



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 4157

Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative
EDUARDO “BRO. EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The concept of GOD (*Diyos*) and OTHERS (*Kapwa*) are central to the values system and national identity of the Filipino people. No less than the Supreme Law of the Land – our Constitution – opens with a declaration that we, as a people, implores the aid of the Almighty in pursuing the good life.

However, the rapid globalization and development of human life in the recent decades, aided by unprecedented advancement in technology, had greatly affected the moral fiber of the Philippine society. The deeply cherished Filipino values, etiquette, and behavior on being “*maka-Diyos, maka-tao, maka-kalikasan at maka-bansa*” are now being challenged by the lure of material prosperity as well as the enticing appeal of modern lifestyle, particularly from developed countries, propagated through the media and the internet. This is particularly worth noting because due to the accessibility of smartphones and internet connection, a Filipino youth spends an average of six hours a week online, while 3.5 percent of the youth are logging in at least 35 hours a week.¹ Clearly, Filipino values are very vulnerable to be supplanted by the forces of modernity.

This bill seeks to counter the susceptibility of our God-pleasing values system to be swayed, altered, and superseded by foreign influences. It aims to preserve and continually instill national values, instruct proper etiquette, and inculcate moral uprightness to Filipinos through the crafting of a Program on National Values, Etiquette and Moral Uprightness to be implemented by a Commission on Filipino Values. This bill also mandates that lessons on moral uprightness will be integrated in higher and tertiary education in supplement to the implementation of the Republic Act No. 11476 or the Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) and Values Education Act which covers the basic education.

¹ #SoMeForAYRH: A Guide in Using Social Media and Social Networking sites for Adolescent and Youth Reproductive Health Advocacy. Retrieved from: https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/basic-page/SoMe4AYRH%20Guide_Updated-min.pdf (date last accessed: July 27, 2022).

The bill also covers government offices and private entities as they are instructed to instill patriotism, national pride and identity, moral uprightness, including online and social etiquette during employee orientation and training programs.

The passage of this bill is very critical to our quest towards genuine and inclusive development without suffering the destruction of the moral fabric of our society. This legislative piece will greatly help in solving a range of our country's problems and challenges – particularly graft and corruption in the government which is a major contributor to the state of poverty in the country. According to the 2021 report of the international watchdog Transparency International, the Philippines ranked 117th (out of 180 countries) in terms of Corruption Perception Index. Accordingly, the Philippines only obtained a score of 33 out of 100 – its lowest score since 2012.² Thus, this bill, which aims to have a well-ordered society anchored on the teaching and inculcation of well-entrenched values and moral uprightness, is a good step not only towards improving the country's ranking in the global corruption perception index but more importantly in properly managing the affairs and resources of the state to be used for the upliftment of the living condition of our people.

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


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA

² January 26, 2022. 'PH is a significant decliner' in global corruption index, ranks 117th. CNN Philippines. Available at <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2022/1/26/PH-117th-global-corruption-index-2021-.html> (date last accessed: July 17, 2022).



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HOUSE BILL NO. 4157

Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative
EDUARDO “BRO. EDDIE” C. VILLANUEVA

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL VALUES, ETIQUETTE, AND MORAL UPRIGHTNESS PROGRAM; A COMMISSION ON FILIPINO VALUES; AND INTER-FAITH PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, INSTITUTING A FAITH-BASED AND VALUES-ORIENTED LEADERSHIP, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 the “*National Values,*
2 *Etiquette, and Moral Uprightness Act.*”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The preamble of the 1987 Constitution
5 implores the aid of Almighty God, in order to build a just and humane society, and
6 establish a Government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations, promote the
7 common good, conserve and develop our patrimony, and secure to ourselves and our
8 posterity, the blessings of independence and democracy under the rule of law and a
9 regime of trust, justice, freedom, love, equality and peace.
10

11 Pursuant to this, the State shall have the responsibility of passing laws and
12 institute programs that will lead us to the kind of society that the Philippine Constitution
13 aspires. Towards this end, it is the policy of the
14

15 State to promote and protect the physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and
16 social well-being of the youth and to recognize its role in nation building. It shall
17 inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in
18 public and civic affairs.
19

20 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, the following terms
21 are defined:
22

23 (a) **National Values** shall mean a set of ideals and principles shared by the
24 members of the community;

(b) **Etiquette** shall mean a customary code of behavior to be observed in a society; and

(c) **Mortal Uprightness** shall mean a conduct that conforms to an accepted standard of right and wrong.

