

SEVENTEETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'16 AUG 25 A11:27

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Senate Bill No. 1097

Introduced by SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY,
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The legislative branch is the policy-making body of the Republic. It requires competent, efficient and honest public servants to complement the earnest aspiration of lawmakers to serve the people with utmost responsibility, integrity and efficiency.

The Congressional Secretariat officers and employees have the primary responsibility of providing lawmakers with professional, technical and other necessary services for legislation. Such expectations can only be achieved by the recruitment of highly qualified personnel and the provision of a system of training and continuing education program for the legislative officers and employees.

With these in mind, and to maintain the highest level of morale among the personnel assisting in the lawmaking process and to ensure the highest degree of professionalism in the service, it is proposed that the Philippine Legislative Academy be established. Through this measure, the guidelines needed to maintain a high level of technical and professional personnel in the Legislative Branch shall be institutionalized.

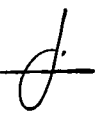
JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO



'16 AUG 25 A11 :27

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1097

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY,
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared a policy of the
2 State to ensure an efficient and credible Career Service of the Legislature
3 (CSL). Toward this end, it is imperative to provide members of the CSL with
4 continuing appropriate education and training.
5

6 The CSL shall include the officers and employees of Congress
7 composed of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Commission
8 on Appointments and the Senate and House of Representatives Electoral
9 Tribunals. It shall also include the career officers and employees of the
10 Philippine Legislative Academy established under this Act.
11

12 SECTION 2. *Objectives.* - It is the purpose of this Act to
13 professionalize, upgrade and strengthen the work force of Congress in order:
14

- 15 a) To enable its officers and employees to efficiently and effectively
16 provide the necessary legislative and administrative support
17 services to Congress and its Members;
18 b) To create a pool of competent and development-oriented career
19 legislative service officers and employees; and
20 c) To provide a system of training and continuing education for
21 personnel in order to ensure that only competent and qualified
22 persons are recruited into the career legislative service officers and
23 employees; and

1
2 **SECTION 3. *Philippine Legislative Academy.*** - To carry out the policy
3 and objectives enunciated in Sections 1 and 2 hereof, there is hereby
4 established a Philippine Legislative Academy, herein referred to as the
5 Academy. The Academy shall be a unit of both Houses of Congress and shall
6 operate under its administration, supervision and control. It shall be located
7 at the House of Representatives, Batasan Complex, Quezon City.
8

9 **SECTION 4. *Functions.*** - The Academy shall serve as a training school
10 for legislative officers and employees for positions in the CSL. For this
11 purpose, it shall provide and implement a curriculum for legislative
12 education as well as conduct seminars, workshops and other training
13 programs to upgrade legislative support services, capabilities and efficiency,
14 and shall perform such other functions as ay be necessary in carrying out its
15 mandate.
16

17 **SECTION 5. *Governing Board.*** - The Academy shall have, as its
18 governing body, a Board of Trustees composed of the Chairperson of the Civil
19 Service Commission, the Secretary of the Senate and the Secretary General of
20 the House of Representatives, as *ex officio* members; and an incumbent Deputy
21 Secretary of the Senate chosen by the Senate President, and an incumbent
22 Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives chosen by the
23 Speaker, both of whom shall have served in such positions for at least five (5)
24 years, as designated members.
25

26 The *ex officio* members of the Board of Trustees shall serve as such for
27 the duration of their incumbency in their respective offices.
28

29 All members shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to
30 a reasonable *honoraria*/allowance for the performance of their duties.
31

32 **SECTION 6. *Executive Board.*** - The Executive Board of the Academy
33 shall be designated by the Board of Trustees, and shall be composed of a
34 Chancellor, two (2) Vice Chancellors and an Executive Secretary. The
35 Executive Board shall serve for a term of three (3) years without prejudice to
36 subsequent reappointments.
37

38 In case of a vacancy in any Executive Board position, the Board of
39 Trustees shall designate a replacement who shall serve in such position for
40 the remainder of the unfinished term.
41

42 The Chancellor shall have a requisite qualifications meritorious service
43 as an incumbent Deputy Secretary of the Senate or an incumbent Deputy
44 Secretary General of the House of Representatives, who shall have served as
45 such for at least three (3) years, and belongs to the ranks of the Career
46 Executive Service.

