

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6777

Introduced by HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING

**AN ACT INTEGRATING THE TEACHING OF THE 1987 PHILIPPINE
CONSTITUTION IN THE SECONDARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM OF ALL
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sec. 17, Art. II of the 1987 Constitution states that "The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development."

This proposed measure seeks to include the study of the Constitution in the secondary school curriculum to increase Filipinos' awareness of their rights and responsibilities, and instill a nationalist mindset.

This bill aims to develop a Constitutional Education Course for junior and senior high school students in all public and private schools.

This proposed measure also aims to develop the students' appreciation and exercise of democratic values, foster their understanding and practice of active citizenship and people's participation in government processes, and equip them with knowledge of the Constitution. The said course shall be developed in accordance with the standards and principles in developing the enhanced basic education curriculum stated in Republic Act 10533 or the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. GUS S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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Introduced by HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING

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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 "Mandatory Constitutional Education Act"

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. - Article XIV, Section 3(1) of the 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines states that all educational institutions include the study of the Constitution as part of the curriculum. Moreover, Article XIV, Section 3(2) of the Constitution also states that educational institutions shall "inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientifically and technological knowledge, and promote vocational efficiency". Thus, it is hereby declared a policy of the State to fulfill the said provision by integrating education on the Constitution in the secondary education curriculum in all public and private educational institutions.

Sec. 3. Development of the Constitutional Education Course. – The Department of Education (DepEd), in collaboration with the concerned government agencies and experts on the Constitution from the academe shall develop the Constitutional Education Course that will be integrated into the secondary education curriculum in all public and private educational institutions. The course shall be developed by the standards and principles of developing the enhanced basic education curriculum stated in Republic Act No. 10533 or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013".

Sec. 4. Constitutional Education Course Objectives. - The Constitutional Education Courses for secondary school students shall seek to accomplish the following;

a. Raise their level of awareness and understanding of the history and provisions of the 1987 Constitution as well as their rights and duties as a Filipino citizen;

- b. Develop their appreciation and exercise of democratic values, such as transparency, accountability, and respect for human rights and dignity;
- c. Foster their understanding and practice of active citizenship and people's participation in government processes; and
- d. Equip them with the knowledge of the Constitution that they can use in their analysis and involvement in public issues.

Sec. 5. Constitutional Education Course Framework. - The Constitutional Education Courses in the secondary education curriculum will cover topics including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. History and Overview of the 1987 Constitution;
- b. Nationalism and Sovereignty;
- c. State Principles and Policies;
- d. The National Territory;
- e. Government Branches, Institutions, and Processes;
- f. Rights and Duties of Citizens;
- g. National Economy and Patrimony;
- h. Citizenship and Suffrage;
- i. Democratic Values, Social Justice, and Human Rights;
- j. Active Citizenship and People's Participation in Governance;
- k. Education, Science and Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports; and
- l. Current Issues.

Sec. 6. Constitution Education Training for Teachers. - The training of teachers in carrying out the Constitution Education Course shall be incorporated in the teacher education and training programs mandated by Republic Act No. 10533 or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013".

Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, with the assistance of the concerned government agencies and experts on the Constitution from the academe shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 8. Separability Clause. - If any provision, section, or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, invalidate, or impair any other provisions, sections, or parts hereof.

Sec. 9. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, circulars, rules and regulations or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 10. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,