

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 551



Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

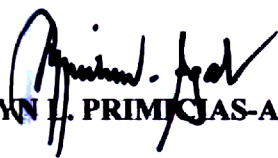
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to include human rights as a mandatory curricula subject in all levels of education.

The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights (Section 11, Article II, 1987 Constitution). All educational institutions shall inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, and respect for human rights (Section 3(2), Article XIV, 1987 Constitution). Section 1, Article III of the 1987 Constitutions mandates that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws. Human right is therefore of primordial importance

To this end, it is the responsibility of the State to ensure that the subject "Human Rights" be included in the curricula of students to fully understand the meaning and significance of the term "human rights" in all levels of education.

Hence, this earnest request for the immediate passage of this bill.


MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **551**

Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE MANDATORY STUDY OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN
THE CURRICULA IN ALL LEVELS OF EDUCATION

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 “Human Rights Education Act.”

SECTION 2. *Human Right Education.* - All public and private schools in all levels shall include the study of human rights in their curricula. No school shall be established or be allowed to operate unless this requirement is complied with.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education, in consultation and close coordination with the Commission on Human Rights and various non-government organizations, advocacy groups and human rights organization, shall formulate courses, subjects, and/or special lectures on human rights to be taught as separate courses or incorporated in existing subjects now being taught in all levels of education throughout the country.

SECTION 4. The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall consult and coordinate with the Commission on Human Rights and various non-government organizations, advocacy groups and human rights organizations, in the writing, printing, and publication of textbooks, manuals, and other reading materials to be used in the human rights courses.

SECTION 5. This Act shall be implemented initially within the framework budget of the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, and state universities and colleges for the year it is enacted into law.

Thereafter, such amounts as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, and state universities and colleges in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education and the Commission on Human Rights shall promulgate and issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause* - If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid or subsisting.

SECTION, 8. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, later of instruction, administrative order, the rule regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,