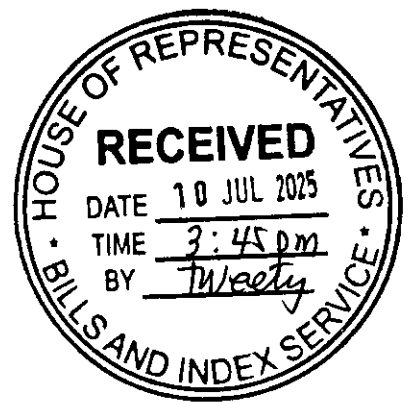


Congress of the Philippines]
TWENTIETH CONGRESS]
First Regular Session]



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill. No. **1784**

BY REPRESENTATIVE SUN J. SHIMURA

AN ACT

RATIONALIZING THE PHILIPPINE BASIC EDUCATION SYSTEM BY REMOVING THE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, AMENDING PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013" AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10533, or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013," aimed to create a robust basic education system in the Philippines. Its core objective was to equip citizens with essential competencies, skills, and values for lifelong learning and employment, fostering productivity and responsibility. This landmark legislation introduced **two additional years to secondary education—Grade 11 and Grade 12—collectively known as Senior High School (SHS).** The intention behind SHS was to align the Philippine education system with international standards, serving as a crucial bridge between secondary and tertiary education.

Despite its ambitious goals, the K-12 reform has faced significant criticisms and objections from various sectors since its implementation. Twelve years after its enactment, the program has yet to fully achieve its stated objectives.

Adding more years to basic education hasn't necessarily translated into better learning outcomes. Moreover, while a key goal of K-12 was to make graduates employable directly after senior high school, many employers continue to require a college degree. In fact, even the government itself typically does not hire senior high school graduates. This situation risks exacerbating joblessness and depressing wages in the Philippines by increasing the number of job seekers without a corresponding rise in job availability. Furthermore, the additional two years of senior high school

have undeniably increased the financial burden on Filipino families, especially those in lower-income brackets.

In light of these ongoing challenges and the program's unfulfilled goals, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended to address the critical issues brought about by the K-12 program.



REP. SUN J. SHIMURA

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as
2 the "**Rationalized Basic Education Act.**"

3 **SECTION 2. Amendment to Section 4 of Republic Act No.**
4 **10533.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the
5 "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013" is hereby amended to read as
6 follows:

7 "SEC. 4. ~~{Enhanced}~~ **RATIONALIZED** *Basic Education*
8 *Program.* – The ~~{enhanced}~~ RATIONALIZED basic education program
9 encompasses at least one (1) year of kindergarten education, six (6)
10 years of elementary education, and ~~{six (6)}~~ **FOUR (4)** years of years
11 of secondary education, in that sequence. ~~{Secondary education~~
12 ~~includes four (4) years of junior high school and two (2) years of~~
13 ~~senior high school education.}~~

14 "Kindergarten education shall mean one (1) year of preparatory
15 education for children at least five (5) years old as a prerequisite for
16 Grade I.

17 "Elementary education refers to the second stage of
18 compulsory basic education which is composed of six (6) years. The
19 entrant age to this level is typically six (6) years old.

20 "Secondary education refers to the third stage of compulsory
21 basic education. It consists of four (4) years of ~~{junior}~~ high school
22 education ~~{and two (2) years of senior high school education}~~. The
23 entrant age to the ~~{junior and senior}~~ high school level ~~{s-are}~~ IS
24 typically twelve (12) ~~{and sixteen (16) years old [,respectively]}.~~

1 "xxx"

2 **SECTION 3. Amendment to Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

3 Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 "SEC. 5. *Curriculum Development.*- The DepEd shall formulate
5 the design and details of the [enhanced] RATIONALIZED basic
6 education curriculum. It shall work with the Commission on Higher
7 Education (CHED) to craft harmonized basic and tertiary curricula for
8 the global competitiveness of Filipino graduates. To ensure college
9 readiness and to avoid remedial and duplication of basic education
10 subjects, the DepEd shall coordinate with the CHED and the Technical
11 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

12 "To achieve an effective [enhanced] **RATIONALIZED** basic
13 education curriculum, the DepEd shall undertake consultations with
14 other national government agencies and other stakeholders
15 including, but not limited to, the Department of Labor and
16 Employment (DOLE), the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC),
17 the private and public schools associations, the national student
18 organizations, the national teacher organizations, the parents-
19 teachers associations and the chambers of commerce on matters
20 affecting the concerned stakeholders.

21 "The DepED shall adhere to the following standards and
22 principles in developing the [enhanced] **RATIONALIZED** basic
23 education curriculum:

24 "(a) x x x;

25 "x x x."

26 **SECTION 4. Amendment to Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

27 Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 "SEC. 7. Teacher Education and Training. – To ensure that the
29 [enhanced] **RATIONALIZED** basic education program meets the
30 demand for quality teachers and school leaders, the DepED and the
31 CHED, in collaboration with relevant partners in government,
32 academe, industry, and nongovernmental organizations, shall
33 conduct teacher education and training programs, as specified:

34 "(a) In-service Training on Content and Pedagogy - Current
35 DepED teachers shall be [re] trained to meet the content and
36 performance standards of the [new K to 12] **BASIC EDUCATION**
37 curriculum.

