### NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *First Regular Session*

22 JUL 12 P2:03

SENATE S. No. <u>402</u>

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RECEIVED

## Introduced by SENATOR FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

#### AN ACT

# PROVIDING FOR A MANDATORY BASIC MILITARY AND POLICE TRAINING PROGRAM IN ALL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LEVELS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II on the Declaration of Principles and State Policies of the 1987 Constitution of the Philippines provides:

Sec. 4. 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.

Sec. 13. The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs." In addition, on the responsibility of all educational institutions, Article XIV, Section 3(2) of the Constitution provides:

They are mandated to inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientific and technological knowledge, and promote vocational efficiency.

This bill seeks to include in the senior high school curricula subjects that will introduce the students to basic military and police training program to increase their awareness of the country's need for human resources in times of war, calamities and disasters, national or local emergencies, and in support to the Government's law enforcement strategy against crimes and other civic obligations.

The proposed bill provides safeguards for the protection of Grades 11 and 12 students against abuses such as bribery, corruption, graft, hazing, sexual harassment, and others which had become the concern of the public in the past. With this proposed measure, the youth, the hope of our motherland, will rekindle in their hearts their love of country and fellow citizens, nationalism and patriotism, and will once again make their mark in the annals of history.

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

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FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

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#### Introduced by SENATOR FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

# 1 AN ACT 2 PROVIDING FOR A MANDATORY BASIC MILITARY AND POLICE TRAINING 3 PROGRAM IN ALL SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL LEVELS IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE 4 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Basic Military 5 and Police Training in Senior High School Act." 6 Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to recognize the 7 role of the youth in nation building and to promote and protect their physical, 8 intellectual and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and 9 nationalism, develop their moral character and personal discipline, and encourage 10 their involvement in public and civil affairs. Towards this end, the State shall include 11 in the senior high school curriculum subjects that will introduce the students to basic 12 military and police training and will increase their awareness to the country's need for 13 human resources in times of war, calamities and disasters, and national or local 14 emergencies. This also supports the Government's law enforcement strategy against 15 crimes and other civic obligations. 16

#### Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – In this Act, the term:

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(a) Appeals Board - refers to the appellate body that has jurisdiction to
 hear appeals on the findings and recommendations of any local investigating body.

(b) *Basic Military Training Program* - refers to the training program under the command of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) which shall include, but not limited to, basic military science subject, basic training on relief and rescue operation during disaster or calamities; and basic training in the operation and maintenance of essential government or private utilities in the furtherance of overall mission.

10 (c) *Basic Police Training Program* - refers to the training program under 11 the command of the Philippine National Police (PNP), which shall include, but not 12 limited to, basic trainings on law enforcement, disaster preparedness, traffic 13 management, rule of law, and civil rights.

(d) *Clustered Training Unit* - refers to two or more educational institutions
 that are strategically grouped together for the purpose of holding Basic Military and
 Police Training classes in one location.

(e) *Investigative Body* - refers to an independent body that is tasked to investigate any complaint or allegation of abuse, violence or corruption in any clustered training unit or any educational institution implementing the Basic Military and Police Training.

(f) *Private Educational Institutions* - refer to educational institutions
 maintained and administered by private individuals or groups.

(g) *Public Educational Institutions* - refer to educational institutions that
 are established and administered by the government.

25 **Sec. 4.** *Coverage.* - The conduct of basic military and police training shall 26 apply to all students in Grades 11 and 12 in all senior high schools in public and 27 private educational institutions.

28 Sec. 5. *Establishment of the Basic Military and Police Training* 29 *Program in all Public and Private Educational Institutions.* - The Department 30 of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of National Defense

(DND) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall 1 establish a mandatory two (2)-year Basic Military and Police Training Program for 2 students enrolled in Grades 11 and 12 which shall form part of the basic curriculum 3 for the Senior High Education in any public and private educational institutions. 4 Students who fail to undergo the mandatory Basic Military and Police Training 5 Program in accordance with this Act shall not be qualified for graduation. Grades 11 6 and 12 students undergoing the Basic Military and Police Training Program shall not 7 be subject to military or PNP law and shall be recognized as civilians in law. 8

