

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

S. No. 925

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator **PIA S. CAYETANO**

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**AN ACT**  
**INSTILLING AND STRENGTHENING THE SENSE OF PATRIOTISM AND**  
**NATIONALISM AMONG THE YOUTH THROUGH THE**  
**INSTITUTIONALIZATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND ADMINISTRATION OF**  
**FUNDAMENTAL AND SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS IN THE BASIC EDUCATION**  
**CURRICULUM IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Section 13, Article II of the 1987 Constitution recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and the role of the State in inculcating patriotism and nationalism in the youth and encouraging their involvement in public and civic affairs. In line with this, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte called on Congress to pass a law which shall invigorate nationalism and patriotism among young Filipinos and further promote their role in nation-building.

The proposed bill introduces a Fundamental Program and a Specialized Program, as defined in Section 3 and Section 4 respectively, which endeavor to instill, teach, and strengthen moral values, discipline, patriotism, nationalism, and a strong sense of *bayanihan* among all students.

Considering that the above-mentioned values need to be introduced and taught during the formative years, the Fundamental Program shall form part of the curricula

of basic education in all public and private educational institutions for all students starting as early as Grade 1 up to Grade 12, through the following program components: Physical Fitness, Arts and Cultural Heritage, Community Outreach, Basic Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, and Basic Security.

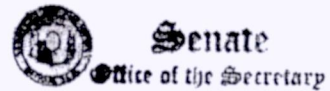
In Senior High School, students shall have the option to take a Specialized Program, in lieu of the Fundamental Program. The Specialized Program shall be offered to students in Grades 11 and 12 in all public and private educational institutions and shall provide advanced and dedicated training to develop the skills of the students in security, survival, and public service through the following program components: Internal Security and Peace and Order, Dedicated Disaster Risk Reduction and Management, Advanced Security, and Career Development.

It bears stressing that it is essential for the Filipino youth to contribute to the preservation and sustainability of our country's available resources. On the other hand, should key commodities such as agricultural crops, timber, fish, and livestock grow scarcer due to natural hazards and external threats, it is inevitable that conflicts will ensue over access to food, water, land, and other necessities in life. Through both the Fundamental and Specialized Programs, our youth shall be equipped with the knowledge and shall be endowed with the necessary skills to better adapt and prepare for said conflicts in the future. And more importantly, through the Fundamental and Specialized Programs, moral virtues, discipline, patriotism, nationalism, and a strong sense of *bayanihan* shall be instilled and developed among the youth so that they may better serve their community and their country as a whole.

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

  
PIA S. CAYETANO

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**INSTILLING AND STRENGTHENING THE SENSE OF PATRIOTISM AND NATIONALISM AMONG THE YOUTH THROUGH THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND ADMINISTRATION OF FUNDAMENTAL AND SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS IN THE BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**

*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 “Youth Patriotism  
2 and *Bayanihan* Act.”

3           **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes the vital role of the  
4 youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual,  
5 intellectual, and social well-being.

6           Towards this end, it shall inculcate moral values, discipline, patriotism,  
7 nationalism, and a strong sense of *bayanihan* in the youth and encourage their  
8 involvement in socio-civic affairs.

9           **Sec. 3. Establishment of the Fundamental Program.** – There is hereby  
10 established a Fundamental Program, which shall form part of the curricula of basic  
11 education in all public and private educational institutions. The Fundamental Program  
12 aims to instill moral values, discipline, patriotism, nationalism, and a strong sense of  
13 *bayanihan* among all students from Grades 1 to 12, through the following service  
14 components:

15           a) *Physical Fitness Program* – designed to instill and develop discipline and an  
16 active and healthy lifestyle among the students in the community;

- 1 b) *Arts and Cultural Heritage Program* – designed to develop the skills of students  
2 in different types of arts and to expose them to the country’s rich culture and  
3 heritage for them to be agents of its promotion and preservation;
- 4 c) *Community Outreach Program* – designed to provide services to the most  
5 vulnerable members of society and improve the lives of the people in the  
6 community, especially in health and education;
- 7 d) *Basic Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Program* – designed to train  
8 students to identify, assess, and reduce the impact caused by natural hazards  
9 and other related disasters; and
- 10 e) *Basic Security Program* – designed to introduce to the students the concept of  
11 soft security, as defined in Section 4, in order to address and respond to threats  
12 to the economy, health, and other factors that affect the sustainability of a  
13 nation, as well as to ensure individual and community security.

