



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4402



Introduced by

HON. REPRESENTATIVE LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE
4TH DISTRICT, BUKIDNON

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The importance of the teaching profession lies in its critical role in shaping the future of the nation through the empowerment of the youth and building a solid foundation for national development. The teaching profession is not just a job but a calling which requires long years of education, training and continuous professional development to achieve and maintain competence.

Republic Act No. 7836, as amended by Republic Act No. 9293, also known as the 'Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act' was enacted in 1994 with the objective of promoting professionalization of teachers and the teaching profession, and the supervision of and regulation of licensure examinations. Among its salient provisions include the creation of the Board for Professional Teachers (Board) under the supervision of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

There is now a need to revisit the law and modify certain provisions to be attuned to current developments in the teaching profession in order to enhance the quality of teaching and education in the country.

This bill seeks to expand the nomination pool for the Board of Professional Teachers to include the Teachers Education Council (TEC), the Department of Education (DepEd), accredited associations of private and

public school teachers and school administrators, and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Moreover, the measure proposes the issuance of appropriate rules by the PRC governing the practice of the members of the Board to avoid conflict of interest in the conduct of licensure examinations and the release of results. Likewise, the bill aims to provide inclusive qualifications for the teacher licensure examinations, and mandates a refresher course for applicants who have failed thrice in the professional licensure examinations for teachers.

The end goal is to produce highly qualified and professional teachers that will enter our education system, which in turn will result to improved learner outcomes.

This bill has been approved on Third Reading by the House of Representatives in the 19th Congress and transmitted to the Senate for concurrence, but was not enacted into law due to lack of material time.

For the foregoing reasons, the immediate approval of the bill is earnestly urged.


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4TH DISTRICT, BUKIDNON



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AN ACT
FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7836, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE "PHILIPPINE TEACHERS PROFESSIONALIZATION ACT OF
1994", AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9293

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

SECTION 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

*"Section 5. Creation and Composition of the Board. – There is hereby created under this Act a Board for Professional Teachers, hereinafter called the Board, a collegial body under the general supervision and administrative control of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, composed of five (5) members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from among the recommendees chosen by the Commission. The recommendees shall be chosen from the list of nominees ~~{selected by}~~ **SUBMITTED BY THE TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL (TEC), DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), COORDINATING COUNCIL OF PRIVATE***

EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (COCOPEA), COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (ALCU), PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (PASUC), AN ACCREDITED ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS, AND AN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHER EDUCATION STUDENTS ~~{and accredited association of teachers,}~~ who duly possess all the qualifications prescribed in Section 8 of this Act.

THE FINAL LIST OF NOMINEES SHALL BE MADE PUBLIC. A SCREENING COMMITTEE SHALL BE FORMED TO EVALUATE THE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED.

The chairperson and the vice-chairperson of the Board shall be appointed from these five (5) members by the President: *Provided*, That the members of the first Board appointed under this Act shall be automatically registered as professional teachers and issued with the certificate of registration and professional license upon payment of the fees for examination, registration, and other fees prescribed by the Commission."

SEC. 2. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

Section 8. Qualifications of Board Members. – Each Board member must, at ~~{his or her}~~ **THE** time of **HIS OR HER** appointment:

- (a) Be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
- (b) Be at least thirty-five (35) years of age, of proven integrity, and possessed of high moral values in personal as well as professional conduct and has not been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude;
- (c) Be a holder of ~~{the degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in Education and preferably a holder of a master's or doctorate degree in education, or their equivalents,}~~ **AT LEAST A MASTER'S DEGREE, PREFERABLY HOLDING A DOCTORATE DEGREE, IN EDUCATION, OR ITS EQUIVALENT**, from a university, school, college, academy or

institute duly constituted, recognized and/or accredited by the Philippine government;

- (d) Be a professional teacher with a valid certificate of registration and valid professional license, save those members who shall compose the first Board for Professional Teachers;
- (e) Has been a professional teacher in the active practice of the teaching profession for at least ten (10) years in the elementary and secondary level; and
- (f) Not be an official or member of the faculty of, nor have pecuniary interest in any university, college, school, or institution conferring a bachelor's degree in education or its equivalents ~~{for at least three (3) years prior to his appointment,}~~ and neither connected with a review center or with any group or association where review classes or lectures in preparation for the licensure examination are offered or conducted.

PROVIDED, THAT THE PRC SHALL ISSUE THE APPROPRIATE RULES TO GOVERN THE PRACTICE OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO ENSURE THAT NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST SHALL ARISE IN THEIR FUNCTIONS RELATED TO THE CONDUCT OF THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND THE RELEASE OF THE RESULTS.

Provided, {however} **FURTHER,** That the membership to the Board shall be evenly distributed to cover all levels of education, including equitable representation of the different fields of specialization.

PROVIDED, THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL ALSO HAVE THE NECESSARY EXPERTISE IN IMPLEMENTING TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT ARE MANDATED BY CHED, TEST DEVELOPMENT AND ANALYSIS, AND LOGISTICS IN IMPLEMENTING WIDE-SCALE ASSESSMENTS AND SYSTEM ACCREDITATIONS."