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9 Sec. 6. *Purposes and Objectives.* - The Basic Military and Police Training 10 Program instituted as part of the curricula shall be administered in accordance with 11 the following purposes and objectives:

(a) To enhance the students' consciousness in the ethics of service, patriotism and nationalism, respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop personal discipline and leadership and to encourage creative thinking for scientific and technological development;

(b) To motivate students to undergo further training in national defense
 preparedness or civil-military operations;

(c) To encourage students to be active participants and volunteers for the development and improvement of health, education, ecology and environmental protection, human and civil-rights awareness, and law enforcement;

(d) To prepare the students during actual disaster response operations on
 needs assessment, improved skills for search, rescue and relief operations, and early
 recovery activities; and

(e) To integrate capacity-building activities revolving around riskrelated situations in order for students to be proactive in lessening the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of disasters including climate change. These capacity building activities will help build understanding and skills with the end of applying disaster risk reduction and management principles, concepts, and concrete action steps towards building their resilience. **Sec. 7.** *Program of Instruction.* - Guided by the purposes and objectives of this Act, the DepEd, DND and DILG, in consultation with other relevant government agencies and private stakeholders as the Secretary of Education may determine, shall design and formulate the Program of Instruction on the Basic Military and Police Training Program in Grades 11 and 12.

6 Sec. 8. *Schools' Compliance as Zone of Peace.* - Pursuant to Republic 7 Act No. 11188, otherwise known as the "Special Protection of Children in Situations 8 of Armed Conflict Act;" every educational institution implementing the Basic Military 9 and Police Training Program under this Act shall comply with the declaration and 10 guidelines that are provided for under the said law to maintain the neutrality of the 11 schools as zones of peace.

12 Sec. 9. *Students Exempted from this Act.* - The following may be 13 exempted from the coverage of this Act:

(a) Those who are physically or psychologically unfit, as certified by the
 AFP or PNP medical officer, in pursuance to the recommendation of the educational
 institutions where the concerned student is enrolled.

(b) Those who were chosen by their school to serve as varsity players in
 sports competitions.

19 (c) Those who may be exempted from training for valid reasons as 20 approved by the DND or DILG, upon recommendation by any educational institution.

Sec. 10. Organization, Operation, and Maintenance of Basic Military 21 and Police Training Units. - The Secretary of National Defense and the Secretary 22 of the Interior and Local Government, in consultation with the Secretary of 23 Education, shall prescribe the organization and operational manual of the training 24 units in public and private educational institutions for Grades 11 and 12. Such 25 educational institutions shall be required to provide an adequate office for the DND 26 and DILG administrative staff assigned thereat. The AFP and the PNP shall create an 27 office dedicated to the supervision and administration of the Basic Military and Police 28 Training program within the Reserve Commands of the AFP and the PNP in 29 coordination with the DepEd. 30

Sec. 11. Acceptance for Advance Military Training. - Students who 1 volunteer for Advance Military Training program in universities, colleges, vocation 2 schools and other tertiary institutions shall be governed by Section 40 of Republic 3 Act No. 7077 or the "Citizen Armed Forces of the Philippines Reservist Act." The 4 provisions of Section 42 and 43 of R.A. No. 7077 in terms of training, uniforms and 5 supplies, and the scholarship incentive shall remain effective and applicable for those 6 accepted in the Advance Military Training course. It shall be mandatory for all public 7 and private universities, college and similar learning institutions to offer and provide 8 a training school for the Advance Military Training program which shall have a 9 duration in accordance with the curriculum prescribed by the DND and the 10 Commission on Higher Education (CHED). 11

12 The Secretary of National Defense, in coordination with CHED, shall prescribe 13 the curriculum for Advance Military Training and the program of instruction in 14 pursuance to the applicable provisions of R.A. No. 7077.

Graduates of Advance Military Training shall be eligible for enlistment in the AFP or shall be given priority for lateral entry in other armed and law enforcement services of the government.

## 18 Sec. 12. Incentives for Undergoing Military and Police Training 19 Program. -

(a) Subject to other requirements prescribed by the rules and regulations,
graduates of Basic Military Training shall be eligible for enlistment in the AFP, PNP,
Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), and
Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) unless a waiver is issued by the Department
Secretaries of the aforementioned military and civilian organizations.

