. 6.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
22 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

23
Approved,