14 **Sec. 4. *Establishment of the Specialized Program.*** – In Senior High  
15 School, students shall have the option to take a Specialized Program, in lieu of the  
16 Fundamental Program. The Specialized Program shall be offered to students in Grades  
17 11 and 12 in all public and private educational institutions and shall provide advanced  
18 and dedicated training to develop the skills of the students in security, survival, and  
19 public service. The Specialized Program shall teach and strengthen the moral values,  
20 discipline, patriotism, nationalism, and sense of *bayanihan* of the students through the  
21 following program components:

- 22 a) *Internal Security and Peace and Order Program* - designed to develop  
23 discipline and the skills of students in self-defense, physical training,  
24 peacekeeping, mediation, and other strategies that will protect and  
25 ensure the safety of the community;
- 26 b) *Dedicated Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Program* - designed  
27 to train students on disaster response operations, develop skills for  
28 rescue and relief operations, as well as integration of capacity-building  
29 activities centered on risk-related situations in order for students to be  
30 proactive in lessening the socio-economic and environmental impacts of  
31 disasters;

1 c) *Advanced Security Program* – designed to create a deeper  
2 understanding among students on soft and hard security issues to  
3 enable them to discuss and analyze the issues, with a conflict-preventive  
4 dimension, in order to respond to threats to the security of the State;  
5 and

6 d) *Career Development Program* – designed to further hone and develop  
7 the knowledge and skills of students who are interested to pursue a  
8 career in the military in the fields of engineering, administration, science,  
9 agriculture, energy, information-technology, legal, medical, and other  
10 similar tracks to eventually prepare them for their respective fields in the  
11 future.

12 *Provided*, That participation in the Specialized Program under this Section  
13 shall be credited to a corresponding training program at the tertiary level.

14 *Provided Further*, That for purposes of this Act, soft security shall pertain to  
15 the ability to respond to threats to a nation’s sustainability through the efficient  
16 management of resources and delivery of service in the communities throughout the  
17 nation, while hard security pertains to the ability to respond to security threats to a  
18 nation through the use of military force.

19 **Sec. 5. Coverage.** – The conduct of the Fundamental Program shall apply to  
20 all students, male and female, in Grades 1 to 12 in all public and private educational  
21 institutions: *Provided*, That students who are undergoing similar programs such as,  
22 but not limited to, student council officers, student-athletes, boy scouts, girl scouts,  
23 and other students as may be determined by the school authorities, may credit their  
24 respective trainings in lieu of the Fundamental Program, subject to the approval of the  
25 respective school authorities; *Provided, Further*, That completion of the Fundamental  
26 Program or Specialized Program is a requisite for graduation to tertiary education.

27 **Sec. 6. Management of Program Components.** – The Department of  
28 Education (DepED) shall formulate the guidelines for the development of an age-  
29 appropriate Fundamental Program and Specialized Program: *Provided*, That the school  
30 authorities shall exercise academic and administrative supervision over the design,  
31 adoption, duration, and implementation of the different service components: *Provided*  
32 *Further*, That the DepEd shall oversee and monitor the implementation of the

1 Fundamental Program and Specialized Program to determine if the trainings are being  
2 conducted in consonance with the objectives of this Act.

3 **Sec. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The DepEd, in  
4 consultation with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD),  
5 National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), National  
6 Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), and  
7 the Coordinating Council of Private Educational Associations of the Philippines  
8 (COCOPEA) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective  
9 implementation of this Act within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of the same.

10 **Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared  
11 unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, the validity of the other provisions shall not be  
12 affected thereby.

13 **Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations  
14 or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,