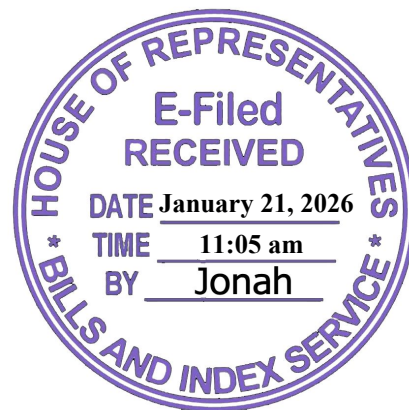




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7225



Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre

AN ACT
MANDATING THE INTEGRATION OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6541 ENTITLED "AN ACT TO ORDAIN AND INSTITUTE A NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES" AS A MAJOR SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SANITARY ENGINEERING, ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING, AND ARCHITECTURE, AND ITS INCLUSION AS A TOPIC IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS FOR THESE PROFESSIONS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In accordance with relevant laws, the State recognizes its accelerating economic and physical development, coupled with urbanization and population growth. Further the State has made it its declared policy to safeguard life, health, property, and public welfare, consistent with the principles of sound environmental management and control. In this regard, the National Building Code of the Philippines was promulgated to provide for all buildings and structures, a framework of minimum standards and requirements to regulate and control their location, site, design, quality of materials, construction, use, occupancy, and maintenance.

However, it can be noted that the said Code is not properly conveyed to students in the academe, in whose hands the future of our country's infrastructure development relies upon. This is due to the fact that the Building Code is not prescribed as one of the subjects in courses in civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, sanitary engineering and mechanical engineering which are the professional disciplines primarily concerned in building design, construction, occupancy and maintenance.

Thus, this bill seeks to mandate the Commission on Higher Education to develop and include in the curriculum of various engineering and architecture degree programs the study of the National Building Code of the Philippines as a major subject. Further, the bill also seeks to mandate the Professional Regulation Commission to include the said Code as a topic in the licensure examinations for the Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Sanitary Engineering, Electronics Engineering, and Architecture professions.

The inclusion of such subject in both curriculum and licensure examinations is aimed to produce the following results:

1. Structural Integrity and Quality Assurance – Familiarization of relevant laws will allow future professionals to create infrastructure that are durable and capable of withstanding various forces and environmental conditions, such as wind and seismic activity;
2. Standardization and Consistency: Considering that building codes establish a common language and set of practices for all stakeholders in the construction industry, architects, engineers, contractors, inspectors, and manufacturers can be expected to have efficient collaboration and reliable project execution;
3. Professional Credibility and Employability: Engineers who are well-versed in building codes are more credible and competitive as their expertise demonstrates a commitment to quality and professionalism; and
4. Keeping Abreast of Innovation and Sustainability: When the Code is amended to reflect new technologies, materials, and best practices, education on the same ensures that future professionals can incorporate modern, eco-friendly, and resilient design solutions.

This bill was also filed during the 19th Congress, where it was approved on third and final reading by the House of Representatives.

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



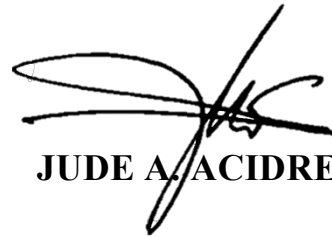
FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ



YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ



ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ



JUDE A. ACIDRE



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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7225

Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre

AN ACT
MANDATING THE INTEGRATION OF THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6541 ENTITLED "AN ACT TO ORDAIN AND INSTITUTE A NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES" AS A MAJOR SUBJECT IN THE CURRICULUM OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAMS IN CIVIL ENGINEERING, MECHANICAL ENGINEERING, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, SANITARY ENGINEERING, ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING, AND ARCHITECTURE, AND ITS INCLUSION AS A TOPIC IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS FOR THESE PROFESSIONS

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "*Integration of the National Building Code to the Engineering and Architecture Curriculum and Professional Licensure Examination Act*".

SECTION 2. It is the policy of the State to promote the principles of sound environmental management and control consistent with its Constitutional mandate to safeguard life, health, property and public welfare. To this end, the State shall ensure that those who are authorized to practice the engineering and architecture professions receive the necessary formal instructions on building design, construction, occupancy and maintenance, are sufficiently trained in ensuring the safety and integrity of building and non-building structures, and given adequate instruction and training on the latest regulations, know-how, and building technologies.

SECTION 3. Pursuant to its mandate under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994", the Commission on Higher Education is hereby mandated to develop and include in the curriculum of the Bachelor of Science degree programs in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Sanitary Engineering, Electronics Engineering, and Architecture the study of the National Building Code of the Philippines as a major subject.

SECTION 4. The Professional Regulation Commission is hereby mandated to include the National Building Code of the Philippines as a topic in the licensure examinations for the Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical

Engineering, Sanitary Engineering, Electronics Engineering, and Architecture professions.

SECTION 5. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Commission on Higher Education shall, in consultation with the Professional Regulation Commission and other relevant stakeholders in higher education, promulgate the implementing rules and regulations necessary to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 6. All laws, decrees, provisions of charters, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulations or other parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act are repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,