



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

22 JUL 28 P5:26

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE

S. B. NO. 936

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Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

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**AN ACT  
INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL VALUES, ETIQUETTE, AND  
MORAL UPRIGHTNESS PROGRAM; A COMMISSION ON FILIPINO  
VALUES; AND INTER-FAITH PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL,  
INSTITUTING A FAITH-BASED AND VALUES-ORIENTED  
LEADERSHIP, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In this modern day and age, Filipinos are more vulnerable to adopt, and adapt to, foreign influences made more accessible by technology. Due to the accessibility of smartphones and internet connection, a Filipino youth spends an average of six hours a week online, while 3.5 percent of the youth are logging in at least 35 hours a week.<sup>1</sup> At this rate, Filipino values are slowly fading.

Through the enactment of Republic Act No. 11476 or the Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) and Values Education Act, GMRC and Values Education were institutionalized as separate subjects from Grades 1 to 6 and Grades 7 to 10, respectively. However, inculcation of values should not stop at basic education level.

This bill seeks to instill national values, instruct proper etiquette, and inculcate moral uprightness to Filipinos through the crafting of a Program on National Values, Etiquette and Moral Uprightness to be implemented by a Commission on Filipino Values. This bill also mandates that lessons on moral uprightness will be integrated in basic, higher and tertiary education. With respect to basic education, the curriculum shall be aligned with the implementation of GMRC and Values Education Act.

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<sup>1</sup> #SoMeForAYRH: A Guide in Using Social Media and Social Networking sites for Adolescent and Youth Reproductive Health Advocacy. Retrieved from: [https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/basic-page/SoMe4AYRH%20Guide\\_Updated-min.pdf](https://doh.gov.ph/sites/default/files/basic-page/SoMe4AYRH%20Guide_Updated-min.pdf) (date last accessed: July 27, 2022).

In addition, this bill also requires government offices to include modules on patriotism, national pride and identity, moral uprightness, including online and social etiquette in employee orientation and training programs. Private establishments are also encouraged to do the same.

The passage of this bill is critical at this juncture in our history. In 2021, the Transparency International noted that the Philippines ranked 117<sup>th</sup> (out of 180 countries) in terms of Corruption Perception Index. Accordingly, the Philippines only obtained a score of 33 out of 100 – its lowest score since 2012.<sup>2</sup> Thus, this bill, which aims to have a well-ordered society anchored on the teaching and inculcation of well-entrenched values and moral uprightness, is a good step towards improving the country's ranking in the global perception index.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

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<sup>2</sup> January 26, 2022. 'PH is a significant decliner' in global corruption index, ranks 117<sup>th</sup>. CNN Philippines. Available at <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2022/1/26/PH-117th-global-corruption-index-2021-.html> (date last accessed: July 17, 2022).



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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 “*National*  
2           *Values, Etiquette, and Moral Uprightness Act.*”  
3

4           **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The preamble of the 1987 Constitution  
5           implores the aid of Almighty God, in order to build a just and humane society,  
6           and establish a Government that shall embody our ideals and aspirations,  
7           promote the common good, conserve and develop our patrimony, and secure  
8           to ourselves and our posterity, the blessings of independence and democracy  
9           under the rule of law and a regime of trust, justice, freedom, love, equality and  
10          peace.  
11

12          Pursuant to this, the State shall have the responsibility of passing laws  
13          and institute programs that will lead us to the kind of society that the Philippine  
14          Constitution aspires. Towards this end, it is the policy of the State to promote  
15          and protect the physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being of  
16          the youth and to recognize its role in nation building. It shall inculcate in the  
17          youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and  
18          civic affairs.  
19

20          **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For purposes of this Act, the following  
21          terms are defined:

- 1  
2 (a) **National Values** shall mean a set of ideals and principles shared  
3 by the members of the community;  
4  
5 (b) **Etiquette** shall mean a customary code of behavior to be observed  
6 in a society; and  
7  
8 (c) **Mortal Uprightness** shall mean a conduct that conforms to an  
9 accepted standard of right and wrong.

