

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

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 27 AM '33

SENATE

S. B. No. 2091

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Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine educational system has been undergoing innovative transformation and restructuring to improve the quality of education and quality of graduates in the elementary, secondary and tertiary levels as means to promote national development and global competitiveness. Present condition indicates that a small percentage of college graduates successfully find appropriate employment perfectly suited for their respective courses. This has resulted to unemployment and over supply of college graduates in white collar jobs and shortages in skilled manpower. Moreover, recent results of professional examinations consistently yielded small percentage of successful examinees. This is further aggravated by the continuous exodus and migration of our professionals seeking employment and high paying jobs in other countries. To address this pressing and urgent predicament, there is a need to institutionalize a mechanism which will check, screen and monitor the flow of secondary graduates to post-secondary learning institutions to promote national development and global competitiveness. In this light, the National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) will act as an instrument to maintain a viable balance among the number of white collar employees, skilled manpower and entrepreneurs through a provision of career direction to secondary graduates.

The bill shall provide a redirection of skills development program in the tertiary level specifically aimed at harmonizing and matching the supply coming from post-secondary institution with that of the demand of the country's employment market. It shall address the evident need to institutionalize a career direction program for secondary graduates which would assess the individual's potential to; enter a four-year degree program, take technical/vocational course or embark into entrepreneurship. Finally, it shall answer the pressing and apparent need to prepare high school graduates for national development and global competitiveness.

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


FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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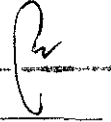
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AN ACT
CREATING A NATIONAL CAREER ASSESSMENT EXAMINATION TO
INSTITUTIONALIZE A CAREER DIRECTION PROGRAM FOR
SECONDARY GRADUATES, DEFINING ITS SCOPE AND FUNCTIONS
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **Sec. 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "National Career
2 Assessment Examination Act".

3 **Section 2. Nature and Scope** - There is hereby instituted a National
4 Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) which is a system of assessing or
5 evaluating the potential or aptitude of each and every high school graduate to
6 pursue a four- or five- year college degree course, a technological / vocational
7 course, or an entrepreneurial course.

8 It aims to maintain the highest quality of education in the Philippines by
9 regulating and monitoring the flow of high school graduates to said courses
10 where they have better aptitude or potential.

11 **Section 3. Declaration of Policy** - It is hereby declared as the policy of the
12 State to maintain the highest quality of education for purposes of national
13 development and to respect the right of every citizen to select of profession or
14 course of study, subject to fair, reasonable, and equitable admission and
15 academic requirements.

1 It is further declared that secondary education must give emphasis to the
2 development of different aptitude and interests of the students so as to equipped
3 them with knowledge and skills that will enable them to become useful,
4 productive and gainfully employed members of the society.

5 Furthermore, it is hereby declared that an assessment of the career
6 aptitude of high school graduates shall be made to guide them to take up courses
7 in colleges, universities, vocational or technological institutions where their
8 potentials will be best developed and where their training and/or education will
9 be needed for national development.

10 Section 4. Purposes and Objectives - This Act shall have the following
11 purpose and objectives:

- 12 1. To guarantee protection and promotion of the right of all citizens to
13 quality education at all levels;
- 14 2. To provide fair, reasonable and equitable admission and academic
15 requirements;
- 16 3. To reduce wastage in education arising from dropping out, non
17 completion and / or low performing of students in colleges and
18 universities and decreasing percentage of successful examinees in
19 professional licensure examinations;
- 20 4. To assess the academic, technical and vocational aptitudes of high
21 school graduates in order to facilitate and rationalize their placement
22 in degree and non-degree courses as the case may be;
- 23 5. To attain excellence in education within the context of national
24 development, to open more job opportunities to our labor force and to
25 properly utilize their productive potentials.

1 **Section 5. Scope of Examination** - Beginning School Year 2010 - 2011 and
2 every year thereafter, all high school graduates seeking admission to any post-
3 secondary degree or non-degree course, or a technological / vocational course or
4 to be an entrepreneur shall henceforth be required to undergo a National Career
5 Assessment Examination (NCAE).

