

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6318



Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

AN ACT

GIVING MEANING TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEE ON THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE PHYSICAL, MORAL, SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE FILIPINO YOUTH, INCULCATING IN THE YOUTH PATRIOTISM AND NATIONALISM, ENCOURAGING THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN PUBLIC AND CIVIC AFFAIRS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 13 of the Constitution provides that: "The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civil affairs.

The potential of the youth to make lasting contributions to national development is unparalleled. Yet, they are currently facing a myriad of issues that need to be addressed such as poverty, lack of education, drug or substance abuse, vice, crime and unemployment, among others.

The purpose of this bill is to empower the Filipino youth by enabling the Constitution's policy of promoting and protecting their overall well-being; inculcating the values of patriotism and nationalism; and opening avenues for their active participation in public affairs.

The bill provides an array of programs and services that were crafted consistent with the goals of the MATATAG Curriculum of the Department of Education, which stands for "Make the curriculum relevant to produce job-ready, Active and responsible citizens; TAKE steps to accelerate the delivery of basic education services and provision facilities; TAKE good care of learners by promoting learner well-being, inclusiveness learning, and positive learning environment; and, Give support for teachers to teach better."

It aims to inspire the youth to live up to their true potential and contribute meaningfully to nation building thereby fulfilling Rizal's aspirations for the youth because indeed - "The youth is the hope of the fatherland."

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith D.L. Tan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan
4th District, Quezon

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6313

Introduced by: Hon. Keith Micah "Atty. Mike" D.L. Tan

AN ACT

GIVING MEANING TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEE ON THE PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE PHYSICAL, MORAL, SPIRITUAL, INTELLECTUAL, AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING OF THE FILIPINO YOUTH, INCULCATING IN THE YOUTH PATRIOTISM AND NATIONALISM, ENCOURAGING THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN PUBLIC AND CIVIC AFFAIRS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Matatag at Inspiradong Kabataan Empowerment Program Act.*"

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policies.* - Article II, Section 13 of the Constitution provides that the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

Pursuant to the aforementioned mandate, it is incumbent upon the State to effectuate policies and programs that shall enable the youth to effectively fulfill their role in nation-building and facilitate the instilling of patriotism and personal discipline, fostering respect for humanity and service to the nation, developing moral character and ethical values, and promoting responsible citizenship and leadership skills.

SEC. 3. *Study on the Contemporary Filipino Youth.* - In addition to Section 3 (b) of Republic Act No. 8044, otherwise known as the "Youth in Nation-Building Act", which mandates a national study on the "Situation of Youth in the Philippines" and identifies priority needs, prevailing attitudes and values of youth, the existing services, and gaps in services delivery of the basic needs of youth; and in recognition of the urgent and critical need to understand and address contemporary issues and concerns that involve the Filipino youth, the National

Youth Commission (NYC), in coordination with concerned national agencies, academic institutions, and stakeholders, is hereby mandated to come up with a psychographics of the Filipino youth and undertake studies using disaggregated data about the youth to promote data-driven program conceptualization, implementation, monitoring and evaluation to investigate and make findings and recommendations with respect to:

(1) the situation of modern youth compared to prior generations, with particular attention to family, neighborhood, schools, scholastic attainment, work, and community involvement;

(2) the impact of popular culture on the youth particularly on values, attitudes, behavior, and lifestyle trends, including the positive and negative effects on them;

(3) the recommendations for parents, families, communities, national, regional, and local government agencies (GAs), local government units (LGUs), civil society organizations (CSOs), local youth development offices (LYDOs), and youth groups (YGs) in building positive developmental experiences among the youth.

The NYC may secure directly from any department or agency information necessary to enable it to carry out this Act. Upon request of the Chairperson of the NYC, the head of that department or agency shall cooperate with the NYC in providing that information.

The NYC shall transmit an interim report to the President and the Congress of the Philippines not later than one hundred eighty (180) days after the effectivity of this Act and a final report not later than one (1) year. The final report shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the NYC together with its recommendations for legislation.

SEC. 4. Posting and Display of National Symbols and Figures. – To promote a sense of national identity among the youth, all public institutions, including schools, government agencies, and local government units, shall be required to display in conspicuous and appropriate places national symbols and figures such as the Philippine flag and emblem, national anthem, pictures of national heroes, and relevant excerpts from the Philippine Constitution within six (6) months after the effectivity of this Act based on the guidelines of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), in coordination with the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and other relevant national agencies.

All government websites shall be required to post information and multimedia materials related to the national symbols and figures stipulated

herein.

Failure to comply with the posting requirements shall be subject to administrative sanctions, including fines and penalties, as provided by law.

SEC. 5. *Formulation and Integration of Curriculum on Youth Studies.* - The CHED, in consultation with the educational institutions, NYC, and non-government organizations, shall formulate a curriculum on youth studies, which shall be an interdisciplinary dedicated to the study of youth development, history, culture, and psychology. The CHED shall identify a state university or college in each region of the country where youth studies shall be integrated in its undergraduate and graduate studies.