10  
11 **SEC. 4. Establishment of the Commission on Filipino Values. –**

12 There is hereby created a Commission on Filipino Values (hereinafter, the  
13 “Commission”), which shall be composed of the Secretary of the Department of  
14 Education (DepEd) as Chairperson, the Commission on Higher Education  
15 (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA),  
16 a representative from both houses of Congress, together with representatives  
17 from major religious groups in the country, which shall be inter-faith, as  
18 members. The Commission shall conduct a nationwide consultation, and  
19 through consensus, craft a Program on National Values, Etiquette and Moral  
20 Uprightness (the “Program”).

21  
22 The Commission shall draft a roadmap for the implementation of the  
23 Program, which shall be submitted to the President for his/her approval. The  
24 Commission shall likewise implement the approved Program.  
25

26 The Commission shall continue to meet every three (3) years, or as the  
27 need arises, and shall conduct an evaluation of the performance,  
28 accomplishments and impact of the implementation of this Act.  
29

30 **SEC. 5. Institutionalizing National Values, Etiquette, and Moral**  
31 **Uprightness in Educational Institutions. –** To carry out the declared policies  
32 in Section 2 of this Act, teaching of the National Program on Values, including,  
33 but not limited to, patriotism, national pride and identity, Etiquette, Moral  
34 Uprightness, and social and online etiquette, shall be institutionalized as part of  
35 the curriculum in all levels in kindergarten, elementary, secondary, technical-  
36 vocational, and college institutions in the country; *Provided*, That the teaching  
37 of the foregoing in the kindergarten, elementary, and secondary levels shall be  
38 aligned and integrated with the teaching of values education in K-12 basic  
39 education curriculum in accordance with Republic Act No. 11476, otherwise  
40 known as the GMRC and Values Education Act.  
41

42 **SEC. 6. Implementation in Workplaces. –** All government offices,  
43 Government Owned and Controlled Corporations (GOCCs), national agencies,  
44 and local government units, shall include modules on patriotism, national pride  
45 and identity and Moral Uprightness, including online and social etiquette, in  
46 employee orientation or training programs. Appropriate employee seminars  
47 shall also be regularly held on the aforesaid topics.  
48

49 Private entities, through their respective Human Resources Department  
50 (HRD) or equivalent, are encouraged to include modules on patriotism, national

1 pride, identity, and Moral Uprightness, including online and social etiquette, in  
2 employee orientation or training programs. Appropriate employee seminars  
3 may also be held on the aforesaid projects.  
4

5 **SEC. 7. Values Officer in Government Offices, including GOCCs. –**

6 It is hereby mandated that all government offices, GOCCs, national agencies,  
7 and local government units, shall have at least one (1) Values Officer that will  
8 oversee the implementation of the policies under this Act. Functions of Values  
9 Officers include values orientation of new hires and training sessions, seminars,  
10 or teach-ins of current employees, among others.  
11

12 **SEC. 8. Presidential Inter-Faith Council. –** There is hereby established

13 a Presidential Inter-Faith Council under the control and supervision of the  
14 President, which shall be composed of leaders of religious organizations in the  
15 Philippines.  
16

17 The Council shall:

- 18
- 19 (a) Meet on a regular basis to discuss matters pertaining to religion,  
20 faith, morals, values formation and education, and such other  
21 related matters;  
22
  - 23 (b) Attend regular meetings with the Commission and advise and  
24 assist the Commission on matters pertaining to religion, faith,  
25 morals, values formation and education, and such other related  
26 matters;  
27
  - 28 (c) Attend regular meetings with the President and advise and assist  
29 the President on matters pertaining to religion, faith, morals, values  
30 formation and education, and such other related matters;  
31
  - 32 (d) Provide consultative and advisory services to the various  
33 government and private agencies on matters pertaining to religion,  
34 faith, morals, values formation and education, and such other  
35 related matters; and  
36
  - 37 (e) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the President  
38 of the Philippines relating to religion, faith, morals, values formation  
39 and education, and such other related matters.  
40

41 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause. –** If any part of this Act shall be held  
42 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts not otherwise affected thereby shall  
43 remain in force and effect.  
44

45 **SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. –** All laws, decrees, resolutions, orders, or  
46 ordinances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,  
47 amended or modified accordingly.  
48

1           **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
2 its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
3 circulation.

4  
5           **Approved,**