

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5246



Introduced by **HON. JORGE DANIEL S. BOCOBO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

“Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.”

Habakkuk 2:2

Education is the clearest expression of a nation’s vision for its people. It defines what we want our youth to become and how we prepare them to thrive in a changing world. The 1987 Constitution gives life to this vision by mandating the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education and to make such education accessible to all. It further mandates the State to establish and maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.

While there are ongoing efforts to improve accessibility—through initiatives such as the expansion of the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (Republic Act No. 10931), the strengthening of Alternative Learning Systems (ALS), and the continued school-building and scholarship programs of both national and local governments—much remains to be done to ensure that the quality of education matches the scale of access.

The Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II), in its Year 2 report, underscored the urgent need for a national education roadmap with clear performance indicators and a results framework to address the learning crisis. This roadmap was envisioned to be strategic, inclusive, resilient, and systemic—anchored on the principles of excellence, equity, and lifelong learning for all Filipinos.¹

This proposed bill takes up this challenge and translates EDCOM II’s vision into enduring policy. In particular, the bill seeks to institutionalize an Education Roadmap—a unified, long-term policy direction for all education sectors—toward global competitiveness and human capital development. The proposed roadmap provides a clear framework to align basic, technical-vocational, and higher education with the country’s economic and development goals. It emphasizes the acquisition of 21st Century Skills, including critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, communication, and digital literacy. It also integrates futures thinking to help the education system anticipate and adapt to emerging global trends and disruptions.

¹ EDCOM II. (2025). “Fixing the foundations” of PH education system critical to overcoming learning crisis – EDCOM Year Two Report. Retrieved from: <https://edcom2.gov.ph/fixing-the-foundations-of-ph-education-system-critical-to-overcoming-learning-crisis-edcom-year-two-report/>

The measure further strengthens collaboration between government, academe, and industry through the creation of an Education Roadmap National Coordinating Council, to be chaired by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). This body shall design, formulate, and monitor the roadmap's implementation, ensuring policy coherence and coordination across sectors.

As the world economy increasingly values innovation, adaptability, and lifelong learning, the Philippines must invest strategically in its human capital. The Education Roadmap Act provides the necessary framework to modernize the country's education system—anchoring it on inclusivity, excellence, and global relevance.

Through this proposed measure, the nation commits itself to the belief that education is not merely a pathway to opportunity, but the foundation of nation-building itself.

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



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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR AN EDUCATION ROADMAP TOWARDS GLOBAL
COMPETITIVENESS AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Education Roadmap Act.”

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The 1987 Constitution guarantees that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The State shall also establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and the society.

It shall be the policy of the State to institutionalize an education roadmap to accelerate human capital development by focusing on digital skills, 21st Century skills and the 4 Cs (Critical thinking, Collaboration, Creativity, and Communication), and by ensuring lifelong learning opportunities for all that will prepare Filipinos for the Fourth Industrial Revolution and beyond. The education roadmap shall also provide the government with a common policy direction towards global competitiveness and human capital development.

Sec. 3. Education Roadmap. – The government, through the Education Roadmap National Coordinating Council, in accordance with Section 5 of this Act, shall establish an education roadmap which will provide a common national policy on education, incorporating skills and competencies that are needed by industries in order to produce graduates that will be part of a globally competitive workforce.

Sec. 4. Education Roadmap Components. – It shall provide policy on the following:

- a) 21st Century Skills and the 4 Cs – The Education Roadmap shall prioritize the development of 21st Century knowledge, skills, and competencies, such as lifelong learning, adaptability, the 4 Cs (Critical thinking, Collaboration, Creativity, and Communication), digital skills, and other skills that cut across subject areas and are responsive to the needs of industry.
- b) Learner Competencies – It shall incorporate the review of existing curricula to ensure that the competencies and skills of learners that are needed by the industry, both local and international, are integrated herein. Professional licensing examinations, as they may be required, should reflect the desired outcomes of the concerned profession, and

shall move away from unnecessary memorization and rote learning, and instead focus on deep understanding and meaningful learning.

- c) Languages – It shall include a policy on improving competencies in the country's official languages, Filipino and English. Considering the increasingly global workforce and with English being the international lingua franca, the roadmap shall emphasize honing, improving, and capitalizing on Filipinos' existing proficiency in English in order to ensure learners' competitiveness.

This shall be aligned with the Common Framework of Reference for Languages.

- d) Holistic Development – It shall focus on the holistic development of the child and provide support for his/her holistic well-being, including mental health.

It shall nurture not only academic growth, but also emotional, social, physical, and psychological development to ensure that every learner thrives in all aspects of life.

- e) Use of Technology – It shall promote investments in technology and innovation to enhance education, and provide guidance on their use in teaching and learning. The roadmap shall explore how remote learning may be utilized as a supplement to face-to-face learning. It shall provide ways to ensure that teachers, parents, and learners are prepared for digitalization and innovations in education, including the development of new tools to complement conventional learning.
- f) Teacher Competencies – It shall strengthen capacity building programs among teachers and other education agents on relevant pedagogical approaches that are responsive to student needs and that will improve student learning outcomes, which shall be consistent with the Roadmap for Teacher Education under Republic Act No. 11713 or the "Excellence in Teacher Education Act."
- g) Capacity Building for Centers of Excellence – It shall improve the areas of instruction, research and publication, extension and linkages, and institutional qualification for the country's engagement in the knowledge-based global economy.
- h) School-to-Work Transition – It shall provide a policy for the seamless progression from basic education to higher education vis-à-vis industry placement. This shall include the strengthening and expanding of internship, apprenticeship, and dual-training programs for students as well as expanding collaboration among the government, academe, and industry.
- i) Futures Thinking – To ensure the education system's adaptability and resilience against current challenges and emerging issues, as well as any uncertainties and possible disruptions in the future, the Education Roadmap shall institutionalize and provide an enabling environment for futures thinking in education and in relevant agencies, including the private sector, in order to transform mindsets towards a more international and future-oriented thinking.
- j) Legislation and Budgetary Support – It shall identify any necessary legislation needed to realize the objectives set forth therein, or those that need stricter implementation. It shall also identify the areas that need further budgetary support.

Sec. 5. Education Roadmap National Coordinating Council. – In order to promote and implement a common policy direction on quality and accessible education towards global competitiveness, the Education Roadmap National Coordinating Council is hereby established and is mandated to design, formulate, and monitor the implementation of the Education

Roadmap. It shall be headed by the Chairperson of the Committee on Higher Education (CHED), with the following as members:

- a) The Secretary, Department of Education (DepEd);
- b) The Secretary, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA);
- c) The Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);
- d) The Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- e) The Secretary, Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEVDep);
- f) The Chairperson, Professional Regulation Commission (PRC);
- g) The Chairperson, National Youth Commission (NYC); and
- h) One (1) representative of the economic sector.

The head of the concerned agencies may designate their respective alternates with ranks not lower than Assistant Secretary or its equivalent. All alternates shall be authorized to decide for or on behalf of their respective principals.

Sec. 6. Participation of the Industry Sector. – Industry sector representatives shall be consulted and tapped in the development and implementation of the Education Roadmap to ensure the alignment of education outcomes with industry requirements and add to the value of qualifications within the workplace.

Sec. 7. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

Sec. 8. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,