

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Third Regular Session

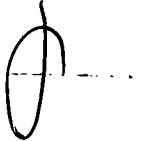
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SENATE

S. No. 2884

File



Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7836, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE 'PHILIPPINE TEACHERS PROFESSIONALIZATION ACT OF 1994' AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9293**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7836 or the Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994 was enacted in recognition of the "vital role of teachers in nation-building and development through a responsible and literate citizenry". In fulfilling this objective, the law established the Board for Professional Teachers (Board), under the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), which is tasked to regulate and supervise the teaching profession through the licensure examination and teacher professionalization.

The teachers are considered as the largest group of professionals. Of which, more than 850,000 are employed in the public school system. They play a role not only in the nurturing of the minds of the youth, but also, in the bigger scheme of things, in the shaping of the future of this nation.

Acknowledging the significance of this role, it is imperative that teachers, similar to all professionals, be accorded with opportunities for professional development to improve their skills. For it cannot be denied, that the professional gains of our teachers ultimately redound to the benefit of the Filipino youth on whose hands the Philippines of tomorrow rely.

Through the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) administered by the PRC and the Board the level of preparedness of future educators is defined. However, data from Philippine Institute for Development Studies shows that LET performance has been dismal - with the average passing rate at 33% and 40% for elementary and secondary levels, respectively. Correspondingly, a number of studies have emphasized that teacher effectiveness is the "most important school-based predictor of student learning." Considering all of these contexts, there is more opportune time than now to revisit the "Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994".

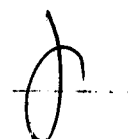
This measure seeks to amend Republic Act No. 7836 or the Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act, as amended by Republic Act No. 9293, by extending the responsibility to nominate members of the Board of Professional Teachers to Teachers Education Council, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, among others. It likewise tasks the PRC to issue appropriate rules in order to address conflict of interest in the conduct of licensure examinations, including releasing of results.

Furthermore, under this measure, additional qualifications will be implemented for those who will take the LET. Once enacted into law, those who fail in the licensure exam will be required to take a refresher course.

In view of ensuring that the existing policy on teacher professionalization is aligned with the current context, the passage of this measure is hereby earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR. 

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AN ACT
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AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9293

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

1 Section 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

2 "SEC. 5. Creation and Composition of the Board. - There is hereby
3 created under this Act a Board for Professional Teachers, hereinafter called the
4 Board, a collegial body under the general supervision and administrative control
5 of the Professional Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the
6 Commission, composed of five (5) members who shall be appointed by the
7 President of the Philippines from among the recommendees chosen by the
8 Commission.

9
10 The recommendees, **WHO MUST POSSESS THE QUALIFICATION**
11 **STIPULATED IN SECTION 3 OF THIS ACT**, shall be chosen from the list of
12 nominees [~~selected by~~] **SCREENED, EVALUATED AND SHORTLISTED BY**
13 **THE TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL (TEC), DEPARTMENT OF**
14 **EDUCATION (DEPED), COORDINATING COUNCIL OF PRIVATE**
15 **EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (COCOPEA), COMMISSION ON**
16 **HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COLLEGES**
17 **AND UNIVERSITIES (ALCU), PHILIPPINE ASSOCIATION OF STATE**

1 **UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (PASUC), AN ACCREDITED**
2 **ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS, AND AN ASSOCIATION OF TEACHER**
3 **EDUCATION STUDENTS** [~~and accredited association of teachers, who duly~~
4 ~~possess all the qualifications prescribed in Section 8 of this Act.~~]
5

6 **"THE FINAL LIST OF NOMINEES SHALL BE MADE PUBLIC AND**
7 **POSTED IN THE WEBSITE OF THE COMMISSION."**
8

9 "The chairperson and the vice-chairperson of the Board shall be
10 appointed from these five (5) members by the President: Provided, That the
11 members of the first Board appointed under this Act shall be automatically
12 registered as professional teachers and issued with the certificate of registration
13 and professional license upon payment of the fees for examination, registration,
14 and other fees prescribed by the Commission."
15

16 Sec. 2. Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended as follows:

17 "SEC. 7. Term of Office. - The members of the Board shall hold office for
18 a term of three (3) years from the date they assume office: Provided, That the
19 [~~first appointees to the Board under this Act shall hold office according to the~~
20 ~~following terms: one (1) member shall serve for one (1) year; one (1) member~~
21 ~~for two (2) years; the chairman, vice chairman, and one (1) member for three~~
22 ~~(3) years.~~] **CHAIRPERSON SHALL NOT BE REAPPOINTED.**
23

24 Vacancies shall be served for the unexpired term only. No person who
25 has served **AS MEMBER OF THE BOARD** for two (2) consecutive terms shall
26 be eligible for reappointment. Appointment to fill an unexpired term shall be
27 considered an appointment to a complete term.