SEC. 3. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

"SEC. 13. Examination, Registration and License Required. – [Except as otherwise specifically allowed under the provisions of this Act, all

~~applicants for registration as professional teachers shall be required to undergo a written examination which shall be given at least once a year in such places and dates as the Board may determine upon approval by the Commission, a valid certificate of registration and a valid professional license from the Commission are required before any person is allowed to practice as a professional teacher in the Philippines, except as otherwise allowed under this Act.]~~

'APPLICANTS FOR REGISTRATION AS PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO: A WRITTEN EXAMINATION WHICH SHALL BE GIVEN AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR IN SUCH PLACES AND DATES AS THE BOARD MAY DETERMINE UPON APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION.

A WRITTEN EXAMINATION WILL BE REQUIRED FOR:

(A) GRADUATES OF EDUCATION COURSES, CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT;

(B) GRADUATES OF NON-EDUCATION COURSES WHO HAVE COMPLETED 18 UNITS OF CERTIFICATION IN PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (CPE).'

SEC. 4. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7836, as amended, is hereby further amended as follows:

'Section 15. Qualification Requirements of Applicant. – No applicant shall be admitted to take the examination unless, on the date of the filing of the application, ~~{he or she}~~ **THE APPLICANT** shall have complied with the following requirements:

- (a) A citizen of the Philippines or an alien whose country has reciprocity with the Philippines in the practice of the teaching profession;
- (b) At least eighteen (18) years of age;
- (c) In good health and of good reputation with high moral values;
- (d) Has not been convicted by final judgment by a court for an offense involving moral turpitude;

(e) A graduate of a school, college or university recognized by the government and possesses the minimum educational qualifications IN LINE WITH THE GOVERNMENT-MANDATED TEACHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM (INCLUDING THE VARIOUS SPECIALIZATIONS BY KEY STAGE/GRADE LEVEL, SUBJECT, OR OTHERS, AS PRESCRIBED BY THE RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY); AND [as follows:

~~(1) For teachers in preschool, a bachelor's degree in early childhood education (BECED) or its equivalent;~~

~~(2) For teachers in the elementary grades, a bachelor's degree in elementary education (BSEED) or its equivalent;~~

~~(3) For teachers in the secondary grades, a bachelor's degree in education or its equivalent with a major and minor, or a bachelor's degree in arts and sciences with at least eighteen (18) units in professional education;~~

~~(4) For teachers of vocational and two-year technical courses, a bachelor's degree in the field of specialization or its equivalent, with at least eighteen (18) units in professional education;]~~

(F) THE RESULTS OF THE EXAM SHALL BE GIVEN BY COMPONENT. IF AN APPLICANT HAS PREVIOUSLY FAILED TO PASS A COMPONENT/S OF THE EXAMINATION IN THE PAST THREE (3) YEARS, HE OR SHE SHALL BE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A REFRESHER COURSE FOR THE FAILED COMPONENT IN A CHED-RECOGNIZED TEACHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE, BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO RETAKE THE EXAMINATION.'

SEC. 5. Section 16 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

*'Section 16. **RELEASE OF THE QUESTIONS AND** Report of the Results of the Examination. – THE BOARD SHALL, NOT LATER THAN FORTY-EIGHT (48) HOURS AFTER THE EXAM ADMINISTRATION, RELEASE THE QUESTIONS AND INFORMATION ON THE MAKERS OF THE EXAM TO THE PUBLIC. THE BOARD SHALL FORM A TESTING BOARD EVERY YEAR, TO CONSIST OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM VARIOUS ACCREDITED*

TEACHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS. THE EXAM SHALL BE VALIDATED THROUGH A THIRD-PARTY ASSESSMENT BEFORE AND AFTER ADMINISTRATION. ITEM ANALYSIS IS RECOMMENDED TO BE DONE AFTER EXAM ADMINISTRATION. ADDITIONALLY, the Board shall, within one hundred twenty (120) days after the examination, report the ratings obtained by each candidate by exam component to the **PROFESSIONAL REGULATION** Commission for approval and appropriate action. **THE BOARD SHALL ALSO MAKE PUBLIC THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE OF SCHOOLS WITH A TEN (10) YEAR TRACK RECORD ANALYSIS. CREDIT FOR PASSING FOR THOSE WHO TOOK THE CPE SHALL GO TO THE INSTITUTION WHERE THE CPE PROGRAM WAS COMPLETED.**

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effective date of this Act, the Professional Regulation Commission shall update its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) necessary for the full and effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Transitory Provision.* – The Professional Regulation Commission and the Board of Professional Teachers shall update its existing policies and issuances relevant to this Act and ensure its alignment with the same within a period of six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act and report the same to Congress on the first year of its implementation.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act or the application of such section or provision is declared unconstitutional or invalid, no other section or provision of this Act shall be affected thereby.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, circulars, administrative orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.