


SENATE  
S.B. No. 413

'19 JUL 11 P4:41

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

RECEIVED BY 

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CITIZEN SERVICE PROGRAM IN ALL  
EDUCATIONAL LEVELS, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO.  
9163 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

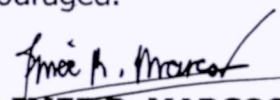
Article 2, Section 4 of our Constitution provides that "the prime duty of the government is to serve and protect the people. The Government may call upon the people to defend the state and, in the fulfillment thereof, all citizens may be required, under conditions provided by law to render personal, military or civil service." Corollary to every citizen's duty to defend the state is the responsibility of the government to equip its citizens with the necessary capability and training to effectively respond to the said sacred duty.

The spirit of "*bayanihan*" or community service is also deeply embodied in both Filipino culture and history. This bill seeks to instill the civic pride in every student by the system of training of the National Service Training Program (NSTP) under R.A No. 9163 and the known Reserved Officers' Training Course (ROTC) under R.A no. 7077, rendering them more relevant, effective, and responsive to the challenges of modern times.

Thus, there shall be a Citizen Service Program to be implemented throughout the Elementary, Secondary, including K-11 and K-12 grades, focusing on community service, disaster preparedness, and environmental protection. The program shall be formulated and administered by the Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of National Defense (DND), the League of Provinces in the Philippines (LPP), the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) and the accredited association of private schools, shall formulate the training program.

At the tertiary level, this bill recalls the ancient Filipino distinction between the "*timawa*" or citizen service and the "*maharlika*" or military class. It should be emphasized that enlisting in the Reserves Officers' Training Course shall be limited to tertiary students in accordance with the UN Resolution 1261 and other declarations regarding the rights of a child and children in armed conflict. Further, joining the ROTC shall remain optional but newly incentivized, giving enrollees stipends, health and other insurance, and access to Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) facilities.

Under the premises, the approval of this bill is earnestly encouraged.

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**  
Senator

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

1       Section. 1. *Short Title.* — This Act shall be known as the "Citizen Service Act of  
2       2019."

3  
4       Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
5       require citizen service program to its citizen, particularly the youth, to enable them to  
6       render personal, military or civil service.

7  
8       It is also the policy of the State to inculcate nationalism in the citizenry,  
9       particularly the youth, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

10  
11       Sec. 3. *Citizen Service Program.* — There shall be established a mandatory citizen  
12       service program for all students, enrolled in elementary and secondary, including those  
13       in K-11 and K-12, in both public and private schools. Said program shall focus on  
14       community service, disaster preparedness, and environmental protection;

15  
16       The Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with the Department of  
17       National Defense (DND), the League of Provinces in the Philippines (LPP), the League of  
18       Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP) and the accredited associations of private  
19       schools, shall formulate and administer the training program.

20  
21       Sec. 4. *Dual Streams at the Tertiary Level.* — In the tertiary level, the students  
22       may choose the dual streams of a) citizen service and public safety or b) the Reserved  
23       Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) under R.A 7077.



1           The Department of National Defense (DND), Commission on Higher Education  
2 (CHED) and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall share  
3 responsibility for the formulation and adoption of the implementing rules of this Act.  
4

5           Sec. 5. *Incentives.* — For ROTC enrollees, the DND shall formulate and adopt a  
6 new package of assistance and incentives, such assistance shall include but not be  
7 limited to the following:  
8

- 9           a) Free hospitalization in all government hospitals for injuries sustained or  
10           sickness acquired by reason of such training in the ROTC;  
11           b) Access to any Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) commissary and px  
12           stores nationwide, subject to the regulations to be issued by the Chief of  
13           Staff of the AFP;  
14           c) Philippine Health Insurance for all ROTC enrollees to cover the period of  
15           enrollment;  
16           d) Life insurance; and  
17           e) Stipend for ROTC cadet officers.  
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19           Sec. 6. *Appropriations.* — The amount needed for the implementation of this Act  
20 shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.  
21

22           Sec. 7. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision or part hereof is declared  
23 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected shall remain in  
24 full force and effect.  
25

26           Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, Presidential Decrees, Executive Orders, rules  
27 and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby  
28 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.  
29

30           Sec 9. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following  
31 its publication in two (2) newspaper of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.  
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33           Approved,