28 X X X"
29

30 Sec. 3. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:
31

1 "SEC. 8. Qualifications of Board Members. - Each Board member must
2 at his **OR HER** appointment:

3 "(a) Be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;

4 "(b) Be at least thirty-five (35) years of age, of proven integrity, and possessed
5 of high moral values in his **OR HER** personal as well as professional conduct
6 and has not been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude;

7 "(c) Be a holder of [~~the degree of Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science in~~
8 ~~Education and preferably a holder of a master's or doctorate degree in~~
9 ~~education, or their equivalents,~~] **AT LEAST A MASTER'S DEGREE,**
10 **PREFERABLY EARNED A DOCTORATE DEGREE, IN EDUCATION OR**
11 **ALLIED FIELDS,** from a [~~university, school, college, academy or institute duly~~
12 ~~constituted, recognized and/or accredited by the Philippine government;~~]
13 **DULY RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED EDUCATION INSTITUTION BY**
14 **THE GOVERNMENT;**

15 "(d) Be a professional teacher with a valid certificate of registration and valid
16 professional license, save those members who shall compose the first Board for
17 Professional Teachers;

18 "(e) Has been a professional teacher in the active practice of the teaching
19 profession for at least ten (10) years in the elementary [~~and~~] **OR secondary**
20 **LEVELS OR A FACULTY IN A TEACHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**
21 **FOR AT LEAST TEN (10) YEARS;** and

22 "(f) Not be an official or member of the faculty of, nor have pecuniary interest
23 in any university, college, school, or institution conferring a bachelor's degree
24 in education or its equivalents [~~for at least three (3) years prior to his~~
25 ~~appointment,~~] and neither connected with a review center or with any group
26 or association where review classes or lectures in preparation for the licensure
27 examination are offered or conducted, **NOR HAVE PECUNIARY INTEREST**
28 **IN SUCH.**

29 **"PROVIDED, THAT THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE THE**
30 **APPROPRIATE GOVERNING RULES ON THE PRACTICE OF MEMBERS**
31 **OF THE BOARD TO ENSURE THAT NO CONFLICT OF INTEREST SHALL**

1 **ARISE IN THEIR FUNCTIONS RELATED TO THE CONDUCT OF THE**
2 **LICENSURE EXAMINATION AND THE RELEASE OF THE RESULTS.**

3 "Provided, [~~however~~]**FURTHER**, That the membership to the Board
4 shall be evenly distributed to cover all levels of education, including equitable
5 representation of the different fields of specialization.

6 **"PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD**
7 **SHALL ALSO HAVE THE NECESSARY EXPERTISE IN IMPLEMENTING**
8 **TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS THAT ARE MANDATED BY CHED.'**

9
10 Sec. 4. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

11 "SEC. 13. Examination, Registration and License Required. [~~Except as~~
12 ~~otherwise specifically allowed under the provisions of this Act, all applicants for~~
13 ~~registration as professional teachers shall be required to undergo a written~~
14 ~~examination which shall be given at least once a year in such places and dates~~
15 ~~as the Board may determine upon approval by the Commission, a valid~~
16 ~~certificate of registration and a valid professional license from the Commission~~
17 ~~are required before any person is allowed to practice as a professional teacher~~
18 ~~in the Philippines, except as otherwise allowed under this Act.]~~

19
20 **"APPLICANTS FOR REGISTRATION AS PROFESSIONAL**
21 **TEACHERS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO UNDERGO:**

22 **"A WRITTEN LICENSURE EXAMINATION WHICH SHALL BE**
23 **GIVEN AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR IN SUCH PLACES AND DATES AS THE**
24 **BOARD MAY DETERMINE UPON APPROVAL BY THE COMMISSION. A**
25 **WRITTEN EXAMINATION WILL BE REQUIRED FOR:**

26 **"(A) GRADUATES OF EDUCATION COURSES, CONSISTENT**
27 **WITH SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT;**

28 **"(B) GRADUATES OF NON-EDUCATION COURSES WHO HAVE**
29 **COMPLETED 18 UNITS OF CERTIFICATION IN PROFESSIONAL**
30 **EDUCATION (CPE)."**

