



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2279



Introduced by **Representative MA. VICTORIA CO-PILAR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Legal education is the foundation upon which the competence, integrity, and ethical standards of the legal profession are built. In a country like the Philippines, where the rule of law plays a crucial role in social justice, economic development, and good governance, the importance of producing lawyers who are not only technically proficient but also socially responsible cannot be overstated. However, nearly three decades after the passage of Republic Act No. 7662 or the "Legal Education Reform Act of 1993," the challenges in the legal education system remain pressing and unresolved.

Republic Act No. 7662 established the Legal Education Board (LEB) to supervise law schools, standardize curricula, and improve legal education nationwide. While the law marked a significant step forward at the time of its passage, it has become evident that the LEB lacks sufficient institutional strength, administrative capacity, and financial support to fully carry out its mandate. The rapid growth in the number of law schools, the uneven quality of instruction, the wide disparities in bar exam performance, and the lack of support for faculty development and legal research reflect the urgent need for systemic reform.

The enactment of this bill is a necessary and long-overdue step in raising the standards of legal education in the Philippines. By modernizing legal education governance, aligning it with the challenges of the 21st century, and ensuring equitable access to quality instruction and training, the proposed measure supports the long-term goal of building a legal profession that is competent, ethical, and socially relevant. In a time when justice reform is needed more than ever, strengthening legal education is a critical foundation.

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



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2279

Introduced by **Representative MA. VICTORIA CO-PILAR**

1 **AN ACT**
2 **STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL EDUCATION BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE**
3 **PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7662, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “LEGAL**
4 **EDUCATION REFORM ACT OF 1993”, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
5

6 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*
7 *assembled:*
8

9 **SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the “*Revised Legal Education Reform Act.*”
10

11 **SEC. 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended to read as follows:
12

13 “**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policies.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State
14 to uplift the standards of legal education [in order] to prepare law students for advocacy,
15 counselling, problem-solving and decision-making, **SO AS** to infuse in them the ethics
16 of the legal profession[; to] **AND** impress upon them the importance, nobility and
17 dignity of the legal profession as an equal and indispensable partner of the Bench in the
18 administration of justice[;] and[,] to develop socially-committed lawyers with integrity
19 and competence.
20

21 [Towards] **TO** this end, the State shall undertake appropriate reforms in the
22 legal education system[,] **THAT SHALL** require **THE** proper selection of law
23 students, maintain quality among law schools, and require legal apprenticeship and
24 continuing legal education.”
25

26
27 **SEC. 3.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended to read as follows:
28

29 “**SEC. 3. General and Specific Objectives of Legal Education.** – a) Legal
30 Education in the Philippines is geared to attain the following general objectives:
31

- 32 1) to prepare students for the practice of law;
33
34 2) to increase awareness among [members of the legal profession]
35 **STUDENTS** of the needs of the poor, deprived and oppressed sectors of
36 society;
37

- 1 3) to train [persons] **STUDENTS OF LAW** for leadership;
2
3 4) to contribute towards the promotion and advancement of justice and the
4 improvement of [its] **THE** administration[,] **OF** the legal system and
5 [legal institutions] **LAW SCHOOLS** in the light of the historical and
6 contemporary development of law [in the Philippines and in other
7 countries.] **WORLDWIDE; AND**
8
9 5) **TO GENERATE LEGAL RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP**
10 **THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE EXPANSION OF LEGAL**
11 **KNOWLEDGE.**

12
13 b) Legal education shall aim to accomplish the following specific objectives
14 **AMONG LAW STUDENTS:**

- 15
16 1) to impart [among law students] a broad knowledge of **THE** law and
17 its various fields, and of legal **PHILOSOPHIES, SYSTEMS AND** institutions;
18
19 2) to enhance [their] legal research abilities [to enable them] **AND**
20 **CAPACITIES** to analyze articulate and apply the law effectively, as well as to allow
21 [them to have] a holistic approach to **ADDRESSING** legal problems and issues;
22
23 3) to prepare [law students] for advocacy, counselling, problem- solving
24 and decision-making, and develop [their] **THE** ability to deal with recognized legal
25 problems of the present and the future;
26
27 4) to develop competence in any field of law as is necessary for gainful
28 employment or sufficient as a foundation for future training beyond the basic
29 professional degree, and to develop [in them] the desire and capacity for continuing
30 study and self-improvement;
31
32 5) to [inculcate] **INSTILL** [in them] the ethics and responsibilities of the
33 legal profession; and
34
35 6) to [produce] **CREATE AN ENVIRONMENT CONDUCTIVE TO**
36 **THE TRAINING OF PROSPECTIVE** lawyers who conscientiously pursue the lofty
37 goals of [their] **THE** profession and faithfully adhere **THROUGH STRICT**
38 **ADHERENCE** to its ethical norms.”