SEC. 6. *Establishment of the Youth Museum of the Philippines.* - In recognition of the historic contributions of the youth to nation building, the Youth Museum of the Philippines is hereby created and established.

The organization, operation, and administration of the Museum shall follow the general and standard structures, management, and operations established, mandated, and practiced by the National Commission on Culture and Arts (NCCA) and other appropriate agencies.

SEC. 7. *Establishment of Iwas-Bisyo Kabataan Program.* - The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), shall establish the Iwas-Bisyo Kabataan Program, hereinafter referred to as the Program.

It shall serve as a comprehensive program to prevent students in all public and private primary and secondary schools from using tobacco, vaporized nicotine and non-nicotine, and novel tobacco products, alcohol products, and dangerous drugs.

The Program shall also include intervention, referral for evaluation, referral for treatment and continuity of care and such other mechanisms that the DepEd may consider necessary.

SEC. 8. *Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program.* - Notwithstanding the provisions of Republic Act No. 11036, otherwise known as the "Mental Health Act", the Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with concerned government agencies and private organizations, shall institutionalize the Comprehensive Guidance and Counseling Program for all K to 12 students.

The Program, which shall be comprehensive in scope, preventive and remedial in design, developmental in nature, and an integral component of the

school's academic mission, shall be child-friendly and gender-sensitive. Such program shall be regularly updated and, at a minimum, shall include the following components:

(a) Provision of suitable, functional, proactive, and confidential guidance and counseling services to students and other stakeholders, which shall be standards-based and data driven;

(b) Enhancement of the appropriate school learning environment to improve students' academic development, career development, and personal-social development;

(c) Establishment of collaborative strategies for specifically identified populations in the school community;

(d) Identification of students' needs and problems;

(e) Conduct of the routine interviews and consultation with parents, teachers, school personnel and other stakeholders;

(f) Conduct of periodic psychological testing, learning and study orientation, research and enrichment activities;

(g) Formulation of guidance policies;

(h) Development of data-driven results and objectives;

(i) Referrals to other support groups and services; and

(j) Active engagement of family, community and other stakeholders

SEC. 9. Recruitment, Hiring, and Training of Guidance Counselors. - Subject to the guidelines set by the Civil Service Commission (CSC) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and pursuant to the objectives of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall initiate the immediate recruitment, hiring, and training of school guidance counselors. The appropriate number of guidance counselors shall be assigned for each public elementary and secondary school to progressively meet the recommended ratio of one guidance counselor for every 500 students within five (5) years after the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 10. Establishment of National Youth Center. - The NYC, in consultation with the Department of Labor and Employment, DepEd, DSWD, and DOH, shall establish a National Youth Center in all the regions that shall serve as institutions providing technical, educational and social support to the country's youth in order for them to fully develop their physical, emotional and social skills in addition to

their training inside the classroom and in the family,

The Center shall have the following functions:

- (a) Implement programs for the development of the physical, mental and social skills of the youth in addition to that being offered by educational and other institutions;
- (b) Implement programs for the interaction of other youth centers from other regions in order to develop the youth and prepare them for the civic duty;
- (c) Institute other programs that may be determined by the Executive Board.

A National Youth Center Secretariat shall be created to assist in the efficient and effective operation of the Center.

SEC. 11. *Youth Legislators Program.* - The Senate of the Philippines and the House of Representatives shall each formulate a Youth Legislators Program to promote youth participation in the legislative process and opportunity to express their views on issues affecting them.

SEC. 12. *Young Athletes Assistance Fund.* - A fund shall be created to strengthen grassroots sports programs which shall be administered by the Philippines Sports Commission.

The fund shall:

- (a) Assist youth athletes who cannot afford or may otherwise benefit from joining a sport or recreation club;
- (b) Support local sports and recreation organizations with funding for projects that create opportunities for more young athletes to become members;
- (c) Improve sports facilities to assist local sports and recreation organizations with facility development so that the youth can be inspired to become involved in sport or recreation activity of their choice.

SEC. 13. *Tax Exemption.* - The provision of any law to the contrary notwithstanding, all donations, grants, endowments or contributions to youth and sports development programs and activities of public educational institutions, local government units (LGUs), and other government agencies in charge of youth and sports development, as well as government-sanctioned and -funded sports competitions at the national and international levels, shall be exempt from tax and

shall be deductible from the taxable income of the donor: Provided, That such donations, grants, endowments, or contributions are used actually, directly, and exclusively for youth and sports development and government-sanctioned and -funded sports competitions.

Any exemptions enjoyed by the donor under any existing law shall not be impacted by an action performed by the same donor to effect a donation to public educational institutions, LGUs and other government agencies in charge of youth and sports development.

For purposes of this Act, the equivalent monetary value of properties donated, granted, endowed, or contributed shall be the acquisition cost of the property or the certified book value thereof. Such valuation shall take into consideration the depreciated value of the property in case the same has been previously used by the donor.

SEC. 14 Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NYC, CHED, DepEd, and in coordination with other concerned agencies and stakeholders, shall jointly formulate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 15. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 16. Separability Clause. - Any portion or provision of this Act that is declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

SEC. 17. Repealing Clause. - All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 18. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,