1
2 A Vice Chancellor shall be chosen from each House. A Vice Chancellor
3 shall have as requisite qualifications meritorious service as an incumbent
4 Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director of the Senate or the House of
5 Representatives, who shall have served as such for at least three (3) years, and
6 belongs to the ranks of the Career Executive Service
7

8 The Executive Secretary shall have the same requisite qualifications
9 and the same compensation at least as a Service Director II. He or she shall
10 serve on a full-time basis and shall be the Recorder-Secretary of the Board of
11 Trustees.
12

13 If no such person meets the abovementioned requirements for any
14 position, the Board of Trustees shall designate such official with the closest
15 qualifications.
16

17 The Chancellor and the Vice Chancellors shall serve without
18 compensation, but shall be entitled to reasonable honoraria/allowance for the
19 performance of their designated duties as determined by the Board of
20 Trustees or as provided by law.
21

22 The members of the Executive Board shall not engage in the private
23 practice of any profession.
24

25 **SECTION 7. *Academy Staff.*** - The Academy shall be staffed by a corps
26 of professional lecturers. A lecturer shall be nominated by any of the members
27 of the Executive Board of the Academy; and, such nomination shall be
28 submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval. Lecturers whose
29 nominations are approved by the Board of Trustees shall be included in the
30 list of lecturers, and shall be entitled to reasonable honoraria/allowance as
31 deemed fit by the Board of Trustees or as provided by law.
32

33 **SECTION 8. *Academic Courses.*** - The academic courses and the
34 publication of a legislative service journal and such other documents shall be
35 determined by the Executive Board and shall be approved by the Board of
36 Trustees.
37

38 **SECTION 9. *Criteria for Selection and Admission to the Academy.*** - The
39 criteria for the selection and admission to the Academy shall be determined
40 by the Executive Board and subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.
41

42 **SECTION 10. *Appointment and Promotion.*** - Legislative officers and
43 employees who have completed the programs prescribed by the Academy
44 and have satisfactorily complied with all the requirements incident thereto
45 shall be given priority for appointment, selection or promotion to any
46 position or vacancy in the CSL.

1
2 **SECTION 11. *Consortium Agreements.*** - The Academy may enter into
3 consortium and similar or related agreements with educational and training
4 institutions for the development and implementation of programs for
5 capability building, career development and legislative orientation.
6

7 **SECTION 12. *Tax Exemptions.*** - The provision of any general or special
8 law to the contrary notwithstanding:
9

- 10 a) All revenues and assets of the Academy used actually, directly
11 and exclusively for educational purposes shall be exempt from all
12 taxes and duties;
13
- 14 b) Gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds to
15 the Academy shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same
16 shall be considered as allowable deductions from the gross
17 income of the donor, in accordance with the provisions of the
18 National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended;
19
- 20 c) Importation of economic, technical, vocational, scientific,
21 philosophical, historical and cultural books, supplies, equipment,
22 machinery and other materials, including scientific and
23 educational computer and software equipment, shall be exempt
24 from customs duties and taxes; and
25
- 26 d) Educational services rendered by the Academy shall be exempt
27 from value-added tax.
28

29 **SECTION 13. *Legislative Academy Fund.*** - All legacies, gifts and
30 donations to the Academy established under this law shall constitute a special
31 fund to be known as the Legislative Academy exclusively for the purpose of
32 this Act.
33

34 **SECTION 14. *Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary to carry out the
35 initial implementation of this Act, including the operation, maintenance and
36 improvement of the Academy, shall be charged against the General
37 Appropriations Act of 2015 and every year thereafter under the programs of
38 the Congress of the Philippines.
39

40 **SECTION 15. *Separability Clause.*** - Should any provision under this
41 Act be deemed invalid, the remainder of this Act not otherwise affected
42 thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
43

44 **SECTION 16. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws and regulations inconsistent
45 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.
46

1 **SECTION 17. *Effectivity Clause.*** -This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
2 days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2)
3 newspapers of general circulation.

Adopted,