1 **A VALID CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION AND A VALID**
2 **PROFESSIONAL LICENSE FROM THE COMMISSION ARE REQUIRED**
3 **BEFORE ANY PERSON IS ALLOWED TO PRACTICE AS A**
4 **PROFESSIONAL TEACHER IN THE PHILIPPINES, EXCEPT AS**
5 **OTHERWISE ALLOWED UNDER SECTION 8 OF R.A. NO. 10533, OR THE**
6 **ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013”: PROVIDED, THAT THEY**
7 **PASS THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION WITHIN THREE (3) YEARS**
8 **FROM THE DATE OF HIRING.”**

9
10 Sec 5. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7836, as amended, is hereby further 26
11 amended as follows:

12 “SEC. 15. Qualification Requirements of Applicant. - No applicant shall
13 be admitted to take the examination unless, on the date of the filing of the
14 application, [~~he or she~~] **THE APPLICANT** shall have complied with the
15 following requirements:

16 “(a) A citizen of the Philippines or an alien whose country has reciprocity
17 with the Philippines in the practice of the teaching profession:

18 “(b) At least eighteen (18) years of age;

19 “(c) In good health and of good reputation with high moral values;

20 “(d) Has not been convicted by final judgment by a court for an offense
21 involving moral turpitude;

22 “(e) A graduate of a school, college or university recognized by the
23 government and possesses the minimum educational qualifications **IN LINE**
24 **WITH THE STANDARDIZED TEACHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM;**
25 **AND** [as follows:

26 ~~(1) For teachers in preschool, a bachelor’s degree in early childhood~~
27 ~~education (BECED) or its equivalent;~~

28 ~~(2) For teachers in the elementary grades, a bachelor’s degree in~~
29 ~~elementary education (BSEED) or its equivalent;~~

30 ~~(3) For teachers in the secondary grades, a bachelor’s degree in~~
31 ~~education or its equivalent with a major and minor, or a bachelor’s degree in~~
32 ~~arts and sciences with at least eighteen (18) units in professional education;~~

1 ~~(4) For teachers of vocational and two-year technical courses, a~~
2 ~~bachelor's degree in the field of specialization or its equivalent, with at least~~
3 ~~eighteen (18) units in professional education;]~~

4 **"(F) HAS COMPLETED A REFRESHER COURSE IN A CHED-**
5 **RECOGNIZED TEACHER EDUCATION INSTITUTE, WITHIN ONE YEAR**
6 **PRIOR TO THE DATE OF THE EXAMINATION FOR APPLICANTS WHO**
7 **FAILED TO PASS THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION THREE (3) TIMES,**
8 **BEFORE BEING ALLOWED TO RETAKE THE EXAMINATION."**

9
10 Sec. 6. Section 16 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 **"SEC. 16. RELEASE OF THE QUESTIONS AND** Report of the Results
12 of the Examination. - **THE BOARD SHALL, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE**
13 **EXAM ADMINISTRATION, RELEASE THE QUESTIONS, ANSWERS AND**
14 **RELEVANT INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC."**

15
16 **THE EXAM SHALL BE VALIDATED THROUGH A THIRD-PARTY**
17 **ASSESSMENT BEFORE AND AFTER ADMINISTRATION. ITEM**
18 **ANALYSIS IS RECOMMENDED TO BE DONE AFTER EXAM**
19 **ADMINISTRATION.**

20
21 **"ADDITIONALLY,** the Board shall, within one hundred twenty (120)
22 days after the examination, report the ratings obtained by each candidate by
23 exam component to the Commission for approval and appropriate action.

24
25 **"THE BOARD SHALL ALSO MAKE PUBLIC THE LICENSURE**
26 **EXAMINATION PERFORMANCE OF SCHOOLS WITH A TEN (10) YEAR**
27 **TRACK RECORD ANALYSIS."**

28
29 Sec. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - Within sixty (60) days
30 from the effective date of this Act, the Professional Regulation Commission shall
31 update its IRR necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

1 *Sec. 8. Transitory Provision.* - The Professional Regulation Commission and the
2 Board of Professional Teachers shall update its existing policies and issuances relevant
3 to this Act and ensure its alignment with the same within a period of six (6) months
4 from the effectivity of this Act and report the same to Congress, through the Senate
5 Committee on Higher Education and on the first year of its implementation.

6 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* - If any part, section, or provision of this Act is held
7 invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full
8 force and effect.

9 *Sec 9. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, circulars, administrative orders,
10 rules and regulations, and other issuances which are inconsistent with the provisions
11 of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,