39
40 **SEC. 4.** A new Section 4 is hereby inserted after Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7662, to
41 read as follows:

42
43 **“SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – AS USED IN THIS ACT:**

44
45 **A) BASIC LAW PROGRAM – AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM**
46 **LEADING TO A JURIS DOCTOR DEGREE AND IS PRIMARILY DESIGNED**
47 **FOR THE TRAINING AND FORMATION OF PROSPECTIVE LAWYERS TO**
48 **QUALIFY THEM TO TAKE THE BAR EXAMINATIONS IN ACCORDANCE**
49 **WITH THE RULES OF THE SUPREME COURT;**

50
51 **B) GRADUATE LAW PROGRAMS – ADVANCED ACADEMIC**
52 **STUDIES AFTER COMPLETION OF THE BASIC LAW PROGRAM TO**
53 **FURTHER LEGAL SCHOLARSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL SKILLS, SUCH**
54 **AS MASTER AND DOCTOR OF LAWS, AND OTHER EQUIVALENTS;**

1
2 C) LEGAL EDUCATION – THE TOTALITY OF VARIOUS
3 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS IN HIGHER EDUCATION DESIGNED FOR THE
4 TRAINING OF PROSPECTIVE LAWYERS AND LEGAL SCHOLARS. IT
5 SHALL ENCOMPASS THE BASIC AND GRADUATE LAW PROGRAMS AND
6 OTHER LEGAL STUDIES PROGRAMS; AND
7

8 D) LAW SCHOOLS – ALL HIGHER EDUCATION
9 INSTITUTIONS RECOGNIZED BY THE COMMISSION ON LEGAL
10 EDUCATION (CLED), EXCEPT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF THE
11 PHILIPPINES, AND AUTHORIZED OR ACCREDITED UNDER THIS ACT
12 TO OFFER BASIC OR GRADUATE LAW PROGRAMS OR OTHER LEGAL
13 STUDIES PROGRAMS.”
14

15 SEC. 5. A new Section 5 is hereby inserted after Section 4 of this Act, to read as follows:
16

17 “SEC. 5. *COVERAGE.* – THIS ACT SHALL APPLY TO ALL EXISTING
18 LAW SCHOOLS IN THE PHILIPPINES RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED
19 BY THE CLED, INCLUDING LAW SCHOOLS IN THE BANGSAMORO
20 AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO.
21

22 ALL LAW SCHOOLS INCLUDING THOSE ESTABLISHED
23 FOLLOWING THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT AND WHICH SHALL BE
24 RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED BY THE CLED, SHALL BE COVERED,
25 INCLUDING LAW SCHOOLS WHICH SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN
26 AUTONOMOUS REGIONS.”
27

28 SEC. 6. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended and renumbered as Section
29 6, to read as follows:
30

31 “SEC. [4]6. *[Legal Education Board]* **COMMISSION ON LEGAL**
32 **EDUCATION; Creation and Composition.** – To carry out the purposes of
33 this Act, there is hereby created the [Legal Education Board]
34 **COMMISSION ON LEGAL EDUCATION**, hereinafter referred to as the
35 [Board] **CLED**, [attached solely for budgetary purposes and administrative
36 support to the Department of Education, Culture and Sports] **WHICH**
37 **SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.**
38

39 The [Board] **CLED** shall be composed of a [Chairman] **CHAIRPERSON** [,
40 who shall preferably be a former justice of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals,]
41 and the following as regular members: a representative of the Integrated Bar of the
42 Philippines (IBP); a representative of the Philippine Association of Law Schools
43 (PALS); a representative of the Philippine Association of Law Professors (PALP); a
44 representative from the ranks of active law practitioners; and[,] a representative from
45 the law students’ sector. [The Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and
46 Sports or his representative, shall be an *ex officio* member of the Board].

