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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2775

RECEIVED BY: 

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**Introduced by: Senator Lacson**

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to declare the conferment of a masteral degree equivalent to professional eligibility in the civil service.

Section 3, B, Article IX of the 1987 Constitution provides:

"The Civil Service Commission, as the central personnel agency of the Government, shall establish a career service and adopt measures to promote morale, efficiency, integrity, responsiveness, progressiveness, and courtesy in the civil service. It shall strengthen the merit and reward system, integrate all human resources development programs for all levels and ranks, and institutionalize a management climate conducive to public accountability..."

It envisions that appointments in the civil service be made only according to merit and fitness to be determined by competitive examination, except those positions which are policy-determining, primarily confidential or highly technical.

Pursuant to this, the Commission regularly conducts professional and subprofessional examinations all over the country.

By virtue of Republic Act No. 1080, the bar examinations and the examinations given by the various boards of examiners of the Government are declared as civil service examinations. Hence, those who passed these examinations may be appointed into the civil service without the necessity of passing the civil service examinations, except those positions requiring highly specialized knowledge not covered by the ordinary board examinations.

This bill aims to grant the same if not a more fitting privilege to conferees of masteral degrees recognizing their educational competence and fitness for appointment or promotion to career positions in the civil service by reason of their having completed post graduate studies which are equivalent, if not more than passing the bar or board examinations.

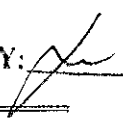
  
**PANFILO M. LACSON**  
Senator



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**AN ACT  
DECLARING THE CONFERMENT OF A MASTERAL DEGREE AS  
EQUIVALENT TO PROFESSIONAL ELIGIBILITY IN THE CIVIL  
SERVICE**

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

**SECTION 1.** The conferment of a masteral degree by an institution of higher learning duly accredited by the Commission on Higher Education is hereby declared as equivalent to professional eligibility in the civil service for purposes of appointment to positions requiring professional eligibility in the classified service in the Government or any of its branches, subdivisions, instrumentalities and agencies including government owned or controlled corporations with original charters, except with regard to positions requiring highly specialized knowledge not covered by the masteral degree of the holder.

**SECTION 2.** The registrars or other responsible officers of duly accredited colleges and universities offering masteral degrees shall regularly furnish the Civil Service Commission with a list of graduates of their respective colleges or universities who have been conferred with masteral degrees within sixty (60) days from conferment.

**SECTION 3.** Eligibility shall commence on the date of conferment. Provided, that for those who have already been conferred masteral degrees prior to the passage of this Act, their eligibility shall be deemed to commence from the approval hereof.

**SECTION 4.** The Civil Service Commission shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the completion of its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*