

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )



23 JUN 26 P4:19

**SENATE**  
**S. No. 2286**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada**

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**AN ACT**  
**PRESCRIBING THE USE OF NEO-ETHNIC PHILIPPINE TEXTILES IN THE**  
**ACADEMIC REGALIA OF ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, AND**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article II, Section 13 of the 1987 Constitution provides that, "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."

As enshrined in the Constitution, it is the responsibility of the State to instill patriotism and nationalism among the Filipino youth. The using and wearing of the academic regalia with the use of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles encourages youth to appreciate their heritage and preserve their culture.

The use of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles created by the local community craftsmen aims to showcase our culture and heritage in order to produce an academic regalia that is truly Filipino. This would also create a huge opportunity of creating jobs for communities which produced these textiles.

The Philippine Academic Regalia Council will be created to formulate a National Academic Regalia Policy that will review, standardize, and adopt the academic regalia for graduates, administrators, faculty, and awardees of SUCs. The Policy will also propose ways to incorporate neo-ethnic textiles on the academic regalia. The Council would be co-chaired by the Chairperson of the Committee on Higher Education and the Director of the Philippine Textile Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PTRI).

The proposed measure aims to promote the use of neo-ethnic textiles that would greatly benefit the communities that expertly produce these masterpieces.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.



**JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

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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 "*Philippine Academic*  
2 *Regalia Act.*"

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to instill patriotism  
4 and nationalism among the people especially the youth whose academic preparation  
5 for adulthood and responsible citizenship include values formation on love of country  
6 and pride in the uniqueness of their cultural heritage. In this regard, opportunities  
7 for displaying these values shall be encouraged by the school system not only as  
8 part of values development, but to preserve Philippine culture and certain local  
9 traditions, and create avenues, such as the wearing of an academic regalia that is  
10 not only truly Filipino but likewise distinguishes graduates of Philippine universities  
11 and colleges while giving back to the communities in the countryside through job  
12 creation and production of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles, that allow for the  
13 promotion of culture-based industries.

14 Pursuant thereto, the use of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles in the academic  
15 regalia of all state universities and colleges (SUCs) is therefore prescribed.

16 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

1 a) *Academic regalia* – refers to the official garb worn by university officials,  
2 faculty, graduates, and awardees during graduation, commencement  
3 exercises, and other academic functions; and

4 b) *Neo-ethnic Philippine textiles* – refer to textiles made of or containing  
5 natural or indigenous materials, sourced and produced in the Philippines  
6 using updated, relevant and green scientific and technological approaches  
7 and innovations, while integrating and retaining traditional patterns,  
8 designs, icons, motifs, and approaches, and thus contributing to livelihood  
9 generation and sustaining the local handloom weaving and textile  
10 heritage.

11 *Sec. 4. Creation of the Philippine Academic Regalia Council.* – There is hereby  
12 created a Philippine Regalia Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council,” which  
13 shall be chaired and co-chaired by the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher  
14 Education (CHED) and the Director of the Philippine Textile Research Institute of the  
15 Department of Science and Technology (DOST-PTRI), respectively. The Council shall  
16 have the following members:

17 a) Representative from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts  
18 (NCCA);

19 b) Representative from the Philippine Association of State Universities and  
20 Colleges (PASUC);

21 c) Representative from the University of the Philippines System (U.P.); and

22 d) Representative from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

23 *Sec. 5. Powers and Functions of the Council.* – The Council shall have the  
24 following specific powers and functions:

25 a) Formulate the National Academic Regalia Policy;

26 b) Review, standardize, and adopt the academic regalia for graduates,  
27 administrators, faculty, and awardees of SUCs;

28 c) Ensure sustainability, quality control, availability and accessibility of  
29 tropical fabrics, yarns, dyes, and loom parts;

30 d) Recommend relevant technological approaches and innovations that will  
31 further enhance the production processes;

32 e) Propose ways to incorporate neo-ethnic textiles on the academic regalia;

- 1 f) Promote understanding, appreciation and respect for the cultural heritage  
2 and traditions embodied in the neo-ethnic textiles;  
3 g) Prepare and publish a handbook containing information on the academic  
4 regalia and its proper use, protection, trade, and management; and  
5 h) Protect the intellectual property rights as regards design silhouettes,  
6 textile pattern, color and textile specification for the academic regalia.

7 *Sec. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from  
8 the effectivity of this Act, the CHED shall, in consultation with the DOST-PTRI, NCCA,  
9 UP, PASUC, and DTI, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
10 implementation of this Act.

11 *Sec. 7. Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the effective  
12 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations  
13 Act.

14 *Sec. 8. Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
15 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise  
16 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

17 *Sec. 9. Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
18 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation  
19 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,  
20 modified, or amended accordingly.

21 *Sec. 10. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
22 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*