47 With the exception of the representative of the law students’ sector, the
48 Chair[man]**PERSON** and regular members of the [Board] **CLED** must be natural born
49 citizens of the Philippines and members of the Philippine Bar, who have been engaged
50 for at least ten (10) years in the practice of law, as well as [in the teaching of law in a
51 duly authorized or recognized law school] **ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN**
52 **LEGAL EDUCATION IN A RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED LAW**
53 **SCHOOL ALSO FOR AT LEAST TEN (10) YEARS. RETIRED OR RESIGNED**
54 **JUSTICES OF THE SUPREME COURT AND COURT OF APPEALS OR**
55 **ELECTED OR APPOINTED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHOSE DUTIES**

1 AND FUNCTIONS PROHIBIT THEM FROM ENGAGING IN THE
2 PRACTICE OF LAW OR ACTIVELY ENGAGING IN LEGAL EDUCATION
3 DURING THEIR TERM OF OFFICE MUST HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE
4 PRACTICE OF LAW OR LEGAL EDUCATION FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5)
5 YEARS PRIOR TO OR AFTER THEIR ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT AS
6 SUCH.

7
8 THE CHAIRPERSON AND REGULAR MEMBERS MUST
9 PREFERABLY BE HOLDERS OF AN EARNED MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE
10 OR A MASTER’S DEGREE IN AN EDUCATION-RELATED FIELD, AND
11 MUST NOT HAVE BEEN CANDIDATES FOR ELECTIVE POSITIONS IN
12 THE ELECTIONS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THEIR APPOINTMENT.
13 THEY SHALL BE ACADEMICIANS KNOWN FOR THEIR HIGH DEGREE
14 OF PROFESSIONALISM AND INTEGRITY, WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED
15 THEMSELVES AS AUTHORITIES IN THE FIELD OF LEGAL EDUCATION.”
16

17 SEC. 7. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended and renumbered as Section
18 7, to read as follows:
19

20 “SEC. [5]7. *Term of Office; Compensation.* – The Chair[man]PERSON and
21 regular members of the [Board] CLED shall be appointed by the President OF THE
22 PHILIPPINES for a term of five (5) years, without PREJUDICE TO ONE
23 reappointment, from a list of at least three (3) nominees prepared, with prior
24 authorization from the Supreme Court, by the Judicial and Bar Council (JBC), for every
25 position or vacancy, and no such appointment shall need confirmation by the
26 Commission on Appointments. [Of those first appointed, the Chairman and the
27 representative of the IBP shall hold office for five (5) years; the representatives of the
28 PALS and the PALP for three (3) years; and the representative from the ranks of active
29 law practitioners and the representative of the law students’ sector for one (1) year,
30 without reappointment. Appointments to any vacancy shall be only for the unexpired
31 portion of the term of the predecessor.] IF THE APPOINTMENT IS MADE TO
32 FILL UP A VACANCY CAUSED BY DEATH, DISQUALIFICATION,
33 INCAPACITY OR RESIGNATION, THE TERM OF OFFICE SHALL BE FOR
34 THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF THE TERM OF THE PREDECESSOR. THE
35 CHAIRPERSON OR ANY REGULAR MEMBER OF THE CLED, WHOSE
36 TERM HAS ENDED, SHALL SERVE IN A HOLDOVER CAPACITY UNTIL
37 THE SUCCESSORS ARE APPOINTED.
38

39 The Chair[man]PERSON and regular members of the [Board] CLED shall
40 have the same [salary and] RANKS AND SALARIES as the Chair[man]PERSON
41 and members, respectively, of the Constitutional Commissions: *Provided*, That their
42 salaries shall not be diminished during their term of office.”
43

44 SEC. 8. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended and renumbered as Section
45 8, to read as follows:
46

47 “SEC. [6]8. *[Office and Staff Support] Secretariat.* – The [Department of Education,
48 Culture and Sports shall provide the necessary office and staff support to the Board,
49 with a principal office to be located in Metropolitan Manila] CLED
50 SHALL HAVE A SECRETARIAT WHICH SHALL BE HEADED BY AN
51 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND APPOINTED BY THE CLED. THE
52 SECRETARIAT SHALL CONSIST OF OFFICES NECESSARY FOR THE
53 EFFECTIVE PERFORMANCE OF THE CLED’S POWERS AND
54 FUNCTIONS.

