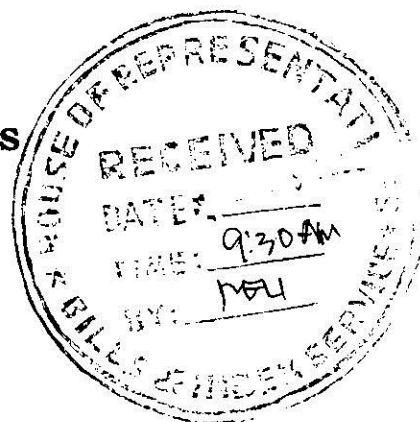


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2124



INTRODUCED BY: HONORABLE ROSEMARIE C. PANOTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to integrate gardening in the secondary school curriculum in both public and private schools.

Foreign published article reveals that School gardening is an innovative teaching tool and strategy that lets educators incorporate hands-on activities in a diversity of interdisciplinary, standards-based lessons. The article stated that school garden engages students by providing a dynamic environment in which to observe, discover, experiment, nurture, and learn; that It is a living laboratory where lessons are drawn from real-life experiences rather than textbook examples, allowing students to become active participants in the learning process. Through garden, students gains understanding of ecosystems, an appreciation for food origins and nutrition, and knowledge of plant and animal life cycles. At the same time, they learn practical horticultural skills that last a lifetime.

School gardens were quite common in Victorian times in England as part of nature study classes, during the world wars in many countries where food shortage occurred, and in the post-civil war era in the United States.

Moreover, experience and research have shown numerous benefits of school gardens and natural landscaping, like the following, to wit:

- Students learn focus and patience, cooperation, teamwork and social skills;
- They gain self-confidence and a sense of "capableness" along with new skills and knowledge in food growing – soon-to-be-vital for the 21st century;
- Garden-based teaching addresses different learning styles and intelligences, our non-readers can blossom in the garden;
- Achievement scores improve because learning is more relevant and hands-on;
- Students become more fit and healthy as they spend more time active in the outdoors and start choosing healthy foods over junk food; and
- The school yard is diversified and beautified;

The research study also proved that School Gardening is educational and develops new skills, including Responsibility from caring for plants, Understanding – as they learn about cause and effect (ex., plants die without water, weeds compete with plants), Self-confidence – from achieving their goals and enjoying the food they have grown.

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

reporter
ROSEMARIE C. PANOTES
Representative
Second District, Camarines Norte

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2124

INTRODUCED BY: HONORABLE ROSEMARIE C. PANOTES

AN ACT
MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepEd) TO INTEGRATE
GARDENING IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM IN BOTH PUBLIC
AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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

SECTION 1. The Department of Education (DepEd) is hereby mandated to integrate gardening in the secondary school curriculum in both public and private schools.

SEC. 2. The DepEd shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,