



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



House Bill No. 4205

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article V, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution guarantees the right to suffrage to all qualified Filipinos. Yet while this right is constitutionally secured, its meaningful exercise depends on whether voters are adequately informed. A sound grasp and understanding of the electoral system, the voting process, and the responsibilities that come with the right to suffrage is essential to ensure active and meaningful participation. Without comprehensive voter education, the right to vote risks becoming hollow—legally recognized but functionally weakened—leaving the electorate vulnerable to misinformation, apathy, and manipulation.

Data from the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) show that millennials and Gen Z now comprise 60.5 percent of the country’s 68,431,965 registered voters for the 2025 midterm elections, totaling 41,412,361 individuals. This marks a rise from the 2022 national elections, where they accounted for 56 percent, or around 37 million, of the 65.7 million registered voters.

This youth-driven electorate carries enormous potential to shape the nation’s future. However, potential alone does not guarantee democratic strength. The vitality of democracy rests not only on voter turnout, but on the quality of participation. Informed and responsible voting ensures that public officials are held accountable, and that governance reflects not just numbers, but the considered choices of the people.

COMELEC further projects that at least one million new voters are expected to participate in the Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE) in December 2025, many of them first-time voters. This underscores the urgency of structured and accessible voter education programs, especially for the youth.

By equipping citizens—starting with young voters—with knowledge and critical thinking skills, this measure advances the true spirit of suffrage. It ensures that the

right to vote is not merely exercised, but exercised wisely, strengthening democracy through an informed and empowered electorate.

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


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA



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AN ACT
INTEGRATING VOTER EDUCATION IN THE JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULA

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 “*Compulsory Voter*
2 *Education Act*”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to enlighten citizens
5 on their right to vote and to inculcate in them the duty to preserve the integrity of the
6 electoral process through the educational system.
7

8 **SEC. 3. Definition of Voter Education.** - As used in this Act, "Voter education"
9 means dissemination of information, materials, and programs designed to inform
10 citizens about the specifics and mechanics of the voting process. It includes providing
11 information on the right to suffrage, its importance, and the proper exercise thereof, as
12 well as the information on who is eligible to vote; where and how to register; how
13 electors can check the voter lists to ensure they have been duly included; what type
14 of elections are being held; where, when and how to vote; who the candidates are;
15 and how to file complaints.
16

17 **SEC. 4. Integration of Voter Education in the Junior and Senior High School**
18 **Curricula.** - Voter Education shall be integrated by the Department of Education
19 (DepEd) in the junior and senior high school curricula, effective at the start of the
20 school year immediately following one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act. The
21 Commission on Elections (COMELEC) shall assist the DepEd in preparing teachers
22 during the one-year transition period by conducting seminars and trainings on the
23 electoral system and process. The COMELEC shall likewise certify that a teacher,
24 after attending such seminars and training, is qualified to teach topics relating to the
25 electoral system and process.
26

27 **SEC. 5. Voter Education Syllabus.-**

- 1
- 2 a) Voter education - The main syllabus shall include, but not be limited to, 9 the
- 3 following thematic areas:
- 4 1) Suffrage – This area introduces to students the right to vote accorded
- 5 by the Constitution, and other rights enabling citizens to participate in
- 6 the conduct of public affairs;
- 7 2) Electoral system and process - This area with the general principles
- 8 underlying the present electoral system, and legislation regulating all
- 9 the phases of election, namely, pre-election, election proper, and post-
- 10 election. It discusses the proper conduct of elections including
- 11 registration, casting of ballots, and counting of votes.
- 12 3) Educated voting - This area focuses on the attitude and behavior a
- 13 voter must adopt to ensure fair, free, and honest elections. It
- 14 emphasizes the importance of participating in elections in a manner
- 15 that 21 shall stimulate and strengthen democracy.
- 16 b) Supplementary Topics - The syllabus shall have additional topics and studies
- 17 on the political system of the country, the contextual background of elections,
- 18 current political, social, and economic issues affecting the elections, and the
- 19 possible solutions to address them.
- 20 c) Other Subject Matters - Other areas of voter education may be included in
- 21 the syllabus.
- 22

23 **SEC. 6. Implementing Agency.** - The Secretary of Education is hereby

24 authorized and directed to adopt a system to implement and carry out the provisions

25 of this Act. The Department of Education shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity

26 of this Act, promulgate the rules and regulations, including those of a disciplinary

27 nature, to carry out and enforce the provisions of this Act.

28

29 **SEC. 7. Educational Materials.** - It shall be obligatory on all schools offering

30 secondary education to keep in their libraries an adequate number of copies of the

31 textbooks, primers, and leaflets on voter education to be issued by the DepEd. The

32 DepEd shall determine the adequacy of the number of books, depending upon the

33 enrollment of the school.

34

35 **SEC. 8. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared

36 unconstitutional, the remainder hereof or any provisions not affected thereby shall

37 remain in force and effect.

38

39 **SEC. 9. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,

40 executive order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation inconsistent with the provisions

41 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

42 **SEC. 10. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its

43 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

44

45 *Approved,*