1 **THE CLED SHALL DETERMINE THE ORGANIZATIONAL**
2 **STRUCTURE AND STAFFING PATTERN OF THE CLED IN ACCORDANCE**
3 **WITH THE REVISED COMPENSATION AND POSITION CLASSIFICATION**
4 **SYSTEM SUBJECT TO THE EVALUATION AND APPROVAL OF THE**
5 **DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT (DBM) AND IN**
6 **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CIVIL SERVICE LAWS, RULES AND**
7 **REGULATIONS.**

8 [The Board may appoint such other officers and employees it may deem
9 necessary in the performance of its powers and functions.]

10
11 **THE CLED SHALL ESTABLISH ONE FIELD OFFICE EACH IN**
12 **LUZON, VISAYAS, AND MINDANAO AS IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY.”**
13

14 **SEC. 9.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended and renumbered as Section
15 9, to read as follows:

16 “SEC. [7]9. *Powers and Functions.* – For the purpose of achieving the
17 objectives of this Act, the [Board] **CLED** shall have the following powers and
18 functions:

19 **a) TO FORMULATE DEVELOPMENT PLANS, POLICIES,**
20 **PRIORITIES AND PROGRAMS ON LEGAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH,**
21 **AND IMPLEMENT THE SAME UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT,**
22 **OR IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH PROVISIONS, TO RECOMMEND TO THE**
23 **LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATE REMEDIAL LEGISLATION;**

24 **[a]b) WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF ITS POWERS AND**
25 **FUNCTIONS AS HEREIN ENUMERATED,** to [supervise the law schools in the
26 country, consistent with its powers and functions as herein enumerated] administer the
27 legal education system **AND SUPERVISE LAW SCHOOLS** in the country [in a
28 manner consistent with the provisions of this Act];
29

30 **c)** to set the standards of accreditation for law schools **AND OTHER**
31 **LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS,** taking into account, among others, the [size of
32 enrollment, the qualifications of the members of the faculty, the library and other
33 facilities,] **NEED FOR SUCH QUALITY PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS THE**
34 **NUMBER OF EXISTING LAW SCHOOLS AND OTHER LEGAL**
35 **EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY,** without encroaching upon the
36 academic freedom of institutions [of higher learning];

37 **d)** to accredit law schools that meet the standards of accreditation,
38 **AND PROVIDE INCENTIVES, INCLUDING SUBSIDIES, TO ACCREDITED**
39 **LAW SCHOOLS, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, AND TO THEIR STUDENTS AND**
40 **FACULTY MEMBERS;**

41
42 **e)** to prescribe minimum standards for law admission and minimum
43 qualifications and compensation of faculty members;
44

45 **f)** to prescribe the basic curricula for the course of study aligned to the
46 requirements for admission to the Bar, law practice and social consciousness, and
47 such other courses of study as may be prescribed by the law schools and colleges
48 under the different levels of accreditation status;
49

50 **[g)** to establish a law practice internship as a requirement for taking the Bar
51 which a law student shall undergo with any duly accredited private or public law office

1 or firm or legal assistance group anytime during the law course for a specific period
2 that the [Board] **CLED** may decide, but not to exceed a total of twelve (12) months.
3 For this purpose, the Board shall prescribe the necessary guidelines for such
4 accreditation and the specifications of such internship which shall include the actual
5 work of a new member of the Bar;]

6 **G) TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE PERFORMANCE OF LAW**
7 **SCHOOLS FOR THE PROVISION OF APPLICABLE INCENTIVES AND/OR**
8 **SUBSIDIES;**
9

10 h) to [adopt a system of continuing legal education. For this purpose, the
11 [Board] **CLED** may provide for the mandatory attendance of practicing lawyers in such
12 courses and for such duration as the Board may deem necessary; and]