6 The results of the test for each examinee shall serve as a *guide for him /*
7 *her as to which degree or non-degree course or career to take up after high*
8 *school. Such test results shall serve as a prerequisite for enrolment by all high*
9 *school graduates to any post-secondary degree or non-degree course or a*
10 *technological / vocational course or entrepreneurial course. The test results*
11 *which indicate the skill / aptitude to which a student may aptly succeed shall be*
12 *one of the basis of his / her enrolment in a tertiary course.*

13 **Section 6. Test Administration** - The Department of Education shall
14 conduct an annual NCAE through the National Education Testing and Research
15 Center (NETRC) to carry out the provisions of this Act.

16 **Section 7. Powers and Duties of the Secretary** - To carry out the purposes
17 and objectives of the NCAE, the Secretary of Education is hereby vested with the
18 following authority:

- 19 1. To conduct an annual NCAE through the National Education Testing and
20 Research Center (NETRC) in order to promote and implement a program
21 that assesses and evaluates the *potential or aptitude of each and every*
22 high school graduate to pursue a four- or five-year college degree course,
23 a technological/vocational course, or a short entrepreneurial course;
- 24 2. To determine the method, form and content, both the test and the process
25 of checking and evaluating its results, as well as to fix the date and
26 place(s) of examination;
- 27 3. To enter, when desirable or necessary, into agreements or contracts with
28 qualified persons, institutions, organizations, government agencies,

1 entities and establishments to make payments incidental to such
2 agreements or contracts, to carry out the purposes and objectives of this
3 Act;

- 4 4. To determine as the exigencies or national interest may dictate,
5 exemptions from the provisions of this Act; and
- 6 5. To do such other acts as may be proper and necessary in order to achieve
7 the policies of the NCAE.

8 **Section 8. Content of Examination** - The National Career Assessment
9 Examination (NCAE) shall measure the following aptitudes and skills of high
10 school graduates to wit:

11 *A. General Scholastic Aptitude*

12 1. *Scientific Ability*- This is an assessment of the individual's scientific
13 abilities and skills to adopt scientific methods, procedures and
14 processes in constructing knowledge and solving experimental or
15 real-life problems.

16 2. *Reading Comprehension* - This measures the ability to understand
17 what has been stated directly; to analyze, interpret, and criticize
18 what has been read; to recognize reasonable application of
19 principles or opinions expressed by the author.

20 3. *Verbal Ability* - This subtest measures the assertive ability of a
21 person in view of grammatical rules and logical arrangement of
22 ideas.

23 4. *Mathematical Ability* - The subtest is used to assess quantitative
24 abilities and computational skills, particularly on working with
25 numbers, perceiving relationship between two (2) quantities and
26 solving arithmetic problems.

27 *B. Technical-Vocational Aptitude*

28 1. *Manipulative Skills* - This subtest measures abilities that require
29 perceptual and visual judgment in determining figures, symbols,
30 patterns, and nature of space as well as skills in mentally
31 manipulating objects and concrete materials.

- 1 2. Clerical Ability – This is a test of ability and skill to encode
2 data/information and file office records, and ability to note details.
- 3 3. Entrepreneurial Skills – This is a test to assess one’s capacity to
4 engage in business undertakings.
- 5 4. Non Verbal Ability – This tests a person’s reasoning ability to
6 identify patterns presented in diagrammatic form.
- 7 5. Occupational Fields of Interest

8 C. *Occupational Fields of Interest*

- 9 1. Outdoor Interests – This means that one will enjoy working with
10 naturalistic environment such as plants and animals.
- 11 2. Mechanical Interests – This means that one will enjoy working with
12 real-world materials.
- 13 3. Investigative Interests – This means that one will enjoy activities
14 which require mental work or using thinking skills.
- 15 4. Artistic Interests – This means that one will enjoy activities that
16 look at the artistic side of things such as forms, designs and
17 patterns.
- 18 5. Social Interests – This means that one will enjoy with work
19 activities that assist other people and promote learning and
20 personal development.
- 21 6. Enterprising Interests – This means that one will like activities that
22 have something to do with carrying out a project especially on
23 business ventures.
- 24 7. Clerical Interests – This means that one will enjoy work activities
25 that follow set of procedures and routines.

