

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. B. No. 2836

Introduced by Representative Ralph G. Recto

AN ACT
REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016"

Section 10 of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10912, otherwise known as the "Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Act of 2016", requires CPD as a mandatory requirement for the renewal of a Professional Identification Card every three (3) years. The CPD Act lapsed into law on July 21, 2016 and its implementation started on March 15, 2017, upon the effectivity of Resolution No. 1032 or the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. No. 10912.

R.A. 10912 was enacted "to promote and upgrade the practice of profession in the country ... [and to] ... improve the competence of the professionals in accordance with the international standards of practice, thereby, ensuring their contribution in uplifting the general welfare, economic growth and development of the nation."¹ While the purpose is noble, many certified public accountants challenge the practicality and reasonableness of the extensive CPD requirements imposed on them.² Several groups of teachers also point out that even before the implementation of CPD, teachers and other professionals have already been engaging in CPD activities.³

Many professionals are against this law due to the costs of undergoing the required trainings, seminars or other activities undertaken that is related to their profession to earn the necessary CPD units. The CPD Act has only made the process costly, more bureaucratic and unnecessarily regulative.

¹ Section 2, RA 10912.

² Alejandrino, Angelina. (July 22, 2018). "CPD in the accountancy profession." Information retrieved at <https://businessmirror.com.ph/cpd-in-the-accountancy-profession/> on October 9, 2018.

³ Hernando-Malipot, Merlina. (February 15, 2018). "Teachers push for abolition of CPD Law." Information retrieved at <https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/02/15/teachers-push-for-abolition-of-cpd-law/> on October 9, 2018.

While further training is needed to continuously grow and learn as professionals, it does not come cheap especially to professionals who are just starting to practice their respective careers and earn meager incomes. Some professionals even have to work in graveyard shifts and do not have the luxury of time to enrol in training programs.

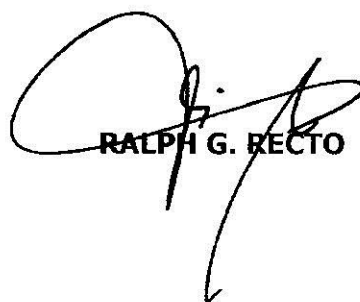
The accessibility of these training programs also poses a challenge as they may not be readily available to professionals in the countryside and, thus, the cost of transportation and board and lodging in attending the required training programs adds up to the already exorbitant training costs.

The CPD requirement becomes an even bigger problem for those who temporarily resort to accepting jobs, usually menial, other than their profession in the absence of job opportunities. It becomes more difficult to update themselves and reintegrate into their chosen profession.

It is high time to unburden the 2.56 million registered Filipino professionals⁴ of RA 10912's requirements, especially amid the government's efforts to speed up processes and services. Compulsory requirements of doubtful value like CPD go against this policy. Pulling the plug on the CPD experiment should give everyone time to ponder other means of improving professional competence without the coercive force of the CPD model.

At this time when inflation rate is unstable, the peso is at a weaker level and oil prices are unpredictable, Filipinos do not need additional burden to worry about. Thus, this bill seeks to repeal the CPD Act.

In the light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



RALPH G. RECTO

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⁴ Philippine Statistics Authority. (May 20, 2019). *Employment rate in 2022 is estimated at 94.3 Percent.* " Information retrieved at <https://psa.gov.ph/content/employment-rate-april-2022-estimated-943-percent> on June 15, 2022.

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

1
2 **SECTION 1.** Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the "*Continuing*
3 *Professional Development Act of 2016*", is hereby repealed.

4 **SEC. 2.** All other laws, executive orders, resolutions, rules and regulations,
5 and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby
6 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

7 **SEC. 3.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
8 Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,