**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )**
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )**
***Third Regular Session*** **)**

**SENATE**

**S.B. No. 2073**

'18 OCT 11 P1 :07

**Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto**

**AN ACT**
**REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE *"CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016"***

Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10912, otherwise known as the "Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Act of 2016", requires CPD as a mandatory requirement for the renewal of a Professional Identification Card every three (3) years. The CPD Act lapsed into Law on July 21, 2016 and its implementation started on March 15, 2017, upon the effectivity of Resolution No. 1032 or the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. No. 10912.

R.A. 10912 was enacted "to promote and upgrade the practice of profession in the country ... [and to] ... improve the competence of the professionals in accordance with the international standards of practice, thereby, ensuring their contribution in uplifting the general welfare, economic growth and development of the nation."[1] While the purpose is noble, many certified public accountants challenge the practicality and reasonableness of the extensive CPD requirements imposed on them.[2] Several groups of teachers also point out that even before the implementation of CPD, teachers and other professionals have already been engaging in CPD activities.[3] In addition, a group of nurses reason that a nurse has to cough up Php15,000 to Php30,000 in order to earn the required 45 CPD units, a considerable amount of money given that a nurse's average monthly take-home net pay is Php10,000 for those in the private sector and roughly Php18,000 to Php20,000 in the public sector.[4]

More than a year since its implementation, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) has already received many complaints regarding the operational guidelines of the CPD Act. A poll conducted by the PRC in February 2018 reveal that 95,950 out of 101,000 or 9 out of 10 Facebook users who participated in the survey agreed to abolish the CPD Act.[5]

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[1] Section 2, RA 10912.
[2] Alejandrino, Angelina. (July 22, 2018). *"CPD in the accountancy profession."* Information retrieved at https://businessmirror.com.ph/cpd-in-the-accountancy-profession/ on October 9, 2018.
[3] Hernando-Malipot, Merlina. (February 15, 2018). *"Teachers push for abolition of CPD Law."* Information retrieved at https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/02/15/teachers-push-for-abolition-of-cpd-law/ on October 9, 2018.
[4] Filipino Nurses United. (September 4, 2018). *"Nurses Call for repeal of CPD Law 2016."*
[5] Professional Regulatory Commission. (February 24, 2018). *"PRC Board News Poll Results: 95% agree to repeal CPD Law"*. Information retrieved at https://www.prcboardnews.com/2018/02/prc-board-news-poll-results-95-agree-to-repeal-cpd-law.html on October 9, 2018

Many professionals are against this law due to the costs of undergoing the required trainings, seminars or other activities undertaken that is related to their profession to earn the necessary CPD units. The CPD Act has only made the process costly, more bureaucratic and unnecessarily regulative.

While further training is needed to continuously grow and learn as professionals, it does not come cheap especially to professionals who are just starting to practice their respective careers and earn meager incomes.

Some professionals even have to work in graveyard shifts and do not have the luxury of time to enrol in training programs.

The accessibility of these training programs also poses a challenge as they may not be readily available to professionals in the countryside and, thus, the cost of transportation and board and lodging in attending the required training programs add up to the already exorbitant training costs. This problem is aggravated among OFWS who may not have easy access to affordable training programs abroad.

The CPD requirement becomes an even bigger problem for those who temporarily resort to accepting jobs, usually menial, other than their profession in the absence of job opportunities. It becomes more difficult to update themselves and reintegrate into their chosen profession.

At this time when inflation rate is at a record high, the peso is at its weakest level and oil prices increase almost weekly, Filipinos do not need additional burden to worry about. Thus, this bill seeks to repeal the CPD Act.

In the light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

**RALPH G. RECTO**

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**AN ACT**
**REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "*CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016*"**

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

**SECTION 1.** Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the *"Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016"*, is hereby repealed.

**SEC. 2.** All other laws, executive orders, resolutions, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

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

*Approved,*