13 **IDENTIFY, SUPPORT AND DEVELOP POTENTIAL AREAS OF**
14 **EXCELLENCE IN LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS NEEDED FOR THE**
15 **DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD-CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS, PROMOTION OF**
16 **THE RULE OF LAW AND ATTAINMENT OF THE GOALS OF NATION**
17 **BUILDING;**

18 **I) TO COLLECT REASONABLE FEES FOR THE ISSUANCE OF**
19 **GOVERNMENT PERMIT OR GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION, AND**
20 **OFFICIAL CERTIFICATIONS, AND FOR THE HOLDING OF SEMINARS**
21 **AND OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CLED;**
22

23 **J) TO ACCEPT DONATIONS, GRANTS, AID, FUNDING AND**
24 **ANY GRATUITOUS TRANSFERS, WHETHER IN CASH, REAL OR**
25 **PERSONAL PROPERTY, TO BE USED FOR ACCOMPLISHING THE**
26 **OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT OR FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF LEGAL**
27 **EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY; AND**
28

29 [i]**K)** to perform such other functions and prescribe such rules and regulations
30 necessary for the attainment of the policies and objectives of this Act.”
31

32 **SEC. 10.** Sections 8 and 9 of Republic Act No. 7662 are hereby amended, consolidated, and
33 renumbered as Section 10, to read as follows:
34

35 “SEC. [8]10. *Accreditation of Law Schools AND WITHDRAWAL OR*
36 *DOWNGRADING OF ACCREDITATION.* – [Educational institutions] **LAW**
37 **SCHOOLS** may not operate [a law school] unless accredited by the [Board] **CLED**.
38 Accreditation of law schools may be granted only to [educational institutions] **THOSE**
39 recognized by the [G]government **AND WHOSE CHARTERS OR ARTICLES OF**
40 **INCORPORATION EXPRESSLY OR IMPLIEDLY AUTHORIZE THEM TO**
41 **OFFER LAW COURSES.**
42

43 [SEC. 9. *Withdrawal or Downgrading of Accreditation.* –] The [Board] **CLED**
44 may withdraw or downgrade the accreditation status of a law school if it fails to
45 maintain the standards set for its accreditation status.”
46

47 **SEC. 11.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby deleted.
48

49 **SEC. 12.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended, to read as follows:
50

51 “SEC. 11. *Legal Education Fund.* – There is hereby created a special
52 endowment fund, to be known as the Legal Education Fund **OR FUND**, which shall
53 be under the control of the [Board] **CLED**, and **TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR**

1 **THE IMPROVEMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN**
2 **THE ENTIRE COUNTRY. THE FUND SHALL BE** administered as a separate fund
3 by the Social Security System (SSS), which shall invest the same with due and prudent
4 regard to its solvency, safety and liquidity.
5

6 The [Legal Education] Fund shall be established out of, and maintained from,
7 the amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph 2, Section 13 hereof, and from sixty
8 percent (60%) of the privilege tax paid by every lawyer effective Fiscal Year 1994, and
9 from such donations, legacies, grant-in-aid and other forms of contributions received
10 by the Board for the purposes of this Act.
11

12 Being a special endowment fund, only the interests earned on the [Legal
13 Education] Fund shall be used exclusively for the purposes of this Act, [including]
14 WHICH SHALL INCLUDE support for faculty development grants, professorial
15 chairs, library improvements and similar programs for the advancement of [law
16 teaching and] LEGAL education in accredited law schools.
17

18 [The Fund shall also be used for the operation of the Board. For [this] **THE**
19 **purpose[,] OF DETERMINING THE AVAILABLE AMOUNT FOR**
20 **EXPENDITURE**, an amount not exceeding ten percent (10%) of the interest on the Fund
21 shall be utilized.
22

23 The [Board] **CLED**, in consultation with the SSS, shall issue the necessary rules and
24 regulations for the collection, administration and utilization of the Fund.”
25

26 **SEC. 13.** Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby deleted and a new Section 12 is
27 inserted after Section 11 to read as follows:
28