26 **Section 9. Rules and Regulations** - The Secretary of Education shall
27 within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate such rules and
28 regulations as may be necessary for its implementation. *Provided*, that the full

1 implementation of the program be initiated for high school graduates of School
2 Year 2010-2011.

3 Said rules and regulations shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
4 publication in the Official Gazette or in one newspaper of general circulation.

5 **Section 10. Implementing Agencies** - The Commission on Higher
6 Education (CHED) and Technical Education Skills Development Authority
7 (TESDA) shall implement a program in accordance with the NCAE results, as
8 follows;

- 9 1. To promote prudent and economic use of government funds, the
10 CHED shall utilize the results of NCAE as basis for the selection of
11 grantees for its scholarship program
- 12 2. To further promote manpower skills development program, TESDA
13 and CHED shall adopt an educational program attuned with the
14 NCAE result; and
- 15 3. To set the cut-off score for the various courses of CHED and TESDA
16 though their Technical Panels.

17 **Section 11. Examination Centers and Date of Examination** - Unless
18 otherwise previously announced, the National Career Assessment Examination
19 (NCAE) shall be administered throughout the country on the last Wednesday of
20 August of every year, in the place where the Provincial or City Division Office is
21 located; provided, however that additional examination centers may be
22 established in the province as may be determined by the Division Examination
23 Committee and approved by the Secretary of Education.

24 **Section 12. Processing of the Examination Results** - The processing of the
25 examination result shall be in the National Capital Region through the NETRC.

26 **Section 13. Notices** - The notice and certification shall be issued under the
27 following circumstances:

- 28 1. The certificate of ratings of examinees in the National Career
29 Assessment Examination (NCAE) shall be issued each year by the
30 Secretary of Education through the NETRC.

- 1 2. Each examinee will be given a Certificate of Rating indicating his/her
2 rating in the domains of the NCAE.
- 3 3. A consolidated masterlist of the names of examinees may be made
4 available in the Division Office concerned.
- 5 4. Questions relating to the results of the NCAE may be verified from the
6 masterlist in the Office mentioned in the preceding paragraph and/or
7 to the NETRC.
- 8 5. Issuance of a second copy of the NCAE Certificate of Rating can be
9 requested from NETRC.

10 **Section 14. Limitations** - Results of the National Career Assessment
11 Examination (NCAE) shall not automatically entitle a student for admission into
12 any particular academic or professional course in a higher learning institution
13 which impose its own entrance examination as a requirement for admission.

14 Institutional results of the NCAE should not be used for any other
15 purposes except for career guidance, e.g. ranking and advertisement of schools.

16 **Section 15. Appropriation** - To carry out the provisions of this Act, the
17 sum of Twenty-Million Pesos is hereby annually appropriated as part of the
18 appropriation of the Department of Education out of any funds in the National
19 Treasury not otherwise appropriated.

20 **Section 16. Miscellaneous Provisions** -

- 21 1. Any official, employee or teacher who violates or causes the violation
22 of the provisions of this Act, or commits or causes to commit any acts
23 of dishonesty or misconduct related to the performance of his/her
24 duties in the administration of the National Career Assessment
25 Examination shall be administratively dealt with in accordance with
26 existing Civil Service laws, rules and regulations
- 27 2. Students who commit or cause the commission of any act of
28 dishonesty or misconduct concerning their application to, or in taking
29 the National Career Assessment Examination shall be barred from
30 further taking the same and the correction of their examination papers

1 withheld, without prejudice to any disciplinary administrative action
2 that may be taken against them in accordance with existing rules and
3 regulations of the Department of Education.

4 3. The Secretary of Education may issue from time to time
5 supplementary instructions or directions and/or amendments to any
6 provisions of the rules and regulations implementing this Act as he
7 may deem proper and necessary.

8 **Section 17. Separability Clause** - If for any reason, a portion or provision
9 of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof
10 which are not affected thereby shall be continue to be in full force and effect.

11 **Section 18. Repealing Clause** - All laws, decrees, rules and regulations or
12 parts thereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed,
13 amended or modified accordingly.

14 **Section 19. Effectivity** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
15 following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

16 *Approved,*