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SENATE
SENATE BILL NO. 1185

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR LACSON

AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING THE INCLUSION OF
GOOD MANNERS AND RIGHT CONDUCT CURRICULUM
STARTING FROM KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3

EXPLANATORY NOTE

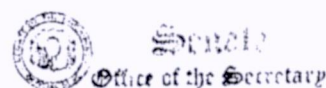
In this day and age, children are raised in a world where social interactions are often changing. This phenomenon is greatly caused by the influence of modern technology on how children are being raised. Its impact is greatly visible in the social skills and manners of our youth. Their attitude, values and perception towards life can be honed if good manners are inculcated upon them from their tender age.

In order to create a balance, it is necessary for our educational system to aid the Filipino family in imparting good manners and right conduct to our young students by its inclusion in the curriculum at the beginning of their school years. In fact, in her call to strengthen good manners and right conduct, Department of Education Secretary Leonor Briones said "*Technology without good manners is a disaster. This is why empathy, compassion and humanity are very important because we cannot pick this up in an online or a technology-driven pedagogy.*"

Hence it is the aim of this act to institutionalize Good Manners and Right Conduct and mandate that the same be taught as a separate subject starting from Kindergarten to Grade 3 to better mold our youth to have strong values and moral foundation which will contribute in shaping a respectable society.

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


PANFILO M. LACSON
Senator



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SENATE BILL NO. **1185**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known henceforth as the "Good Manners
2 and Right Conduct Act of 2019."

3
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of policy.** - It is the policy of the state to develop the
5 character and conduct of the youth. Thus, by allowing the youth to recognize and
6 acknowledge their intrinsic human value, this Act shall enable them to cultivate their
7 ability to make substantial and significant choices for themselves vis-a vis their
8 community, thereby creating a collective culture of love and respect for oneself, for
9 others, and for the nation at large.

10
11 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** - The terms in this Act are defined as follows:
12 (a) Human Dignity - the unique and inherent value or worth of human persons.
13 It is intrinsic, hence, innate, inviolable, inalienable, and universal.

14 (b) Good Manners and Right Conduct - basic social values and etiquette.
15

16 **SEC. 4. Institutionalizing Good Manners and Right Conduct curriculum as a**
17 *separate subject in Kindergarten to Grade 3.* - Taking into account the Edukasyon sa
18 Pagpapakatao curriculum of the Department of Education's K-12 program, the Good
19 Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC) curriculum is hereby institutionalized and shall

1 be designated as a separate subject to be taught in Kindergarten to Grade 3 levels. The
2 GMRC shall inculcate among the students the concepts of human dignity, respect for
3 oneself, and giving oneself to others in the spirit of community, for the effective and
4 holistic development of the decision-making skills of the child. The curriculum shall
5 also focus on the basic tenets of good manners and right conduct, such as but not limited
6 to: caring for oneself, giving concern for others, according proper respect to people,
7 upholding discipline and order, cultivating sincerity, honesty, obedience, and above all,
8 love for country. The teaching method shall be actual or situational, rather than
9 conceptual, thereby allowing the studentry to directly relate to the lessons, readily
10 incorporate them in practice, and make such behavior commonplace.

11

12 **SEC. 5. *Training for Teachers on GMRC.*** – The Department of Education
13 (DepEd) shall carry out the appropriate training for teachers and educators in levels
14 Kindergarten to Grade 3 on GMRC in order to develop and enhance their capacity to
15 teach the subject.

16

17 **SEC. 6. *Implementing Agency.*** – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall
18 be vested with the authority to regulate the implementation of this Act, and ensure that
19 it shall be included in the curriculum of every educational institution at the Kindergarten
20 to Grade 3 levels.

21

22 **SEC. 7. *Implementation Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from
23 the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, is
24 hereby tasked to formulate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

25

26 **SEC. 8. *Funding.*** – The funds necessary to implement the provisions of this Act
27 shall be duly included in the annual budget of the DepEd in accordance with the annual
28 General Appropriations Act.

29

30 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.*** - If, for any reason, any provision or section of
31 this Act shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions or sections
32 hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

33

34 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, presidential decrees and proclamations,
35 executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with
36 this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

37

1 **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of the Philippines, or in at least two
3 (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

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5 Approved,