CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES NINETEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5719

By Representatives Romulo, Ongchuan, Go (M.), Cagas, Suan, Chatto, Mariano-Hernandez, Ortega, Gullas, Rodriguez (E.), Gardiola, Verzosa, Barzaga, Domingo, Abalos, Silverio, Manuel, Padiernos, Buhain, Dalog, Mercado-Revilla, Co-Pilar, Cari, Violago, Advincula, Cuaresma, Hernandez, Vergara, Guintu, Tutor, Roque, Cajayon-Uy, Collantes, Salo, Olaso, Ordanes, Balindong, Bordado, Villarica and Dalipe, per Committee Report No. 99

AN ACT INTEGRATING A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF PHILIPPINE HISTORY DURING WORLD WAR II INTO THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM

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

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the State to promote and protect the physical, moral, intellectual and social well-being of the youth and inculcate the values of patriotism and nationalism to foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, and encourage involvement in the political and civic affairs of the country.

To this end, the State shall put in place a mechanism that shall highlight the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country and thus educate the youth on the values of patriotism and nationalism and preserve for posterity the stories on the great struggle and heroism of Filipino soldiers who fought the Japanese occupational forces during the war.

SEC. 2. A comprehensive study of Philippine history during World War II shall be integrated into and shall cover a reasonable percentage of the mandatory Philippine History subject being offered under the general education curriculum in higher education courses of all higher education institutions (HEIs) in the country.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall, pursuant to its mandate under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994", develop in close collaboration with the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) and the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office-Department of National Defense (PVAO-DND), a program to execute and implement the provisions of this Act.

All HEIs are encouraged to keep in their libraries adequate books, resources, and reference materials on World War II as it transpired in the Philippines.

SEC. 3. Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act, the CHED shall, in coordination with the NHCP and the PVAO-DND, formulate and issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act. Other government entities may be tapped jointly by the principals as resource or advisory groups in this undertaking.

Resource persons such as prominent historians, history professors, members of historical associations, college or university presidents or administrators, faculty members and students may also be invited jointly by CHED, the NHCP and the PVAO-DND to participate.

- SEC. 4. If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected, shall remain in full force and effect.
- SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, executive orders, memorandum orders, memorandum circulars, administrative orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,