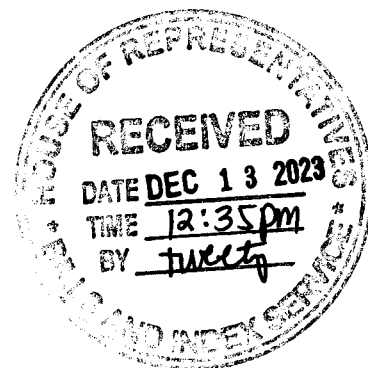


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9767



Introduced by Representative Eduardo Roa Rama Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes financial literacy as a core life skill that leads to financial stability and financial freedom. It has been widely recognized that financial literacy matters for poverty reduction and economic growth.

However, a global study shows that the Philippines ranks at the bottom 30 out of 144 countries in terms of financial literacy. A recent Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas survey showed that with questions on basic financial literacy, only 1 percent of surveyed Filipino adults correctly answered questions.¹ Poor financial decisions have a long-lasting impact on individuals, families, and their communities. Low levels of financial literacy are associated with a lower standard of living, overall well-being, and increased reliance on government support.

This legislative measure seeks to include Basic Financial Literacy as a separate core subject in the K-12 program. The inclusion of basic financial education as part of the formal school curriculum is an efficient policy tool and a critical long-term investment in economic development. Financial literate citizens can contribute more productively to inclusive growth and be more efficient agents of nation-building.

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


EDUARDO ROA RAMA JR.
2nd District, Cebu City

¹ Kris Crismundo, "BSP bridges financial literacy gap among Filipinos", Philippine News Agency, <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1206091>.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 9767

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**AN ACT INTEGRATING BASIC FINANCIAL LITERACY AS A CORE
SUBJECT IN THE K-12 CURRICULUM AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Basic Financial Literacy
Education Act.*”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect and
promote the right of all citizens to quality education, to take into account regional
and sectoral needs and conditions, and to encourage local planning in the
development of educational policies and programs.

Towards this end, the State seeks to:

- a. Introduce Basic Financial Literacy as a core subject in the basic education curriculum.
- b. Ensure that financial education becomes an integral part of formal learning.
- c. Enhance financial literacy and financial capability of all young Filipinos.

- d. Empower and equip the Filipinos with the knowledge and skills to make sound financial decisions.
- e. Promote quality education that ensures an increasing number of Filipinos with relevant skills and competencies for productive lives and poverty reduction.

SECTION 3. *Basic Financial Literacy Education.* – There shall be a separate subject on Basic Financial Literacy in the K-12 curriculum of both public and private schools nationwide.

SECTION 4. *Curriculum.* – The Department of Education (DepEd), in collaboration with the appropriate agencies, shall create a curriculum for a separate subject on Basic Financial Literacy.

The core subject on Basic Financial Literacy shall include an understanding of the following topics, which shall be adapted as necessary according to school level, and to national, regional, or local circumstances:

- a. Basic Financial Concepts
 - i. Credit
 - ii. Debt
 - iii. Deposit
 - iv. Income
 - v. Insurance
 - vi. Interests
 - vii. Investments
 - viii. Savings
- b. Opening a Savings Account
- c. Resource Management
- d. Budgeting and Planning
- e. Banks and Other Financial Institutions

- f. Financial Cooperatives
- g. Digital Financial Services
- h. Basic Tax Principles
- i. Retirement

SECTION 5. *Libraries.* – There shall be a separate section in the public and private school libraries exclusively for financial education.

SECTION 6. *Minimum Qualifications of Teaching Personnel.* – The DepEd shall provide the guidelines on the minimum qualifications and competencies of financial educators, which shall be adapted as necessary to national, regional, or local circumstances.

SECTION 7. *Training and Capacity Building.* – The DepEd shall collaborate with the necessary educational organizations, financial institutions, and finance experts to conduct training and capacity building programs for teachers. They shall receive continuous support and training to strengthen their skills and effectiveness on:

- a. Designing a curriculum.
- b. Assessing learner's needs.
- c. Employing educational strategies.
- d. Improving teaching methods.
- e. Upgrading learning tools and pedagogical resources.

SECTION 8. *Monitoring and Evaluation.* – The DepEd shall, in coordination with the appropriate agencies, establish a system of monitoring and evaluation, which includes:

- a. Monitoring the actual teaching of basic financial literacy in schools through case studies and various oversight mechanisms at the local, regional, and national levels.

- b. Evaluation of the competencies of students in basic financial literacy throughout the curriculum via formal examinations, and conduct of ad hoc regional or national contests.
- c. Establishment of baseline surveys on the level of financial literacy and skills of students to set a benchmark, recognize gaps, and measure progress over time.

SECTION 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Education. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Secretaries of the Department of Finance, National Economic and Development Authority, and the Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), formulate the rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.