

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 9624



Introduced by
KABATAAN Party-list Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO,
Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO, and
ACT Teachers Party-list Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ALTERNATIVE CLASSROOM LEARNING
EXPERIENCE (ACLE) PROGRAM TO ALL SECONDARY AND TERTIARY
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been said time and time again that learning should not be confined within the four walls of the classroom. Even the 1987 Philippine Constitution recognizes this as Article 14, Section 2 provides that the State shall encourage non-formal, informal, and indigenous learning systems, as well as self-learning, independent, and out-of-school study programs, particularly those that respond to the needs of one's community. Students should not only learn through formal learning instruction and textbooks, but also through immersion into the larger society that exists beyond their private lives.

Pursuant to the foregoing, we now file a bill to institutionalize student-led alternative classes in secondary and tertiary educational institutions at least once a semester or term.

The bill was inspired by the student council-led activity in UP Diliman called the Alternative Classroom Learning Experience or ACLE. The ACLE is a one-day alternative classes festival organized by the student council and participated in by student organizations who invite speakers, conduct trainings, and similar activities. The ACLE aims to educate the students with additional learning not usually taught within the classroom—a radical departure from the academic-based curriculum of schools. It is a venue wherein the students are given the opportunity to earn various skills and knowledge through thematic for a, symposia, film showings, and workshops. With its success in UP Diliman, the ACLE has since then been institutionalized in other UP campuses.

Alternative classroom activities are also held in other schools such as Ateneo de Manila High School (KLIK or Klaseng Ibang Klase), University of Santo Tomas, and Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

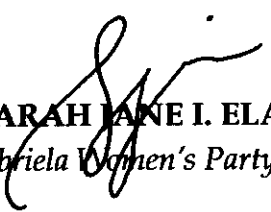
During the 3rd National Youth Parliament of the National Youth Commission, the delegates approved a resolution urging the Commission on Higher Education to institutionalize the ACLE to all universities and colleges.

The Alternative Classes bill was originally filed and refiled under the 15th, 16th and 17th Congresses by then Kabataan Party-list Representatives Raymond V. Palatino, Terry L. Ridon, and Sarah Jane I. Elago, respectively.

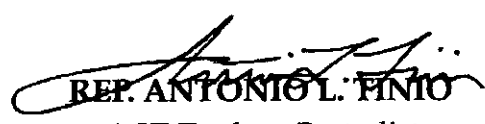
In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



REP. RENEE LOUISE M. CO
KABATAAN Party-list



REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Gabriela Women's Party



REP. ANTONIO L. FINIO
ACT Teachers Party-list

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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 "Alternative Classes
2 Act."

3
4 **SECTION 2. Alternative Classroom Learning Experience.** — The Alternative
5 Classroom Learning Experience ("ACLE") Program is a student-led and -organized
6 activity that fosters academic freedom inside our nation's campuses. It aims to
7 provide students with alternative viewpoints, perspectives, ideas, and concepts not
8 usually discussed through formal learning instruction and not usually found in
9 textbooks and official educational materials. Activities related to the ACLE Program
10 shall include but not limited to the following: workshops, educational discussions,
11 training, community integration, field-work, fora, symposia, film showing and/or
12 audio-visual presentations, lectures.

13
14 **SECTION 3. Conduct of an ACLE per Term or Semester.** — All secondary and
15 tertiary educational institutions are mandated to conduct an Alternative Classroom
16 Learning Experience (ACLE) activity at least once every semester or term, as the case
17 may be. Student councils or student governments shall be primarily in charge of
18 organizing the said activity. School administrations shall provide the necessary
19 assistance to the student body to carry out the aim of this activity.

20

1 **SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** — The College Editors Guild of
2 the Philippines (CEGP) as the oldest, broadest and only-existing alliance of tertiary
3 student publication in the Asia-Pacific region and the National Union of Students of
4 the Philippines (NUSP) as a nation-wide alliance of student
5 councils/governments/unions committed to the advancement of the students'
6 democratic rights and welfare, and both are Securities and Exchange Commission
7 (SEC)-registered national formation of student councils and government, in
8 coordination with youth groups and organizations, shall promulgate the necessary
9 rules and regulations to enforce the objectives of this Act.

10

11 **SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.*** — Should any part of this Act be declared
12 unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof not affected thereby
13 shall continue to be in full force and effect.

14

15 **SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.*** — All laws, executive orders, administrative orders,
16 and rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended
17 accordingly.

18

19 **SECTION 7. *Effectivity.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the
20 completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of
21 general circulation.

22

23 *Approved,*