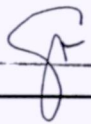


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**SENATE**

**Senate Bill No. 310**

RECEIVED BY: 

**Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri**

**AN ACT  
INSTITUTIONALIZING GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT CONDUCT AND  
CHARACTER EDUCATION IN THE CURRICULUM OF ELEMENTARY AND  
SECONDARY LEVEL**

Education is one of the foundations on which a country is built. No less than our Constitution recognizes the importance of education for all Filipino children. It is through education that we shape children not just productive members of our society, but as principled and model citizens. In the new K to 12 program, Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) was removed as a regular subject and was integrated in other subjects including the Edukasyon sa Pagpakatao and Araling Panlipunan.

A lot of socio-economic and cultural changes has happened over the past decades which has affected the way we live. The amount of information available in the internet and social media has also affected our daily life, especially of school age children who have easy access to almost everything online. Sometimes children misconstrue bad behavior as acceptable conduct because they often see it in social media. It is, thus, very important to provide guidance at home to help school age children discern what is right conduct from what is wrong and reinforce the same within the school system.

With this bill, GMRC will be included as part of the curriculum in the present K to 12 program. It is hoped that this will equip Filipinos not just the necessary skills, but more importantly the necessary values to be citizens with good manners and ethical convictions.

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

  
**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

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SENATE

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RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

AN ACT  
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SECONDARY LEVEL

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 “GMRC Act”.
- 2       **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** — In consonance with the K-12 Program on
- 3       *Edukasyong Pagpapakatao*, it is the policy of the State to promote character formation
- 4       and wholesome personality development by requiring schools at the elementary and
- 5       secondary level to inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect
- 6       for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development
- 7       of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual
- 8       values, and develop moral character and personal discipline. Thus, character education
- 9       and good manners and right conduct (GMRC) will now be an integral part of the basic
- 10      education system of the country.
- 11      GMRC is vital to the academic development of a Filipino child as a self-reliant and
- 12      patriotic citizen. It is also the policy of the State that good manners and right conduct are
- 13      indispensable for a member of a nation or society.
- 14      **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** — The terms in this Act are defined as follows:
- 15      (a) DepEd shall refer to the Department of Education;
- 16      (b) K to 12 Program shall be understood to cover Kindergarten and 12 years of basic
- 17      education (six years of primary or elementary education, four years of Junior High School
- 18      and two years of Senior High School secondary level education); and
- 19      (c) Mother tongue refers to the first language learned by the child.
- 20      **SEC. 4. Institutionalization of Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC)**
- 21      **in the School Curriculum.** — Good Manners and Right Conduct is hereby
- 22      institutionalized as part of the curriculum in the present K to 12 program.



1       **SEC. 5. *Medium of Instruction.*** — The State shall hereby adopt the mother  
2 tongue-based multilingual education (MTB-MLE) method. The mother tongue of the  
3 learner shall be the primary medium of instruction for teaching and learning as provided  
4 for in the K to 12 Program.

5       The DepEd, in coordination with the Commission on Filipino Language and in close  
6 collaboration with academic and research institutions concerned with education, shall  
7 formulate a mother tongue-based multilingual framework for teaching and learning.

8       **SEC. 6. *Implementing Agency.*** — The authority to regulate the implementation  
9 of Good Manners and Right Conduct in the curriculum of every educational institutions at  
10 the elementary and secondary levels shall be vested upon the Department of Education  
11 (DepEd).

12       **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** — Within ninety (90) days  
13 after the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, shall promulgate the rules and regulations  
14 needed for the implementation of this Act.

15       **SEC. 8. *Separability clause.*** — If any provision of this Act is held invalid or  
16 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other  
17 provisions hereof.

18       **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** — Pertinent provisions of all other laws, decrees,  
19 executive orders and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions  
20 of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

21       **SEC. 10. *Effectivity Clause.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
22 its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*