



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **9614**



Introduced by Representative PAUL R. DAZA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Philippines, Electronics Engineering was first recognized as a State-regulated profession in 1969. At that time, in order to be licensed to practice Electronics Engineering, a person must take and pass the Electronics Engineering Licensure Examination (EELE) by obtaining at least seventy percent (70%) general average, with no rating below fifty percent (50%) in any subject pursuant to the old Electronics and Communications Engineering Law of the Philippines (RA 5734). However, when RA 5734 was repealed by Electronics Engineering Law of 2004 (RA 9292), a rating of at least seventy percent (70%) in each subject of the examination has been required in order to pass the EELE. This requirement differs not only with RA 5734 but also with the passing rates for the other engineering licensure examinations like chemical engineering, civil engineering, electrical engineering, and mechanical engineering which only require a general average of seventy percent (70%), with no rating below fifty percent (50%) in any of the subjects. There are views that, by reason of parity, standard passing rates should apply for similar or related professions like in this case, unless there are reasons or other basis to warrant such differentiation.

Another important observation is that while there is high demand for Electronics Engineers, the reality is that there is a dearth already of Electronics Engineering practitioners due to a number of factors: the dwindling number of enrollees in the electronics engineering courses, migration overseas, and the rigidities in the licensure system. Data show that for the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019, the passing percentage in the EELE is only at 38.13%, 39.19%, 44.36%, 47.40%, and 48.70%, respectively. These generated a five-year average passing rate of 43.56%, which is below the average passing rate of all engineering professions at 56.47%. The causes of the examinees' poor performance in the EELE are multifactorial, and one of which could be attributed to the stringent application of the "no rating below 70% in any subject" requirement.

Hence, the proposed measure seeks to amend Section 16 of RA 9292 (Ratings) in order to make the passing rate in the EELE consistent with the other engineering professions and to address the relatively low passing percentage in the examination in recent years.

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

PAUL R. DAZA

Representative, 1st District of Northern Samar



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**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 16 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9292, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE “ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING LAW OF 2004”**

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

SECTION 1. – Section 16 of Republic Act No. 9292 is hereby amended to read as:

“Section 16. *Ratings.* - To pass the examination, a candidate for an electronic engineer or electronics technician **MUST OBTAIN AN AVERAGE OF SEVENTY PERCENT (70%) ON ALL SUBJECTS WITH NO RATING BELOW FIFTY PERCENT (50%) IN ANY SUBJECT: PROVIDED, THAT A CANDIDATE WHO OBTAINS A PASSING RATING OF SEVENTY PERCENT (70%) AND ABOVE IN THE MAJORITY OF THE SUBJECTS SHALL BE ALLOWED TO TAKE A REMOVAL EXAMINATION ON THE SUBJECT OR SUBJECTS WHICH HE/SHE FAILED TO OBTAIN A RATING OF AT LEAST FIFTY PERCENT (50%): PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT A CANDIDATE SHALL TAKE THE REMOVAL EXAMINATION IN THE REMAINING SUBJECTS WITHIN TWO (2) YEARS FROM PRECEDING EXAMINATION: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE FAILURE OF AN EXAMINEE TO OBTAIN A PASSING RATING IN THE REMOVAL EXAMINATIONS, REGARDLESS OF FREQUENCY, SHALL NOT BE A BAR TO THE RE-TAKING OF THE SAME.”**

SEC. 2. *Prohibition on Imposition of Fees and Resubmission of Documentary Requirements for Removal Examinations* – No applicant shall be charged any fee nor be

required to resubmit any documentary requirement already submitted during the original application for licensure examination as a prerequisite for taking the removal examinations.

SEC. 3. *Modular Removal Examinations* – In conducting the removal examinations, the Professional Regulatory Board of Electronics Engineering shall establish a modular system of examination whereby the applicant may be allowed to retake the examination for each subject in one seating or in reasonable intervals as prescribed by the Board.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause* – If any provision or part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such shall not affect the provisions otherwise valid and legal.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause* – This amends Section 16 of RA No. 9266. All other laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, resolutions, and other administrative issuances or part thereof which are inconsistent or in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,