SEC. 4. Establishment of the Commission on Filipino Values. – There is hereby created a Commission on Filipino Values (hereinafter, the “Commission”), which shall be composed of the Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd) as Chairperson, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), a representative from both Houses of Congress, together with representatives from major religious groups in the country, which shall be inter-faith, as members. The Commission shall conduct a nationwide consultation, and through consensus, craft a Program on National Values, Etiquette and Moral Uprightness (the “Program”).

The Commission shall draft a roadmap for the implementation of the Program, which shall be submitted to the President for his/her approval. The Commission shall likewise implement the approved Program.

The Commission shall continue to meet every three (3) years, or as the need arises, and shall conduct an evaluation of the performance, accomplishments and impact of the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Institutionalizing National Values, Etiquette, and Moral Uprightness in Educational Institutions. – To carry out the declared policies in Section 2 of this Act, teaching of the National Program on Values, including, but not limited to, patriotism, national pride and identity, Etiquette, Moral Uprightness, and social and online etiquette, shall be institutionalized as part of the curriculum in all levels in kindergarten, elementary, secondary, technical-vocational, and college institutions in the country; Provided, That the teaching of the foregoing in the kindergarten, elementary, and secondary levels shall be aligned and integrated with the teaching of values education in K-12 basic education curriculum in accordance with Republic Act No. 11476, otherwise known as the “GMRC and Values Education Act.”

SECTION 6. Implementation in Workplaces. – All government offices, Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), national agencies, and local government units, shall include modules on patriotism, national pride and identity and Moral Uprightness, including online and social etiquette, in employee orientation or training programs. Appropriate employee seminars shall also be regularly held on the aforesaid topics.

Private entities, through their respective Human Resources Department (HRD) or equivalent, are encouraged to include modules on patriotism, national pride, identity, and Moral Uprightness, including online and social etiquette, in employee orientation or training programs. Appropriate employee seminars may also be held on the aforesaid projects.

1 **SEC. 7. Values Officer in Government Offices, including GOCCs.** – It is
2 hereby mandated that all government offices, GOCCs, national agencies, and local
3 government units, shall have at least one (1) Values Officer that will oversee the
4 implementation of the policies under this Act. Functions of Values Officers include
5 values orientation of new hires and training sessions, seminars, or teach-ins of current
6 employees, among others.

7
8 **SEC. 8. Presidential Inter-Faith Council.** – There is hereby established a
9 Presidential Inter-Faith Council under the control and supervision of the President,
10 which shall be composed of leaders of religious organizations in the Philippines.

11
12 The Council shall:

- 13
14 (a) Meet on a regular basis to discuss matters pertaining to religion, faith,
15 morals, values formation and education, and such other related matters;
16
17 (b) Attend regular meetings with the Commission and advise and assist the
18 Commission on matters pertaining to religion, faith, morals, values
19 formation and education, and such other related matters;
20
21 (c) Attend regular meetings with the President and advise and assist the
22 President on matters pertaining to religion, faith, morals, values formation
23 and education, and such other related matters;
24
25 (d) Provide consultative and advisory services to the various government and
26 private agencies on matters pertaining to religion, faith, morals, values
27 formation and education, and such other related matters; and
28
29 (e) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the President of the
30 Philippines relating to religion, faith, morals, values formation and
31 education, and such other related matters.

32
33 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** – If any part of this Act shall be held
34 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts not otherwise affected thereby shall remain in
35 force and effect.

36
37 **SEC. 10. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, resolutions, orders, or
38 ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended
39 or modified accordingly.

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41 **SEC. 11. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
42 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
43 circulation.

44
45 *Approved,*