

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Frist Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9132
Republic of the Philippines



Introduced by **Representative Ryan S. Recto**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed measure seeks to create the National Education Coordinating Council that shall primarily be tasked with institutionalizing a permanent and high-level mechanism for policy integration, strategic alignment and continuous monitoring across the three pillars of the Philippine education system.

The Philippine education sector currently operates under a trifocalized structure where the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) manage their respective sub-sectors independently. While this division of labor was designed to provide specialized focus, the lack of a formal and binding coordination framework has led to significant systemic fragmentation. This disconnect manifests in persistent gaps in the curriculum, misaligned teacher training programs and a widening mismatch between the skills produced by our educational institutions and the actual requirements of the modern labor market.

The findings of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II) reveal that the country is grappling with a severe learning crisis that requires more than just incremental changes within individual agencies. It demands a unified national strategy that ensures a seamless transition for learners as they move from basic education to higher studies or the workforce.

Through the creation of the National Coordinating Council for Education (NCCE) under the Office of the President, this piece of legislation elevates education to a primary national security and economic priority. This structure ensures that reforms are not merely departmental but are part of a cohesive National Education and Workforce Development Plan that remains consistent across different administrations.

This measure also addresses the administrative inefficiencies that currently plague the sector by directing the harmonization of data systems and the

rationalization of overlapping inter-agency bodies. It empowers the Council to streamline resources, optimize the power of the purse through coordinated budget requests and ensure that every educational investment is directed toward a singular vision of Filipino excellence.

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



Ryan S. Recto
Representative
6th District, Batangas

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9132

Introduced by **Representative Ryan S. Recto**

AN ACT

**CREATING THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION,
DEFINING ITS MANDATE, POWERS, AND FUNCTIONS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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 “National Coordinating
2 Council for Education (NCCE) Act.”
3

4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and to
6 take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The State recognizes
7 the need to address the learning crisis and ensure the seamlessness of the education
8 system. To this end, the State shall establish a permanent mechanism to ensure
9 strong, effective, and continuous coordination among the agencies involved in
10 education and workforce development, ensuring that reforms and priorities remain
11 consistent regardless of changes in national administration.
12

13 Sec. 3. *Creation of the National Coordinating Council for Education.* – There is
14 hereby created under the Office of the President an inter-agency body to be known
15 as the National Coordinating Council for Education (NCCE), hereinafter referred to as
16 the Council, which shall serve as the primary mechanism for directing, coordinating,
17 and monitoring education and workforce development reforms across the Executive
18 Branch.
19

20 The Council shall operate under the supervision of the Office of the President
21 and shall ensure alignment of agency policies, plans, programs, and budgets with the
22 National Education and Workforce Development Plan, and other subsequent midterm
23 and long-term plans on education and workforce development.
24

25 Sec. 4. *Composition of the Council.* – The President of the Philippines shall serve
26 as Chairperson of the Council. The President may designate a Cabinet Secretary as
27 Vice Chairperson to oversee day-to-day coordination, with the following as members:

- a) Secretary, Department of Education (DepEd);
- b) Chairperson, Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
- c) Director General, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA);
- d) Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- e) Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);
- f) Secretary, Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- g) Secretary, Department of Economy, Planning, and Development (DEPDev)
- h) Chairperson, National Commission for Culture and the Arts; and
- i) Chairperson, Philippine Sports Commission

All Members, in their capacity as heads of their respective agencies, shall extend full and prompt assistance and cooperation to the Council, and shall furnish such information and data as may be necessary for the discharge of its mandates. They shall likewise be responsible for ensuring the proper and efficient implementation, within their respective jurisdictions, of programs, projects, and activities aligned with the National Education and Workforce Development Plan.