29 **“SEC. 12. TAX EXEMPTIONS. – ANY DONATION,**
30 **CONTRIBUTION, BEQUEST, AND GRANT, IN CASH OR PROPERTY, REAL**
31 **OR PERSONAL, DESTINED TO BE PART OF THE LEGAL EDUCATION**
32 **FUND, WHICH MAY BE MADE TO THE CLED, SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM**
33 **DONOR’S TAX AND SHALL CONSTITUTE AS ALLOWABLE DEDUCTION**
34 **FROM GROSS INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF COMPUTING THE TAXABLE**
35 **INCOME TAX OF THE DONOR, AS PROVIDED UNDER THE NATIONAL**
36 **INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1987, AS AMENDED.**
37

38 **VALUATION OF DONATIONS OTHER THAN MONEY SHALL BE**
39 **BASED ON WHICHEVER IS LOWER BETWEEN THE ACQUISITION COST**
40 **AND FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE PROPERTY AT THE TIME THE**
41 **DONATION IS MADE.”**
42

43 **SEC. 14.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended, to read as follows:
44

45 **“SEC. 13. AppropriationS. –** [The amount of One
46 million pesos (P1,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be charged against the current
47 year’s appropriation of the Contingent Fund for the initial expenses of the Board.
48

49 To form part of the Legal Education Fund, there shall be appropriated annually,
50 under the budget of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports, the amount of
51 Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00) for a period of ten (10) years effective Fiscal Year
1994.]

1 **THE AMOUNT NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS**
2 **ACT SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS**
3 **ACT.”**
4

5 **SEC. 15.** A new Section 14 is hereby inserted after Section 13, to read as follows:
6

7 **“SEC. 14. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – WITHIN**
8 **ONE HUNDRED TWENTY (120) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS**
9 **ACT, THE CLED AND THE CHED SHALL, IN COORDINATION WITH THE**
10 **UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES LAW CENTER, IBP, PALS, AND**
11 **OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, ISSUE THE RULES AND**
12 **REGULATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT: PROVIDED,**
13 **THAT THE RULES AND REGULATIONS PREVIOUSLY ISSUED BY THE**
14 **LEB IN THE FORM OF MEMORANDUM ORDERS, RESOLUTIONS AND**
15 **OTHER ISSUANCES SHALL CONTINUE TO BE IN FULL FORCE AND**
16 **EFFECT UNLESS THEY DIRECTLY CONTRAVENE ANY PROVISION OF**
17 **THIS ACT OR ARE AMENDED OR REPEALED BY SUBSEQUENT CLED**
18 **ISSUANCES.”**
19

20 **SEC. 16.** A new Section 15 is hereby inserted after Section 14, to read as follows:
21

22 **“SEC. 15. TRANSITORY PROVISION. – UPON THE EFFECTIVITY OF**
23 **THIS ACT, THE INCUMBENT CHAIRPERSON AND COMMISSIONERS OF**
24 **THE LEB, INCLUDING THOSE ON HOLDOVER CAPACITY, SHALL**
25 **CONTINUE TO PERFORM THEIR RESPECTIVE DUTIES AND**
26 **RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE CLED UNTIL THE COMPLETION OF THEIR**
27 **RESPECTIVE TERMS.**
28

29 **WITHIN THREE (3) MONTHS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS**
30 **ACT, THE CLED SHALL APPOINT THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WHO**
31 **WILL HEAD THE SECRETARIAT, SUBJECT TO THE RULES AND**
32 **REGULATIONS OF THE CSC.”**
33

34 **SEC. 17.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby renumbered as Section 16, to read
35 as follows:
36

37 **“SEC. [14]16. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared**
38 **unconstitutional or the application thereof to any person, circumstance or transaction is**
39 **held invalid, the validity of the remaining provisions of this Act and the applicability**
40 **of such provisions to other persons, circumstances and transactions shall not be affected**
41 **thereby.”**
42

43 **SEC. 18.** Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby renumbered as Section 17, to read
44 as follows:
45

46 **“SEC. [15]17. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules**
47 **and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed**
48 **or amended accordingly.”**
49

50 **SEC. 19.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7662 is hereby amended and renumbered as
51 Section 18, to read as follows:
52

1 “SEC. [16]**18. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect [after] fifteen (15) days
2 [following the completion of] **AFTER** its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in [any
3 two (2)] **A** newspaper[s] of general circulation.”

4
5 Approved,