(b) Students undergoing Basic Military and Police Training and those accepted in the Advance Military Training Course shall be provided free hospitalization in any government hospital in case of accident or injury during the training. Mandatory insurance for students undergoing Military and Police Training shall be provided by the school where the students are enrolled. 1 (c) Students undergoing Basic Military and Police Training and Advance 2 Military Training shall be given access and privileges with any AFP Commissary and 3 PX Stores nationwide. The Chief of Staff, AFP shall issue the necessary regulations 4 for the implementation of this privilege.

5 (d) Graduates of Basic Military and Police Training program who 6 have completed a four (4) year baccalaureate degree shall be considered as First 7 Level Civil Service Eligible, whereas graduate of Advance Military Training Program, 8 who have finished a four (4) baccalaureate degree shall be considered a Second 9 Level Civil Service Eligible in the Civil Service.

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Sec. 13. Prohibited Acts. - The following acts shall be prohibited:

a. Hazing as defined and penalized under R.A. 8049, as amended by R.A.
11053;

(b) b. Physical, sexual or psychological abuse, emotional maltreatment, or
 any act by deed which tends to degrade or demean the dignity of a child/student as
 provided under R.A. 7610, otherwise known as the "Special Protection of Children
 Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act";

a. Physical, humiliating or degrading punishments or penalties by a teacher, school administrator, an adult, or any other child who has been given or has assumed authority or responsibility for punishment or discipline for an alleged or actual offense for the purpose of discipline, training or control except for mild to moderate physical exercise such as push-ups, sit-ups and running within the medically recommended limit for the concerned age group as provided under DepEd Order No. 40, Series of 2012 on Child Protection Policy;

24 b. Bribery as penalized under the Revised Penal Code, by directly or 25 indirectly accepting, any gift, in cash or in kind, from any student, or from any 26 parent/guardian of the student in relation to or pertinent with the conduct of the 27 Basic Military and Police Training Program;

c. Corruption of public officials as penalized under the Revised Penal Code, by offering any gift in relation to or pertinent with the conduct of the Basic Military and Police Training Program; d. Graft and corrupt practices contemplated under R.A. 3019, otherwise
 known as the "Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act."

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#### Sec. 14. Establishment of Investigative Body. -

(a) An Investigative Body shall be organized from a cluster of educational
institutions that shall receive complaints and/or *motu proprio* conduct investigations
on any complaint or allegation of abuse, violence or corruption in any educational
institution implementing the Basic Military and Police Training Program;

(b) Every Investigative Body shall be composed of three members, to be chosen by the Secretary of National Defense, the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government and the Secretary of Education: one (1) District Commandant from the DND, one (1) District Commandant from the DILG, and one (1) District Schools Supervisor from the DepEd;

(c) The DepEd, the DND, and the DILG shall formulate the manner by
 which the educational institutions implementing the Basic Military and Police Training
 Program shall be clustered for the efficient resolution of grievances;

The Investigative Body shall function as an independent fact-finding (d) 16 body, which shall formulate the recommendation to the proper disciplinary 17 authority that has jurisdiction over the respondent, is depending on whether he/she 18 belongs to the military or the police for which purpose, the Articles of War or the 19 PNP Law, as the case may be, shall be employed. In case of school officials and/or 20 employees of public and private educational institutions, the provisions of R.A. 6713 21 or the "Code of Conduct of Public Officers and Employees" and other relevant laws 22 on the matter shall be applied. This is without prejudice to administrative cases that 23 may be filed pursuant to the Civil service rules for public officers and employees 24 involved in the complaint; 25

(e) Nothing herein shall prevent any person from filing directly with the
 regular courts any incident of violation of Republic Act 11053 or the Anti-Hazing Act
 of 2018.