Sec. 5. Powers and Functions. – The Council shall have the following powers and functions:

- a) Ensure alignment and harmonization of policies and programs across education agencies and relevant government bodies;
- b) Oversee the implementation and updating of the National Education and Workforce Development Plan, to maintain coherence in targets, priorities, and resource allocation;
- c) Direct the alignment of inter-agency efforts, including those established under Administrative Order No. 36, s. 2025, to eliminate duplication, strengthen coordination, and optimize resources;
- d) Monitor and assess the implementation of priority education and workforce development reforms, including those identified by the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II), and other initiatives adopted by the Council;

- e) Oversee the development of a comprehensive human resource plan for the education sector, covering both teaching and non-teaching personnel;
- f) Ensure that programs and activities implementing priority education policies are properly and sufficiently funded;
- g) Advance inter-agency collaboration on scholarships, research, grants, training, and other related initiatives, to strengthen system capacity;
- h) Strengthen the labor market information system to guide education and training decisions and support evidence-based government priorities;
- i) Direct and monitor the establishment and maintenance of interoperable data system to track learner progress and integrate data across relevant agencies;
- j) Rationalize inter-agency bodies involving education agencies, in coordination with the Department of Budget, in accordance with Section 8 of this Act;
- k) Advance key legislative measures on education and workforce development through the Legislative-Executive Advisory Council;
- l) Track the implementation of major education reforms, including the recommendations of EDCOM II;
- m) Submit an annual report on the implementation of the National Education and Workforce Development Plan, including progress, outcomes, and policy recommendations;
- n) Call upon and require the assistance of other agencies, as may be necessary to attain the goals and objectives of the Council; and
- o) Such other functions as the President may deem necessary and appropriate for the enhancement and improvement of the quality of education.

Sec. 6. Technical Working Groups. – To support the work of the Council, the body may create Technical Working Groups in identified priority areas. Said Groups shall be composed of senior officials from member agencies, with at least the level of Assistant Secretary or Director IV of the relevant offices handling these concerns.

Further, the Council may invite or enjoin relevant heads of departments and agencies to join the Council and/or Groups, as necessary. This includes other executive agencies, heads of industry and educational associations and other organizations, as well as representatives of relevant sectoral groups, to ensure overall efficiency and effectiveness.

1 Sec. 7. *Meetings.* – Regular meetings of the Council shall be held at least once
2 every quarter. Special meetings may be convened as often as deemed necessary by the
3 Chairperson or a majority of the members. A quorum shall consist of four (4) members
4 currently holding office: *Provided,* That the Vice Chairperson is among those present to
5 constitute a valid meeting.
6

7 Sec. 8. *The Council Secretariat.* – The Secretariat shall serve as the central
8 technical, analytical, and program management arm of the Council, and shall be
9 responsible for policy analysis, program coordination, monitoring and evaluation, data
10 integration, and the provision of strategic and administrative support necessary for the
11 effective discharge of the Council’s mandate. It shall be headed by an Executive Director
12 with the rank of Undersecretary, who shall be appointed by the President.
13

14 The Secretariat may be staffed by a core complement of permanent personnel
15 and augmented, as necessary, by technical experts, seconded personnel from member
16 and other government agencies, and contracted specialists, subject to existing civil
17 service, budgeting, procurement, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.
18

19 Sec. 9. *Rationalization and Convergence of Inter-Agency Bodies.* – To promote
20 policy coherence and administrative efficiency, the Council shall serve as the primary
21 inter-agency platform for matters relating to education and workforce development.
22

23 Accordingly, existing inter-agency councils, committees, and similar bodies with
24 substantially similar mandates or memberships shall, to the extent practicable,
25 conduct their coordination, deliberations, and decision-making through the Council or
26 its Technical Working Groups.
27

28 Meetings convened by the Council or its duly authorized Technical Working
29 Groups shall be deemed compliance with the meeting and coordination requirements
30 of such bodies, subject to applicable laws, rules, and regulations.
31

32 Sec. 10. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the initial implementation
33 of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the Office of the
34 President. Thereafter, the amount necessary for its continuous implementation shall
35 be included in the budget proposal of the Office of the President in the annual General
36 Appropriations Act, subject to existing budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and
37 regulations.
38

39 Sec. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held invalid
40 or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and
41 effect.
42

43 Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and rules and contrary
44 to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended
45 accordingly.
46

1 Sec. 13. *Effectivity.* – Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the IRR, this Act
2 shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at
3 least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

4
5 *Approved,*