1
2 “The DepED shall ensure that private education institutions
3 shall be given the opportunity to avail of such training.

4 “(b) Training of New Teachers. – New graduates of the current
5 Teacher Education curriculum shall undergo additional training, upon
6 hiring, to upgrade their skills to the content standards of the [new]
7 curriculum. Furthermore, the CHED, in coordination with the DepED
8 and relevant stakeholders, shall ensure that the Teacher Education
9 curriculum offered in these Teacher Education Institutes (TEIs) will
10 meet necessary quality standards for new teachers. Duly recognized
11 organization acting as TESs, in coordination with the DepED, the
12 CHED, and other relevant stakeholders, shall ensure that the
13 curriculum of these organizations meet the necessary quality
14 standards for trained teachers.

15 “(c) x x x. ”

16 **SECTION 5. Amendment to Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

17 Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 “SEC. 10. *Expansion of E-GASTPE Beneficiaries.* – The benefits
19 accorded by Republic Act No. 8545, or the “Expanded Government
20 Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education Act”, shall
21 be extended to qualified students enrolled under the [enhanced]
22 **RATIONALIZED** basic education.

23 ~~“[The DepED shall engage the services of private education~~
24 ~~institutions and non-DepED schools offering senior high school~~
25 ~~through the programs under Republic Act No. 8545, and other~~
26 ~~financial arrangements formulated by the DepED and the Department~~
27 ~~of Budget and Management (DBM) based on the principles of public~~
28 ~~private partnership.]”~~

29 **SECTION 6. Amendment to Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

30 Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 “SEC. 11. Appropriations. – The Secretary of Education shall
32 include in the Department’s program the operationalization of the
33 [enhanced] **RATIONALIZED** basic education program, the initial
34 funding of which shall be charged against the current appropriations
35 of the DepED. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued
36 implementation of the [enhanced] **RATIONALIZED** basic education
37 program shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.”

1 **SECTION 7. Amendment to Section 12 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

2 Section 12 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

3
4 "SEC. 12. *Transitory Provisions.* – The DepED, the CHED and
5 the TESDA shall formulate the appropriate strategies and
6 mechanisms needed to ensure smooth transition from existing [~~ten~~
7 ~~(10) years basic education cycle to the~~] enhanced basic education (K
8 to 12) cycle **TO THE RATIONALIZED BASIC EDUCATION**. The
9 strategies may cover changes in physical infrastructure, manpower,
10 organizational and structural concerns, bridging models linking grade
11 10 competencies and the entry requirements of the new tertiary
12 curricula, and partnerships between the government and other
13 entities. [~~Modeling for senior high school may be implemented in~~
14 ~~selected schools to simulate the transition process and provide~~
15 ~~concrete data for the transition plan.~~]

16 "~~[To manage the initial implementation of the enhanced basic~~
17 ~~education program and mitigate the expected multi year low~~
18 ~~enrolment turnout for HEIs and Technical Vocational Institutions~~
19 ~~(TVIs) starting School Year 2016, 2017,t]~~ The DepED shall
20 **CONTINUE TO** engage in partnerships with HEIs and TVIs for the
21 utilization of the latter's human and physical resources. Moreover,
22 the DepED, the CHED, the TESDA, the TVIs and the HEIs shall
23 coordinate closely with one another to implement strategies that
24 ensure the academic, physical, financial, and human resource
25 capabilities of HEIs and TVIs to provide educational and training
26 services for graduates of the [enhanced] **RATIONALIZED** basic
27 education program to ensure that they are not adversely affected.
28 The faculty of HEIs and TVIs allowed to teach students of secondary
29 education under Section 8 hereof, shall be given priority in hiring for
30 the duration of the transition period. For this purpose, the transition
31 period shall be provided for in the life implementing rules and
32 regulations (IRR)."

33 **SECTION 8. Amendment to Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

34 Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

35 "SEC 13. Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on the
36 [~~Enhanced~~] **RATIONALIZED Basic Educational Program** [~~(K to 12~~
37 ~~Program)]~~. – There is hereby created a Joint Oversight Committee to
38 oversee, monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Act.

39 "The Oversight Committee shall be composed of five (5)
40 members each from the Senate and from the House of
41 Representatives, including Chairs of the Committees on **BASIC**

1 Education [~~Arts and Culture,~~] and Finance of both Houses. The
2 membership of the Committee for every House shall have at least
3 two (2) opposition or minority members.”

4
5 **SECTION 9. Amendment to Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10533.**

6 Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10533 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7
8 “SEC. 14. *Mandatory Evaluation and Review.* – [By the end of
9 School Year 2014-2015] FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER THE
10 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT, the DepED shall conduct a
11 mandatory review and submit a midterm report to Congress as to the
12 status of implementation of the [K to 12] RATIONALIZED BASIC
13 EDUCATION program in terms of closing the following current
14 shortages: (a) teachers; (b) classrooms; (c) textbooks; (d) seats;
15 (e) toilets, and (f) other shortages that should be addressed.

16 “x x x.”

17 **SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part hereof is held
18 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part
19 not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

20 **SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.*** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
21 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or
22 regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
23 hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

24 **SECTION 12. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
25 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2)
26 newspapers of general circulation.

27 **Approved,**