Sec. 15. *Powers and Duties of the Investigative Body.* - Every
 Investigative Body shall have the following powers and duties:

(a) Encourage the reporting of any incident of hazing, violence abuse and
 corruption in every clustered training unit;

(b) *Motu proprio* or upon a complaint filed by any person, investigate, any
 act of hazing, violence, abuse and corruption in the clustered training unit;

5 (c) Issue preventive suspension orders against officers of the Basic Military 6 and Police Training Program or any school employee involved in the training within 7 three (3) days: (i) upon receipt of the complaint, or (ii) after initiation of the motu 8 proprio investigation, to preclude him from exerting undue influence over the 9 complaint and impede the normal course of the investigation;

10 (d) Recommend the appropriate action for any offense committed in the 11 clustered training unit to the proper disciplinary authority which has jurisdiction over 12 the respondent within fifteen (15) days (i) upon receipt of the complaint, or (ii) after 13 initiation of the *motu proprio* investigation;

14 (e) Monitor all complaints filed with the Body and maintain an updated 15 record of the status of each case;

(f) Provide the parties of the complaint its findings and recommendations
 within thirty (30) days upon receipt thereof;

(g) Promulgate rules and regulations necessary to carry out its objectives,
 functions and disciplinary procedures; and

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(h) Performs such other functions as may be provided by law.

Sec. 16. Appeals Board. - There is hereby established an Appeal Board 21 (AB) composed of the Secretary of National Defense or his permanent 22 authorized representative, the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government or his 23 permanent authorized representative, the Secretary of Education or his permanent 24 authorized representative, and the Secretary of Justice or his permanent 25 authorized representative. The AB shall receive appeals on petitions for review 26 from the findings/recommendation of any of the Investigative Bodies. It shall render 27 its decision or resolution within fifteen (15) days from the time the petition was 28 received. Any resolution of the AB shall be final. 29

30 Sec. 17. *Training Instructors' Capacity Development and* 31 *Enhancement Program.* - There is hereby created and established a training

program for training instructors, to ensure that they meet the highest physical and 1 moral standards to teach and carry out the Basic Military and Police Training 2 Program. The Instructors' Program shall be developed and administered under the 3 guidance and tutelage of the DND, the DILG, and the DepEd. A comprehensive 4 training manual shall be developed for the conduct of these trainings, incorporating 5 among other things, gender-appropriate and child-sensitive awareness, familiarity 6 with relevant laws on the Special Protection of Children, other domestic laws and 7 8 international obligations necessary and appropriate to guaranty the integrity and the highest standard of moral scruple for the implementers of the Basic Military and 9 Police Training Program. 10

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Sec. 18. Initial Implementation of the Program. - In order to manage 11 the initial implementation of the Basic Military and Police Training Program in the 12 senior high school, the DND, the DILG, and the DepEd shall, within six (6) months 13 from the effectivity of this Act, design, institute and implement a Pilot Program. The 14 DND, the DILG, and the DepEd shall jointly submit an annual review and evaluation 15 report to Congress on the Implementation of the Pilot Program. Upon review and 16 approval by Congress, the framework utilized under the Pilot Program shall become 17 the standard for the full national implementation of the Basic Military and Police 18 Training Program. 19

Sec. 19. *Mandatory Evaluation and Review.* - The DND, the DILG, and the DepEd shall jointly conduct an annual review and submit a report to Congress on the status of the implementation of the Basic Military and Police Training Program one year after its full implementation.

Sec. 20. *Penal Provisions.* - Any person who shall commit any act already penalized under existing laws and particularly described in Section 13 of this Act such as bribery, corruption of public officials, graft, hazing, sexual harassment, and other abuses shall be prosecuted and subject to penalties in accordance with the applicable laws. In case that bribery, corruption of public officials, graft, hazing, sexual harassment, and other abuses as particularly described in Section 13 of this Act is committed by persons authorized to administer the Basic Military and Police 1 Training Program or by school officials or employees of public or government 2 educational institutions directly involved in the implementation of the program, the 3 maximum penalty provided under existing laws shall be imposed.

Sec. 21. *Funding.* - The funding requirement to implement the
establishment, maintenance, and operations of the Military and Police Training
Program shall be included in the budget of the implementing agencies/departments
in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within sixty (60) days
 from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education shall promulgate rules
 and regulations necessary to ensure the effective implementation of this Act.

11 Sec. 23. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or 12 unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and 13 effect.

14 **Sec. 24.** *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, executive orders, presidential 15 decrees, and rules and regulations inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are 16 hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

17 Sec. 25. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days 18 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general 19 circulation.

Approved,