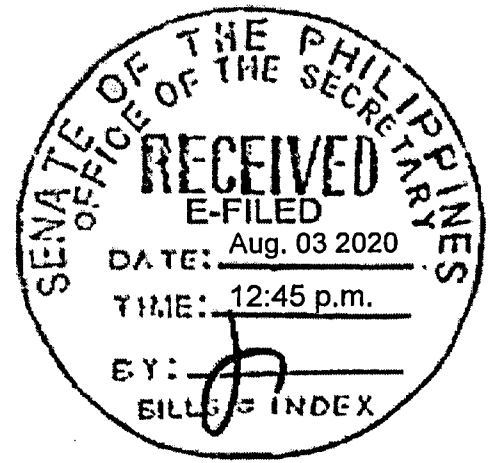


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE
S. B. No. 1757

Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9512, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2008", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Since 1992, United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has been promoting Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) program. ESD highlights the role of children as "agents of change" in their households, schools and communities. This educational effort also aims to help the students to create a more sustainable future in terms of environmental integrity, economic viability, a just society for present and future generations, and engaging them in positive societal transformation.

The worsening conditions of the Philippine environment has led to the enactment of a number of critical legislations like the Solid Waste Management Act, the Clean Air Act, the National Integrated Protected Areas System Act, and the Clean Water Act to address the various pressing environmental issues in the country. The legislature has also resulted in the enactment of Republic Act No. 9512 also known as the "National Environmental Awareness and Education Act" in 2008, to equip our people especially our children and the youth with the necessary consciousness and education on our environment.

R.A. No. 9512 promotes environmental awareness through environmental education by integrating it in the school curricula at all levels of education institutions including the state of the Philippine and global environment, the threats of environmental degradation and its impact on human wellbeing, and the importance of

natural resources conservation and protection in the context of sustainable development. The authors of the law believed that the key to effective inculcation of national consciousness on the importance of conserving the environment is to start at an early age.

Since the implementation of K-12 Curriculum in 2013 as mandated under RA No. 10533 otherwise known as the Enhanced Basic Education Act, the Department of Education (DepEd) has developed programs to promote environmental awareness and education in the different subject areas across all grade levels both in public and private school including learning competencies related to the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation (CCAM) and Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DDRM).

This bill seeks to amend Section 3 of RA No. 9512 to institutionalize the inclusion of learning competencies related to the protection of environment, climate change adaptation and mitigation, and disaster risk reduction and management in the curricula at all levels of education in order to prepare individuals, specially our learners and communities to collaboratively undertake positive environmental action. Further, the bill mandates relevant agencies to initiate innovative practices including the use of digital technology in the teaching of environmental education.

In addition, the absence of provision on funding to implement RA No. 9512 has become one of the major barriers in ensuring the continuity of environmental education in our education system. To address this gap, this bill ensures allotment of budget to various government agencies mandated to implement the provision of the law.

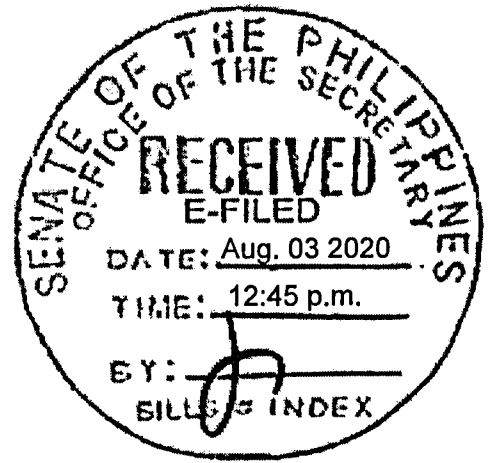
Ultimately, this measure shall provide our children and youth information and educational experiences, for them to make knowledgeable and formative decisions regarding the environment.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought to educate our learners and engage them in actions that would promote protection and preservation of our Mother Earth.



SONNY ANGARA

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9512, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2008", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9512 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **"Section 3. Scope of Environmental Education.** - The
4 Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher
5 Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development
6 Authority (TESDA), **AND** the Department of Social Welfare and
7 Development (DSWD), in coordination with the Department of
8 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department of
9 Science and Technology (DOST) and other relevant agencies, shall
10 integrate environmental education **INCLUDING LAWS ON**
11 **PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE**
12 **ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION (CCAM), AND DISASTER**
13 **RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT (DRRM)** in its school
14 curricula at all levels, whether public or private, including in barangay
15 daycare, preschool, non-formal, technical vocational, professional
16 level, indigenous learning and out-of-school youth courses or
17 programs. **TO PREPARE INDIVIDUALS, SPECIALLY LEARNERS**
18 **AND COMMUNITIES TO COLLABORATIVELY UNDERTAKE**

1 **POSITIVE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION**, [E] environmental
2 education shall encompass environmental concepts and principles
3 environmental laws **ON PROTECTION OF ENVIRONMENT,**
4 **CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION (CCAM),**
5 **AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT**
6 **(DRRM)**, the state of international and local environment, local
7 environmental best practices, the threats of environmental
8 degradation and its impact on human well-being, the responsibility
9 of the citizenry to the environment and the value of conservation,
10 protection and rehabilitation of natural resources and the
11 environment in the context of sustainable development. It shall cover
12 both theoretical and practicum modules comprising activities,
13 projects, programs including, but not limited to, tree planting; waste
14 minimization, segregation, recycling and composting; freshwater and
15 marine conservation; forest management and conservation; relevant
16 livelihood opportunities and economic benefits and other such
17 programs and undertakings to aid the implementation of the different
18 environmental protection law.”

19 **SEC. 2.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9512 is hereby amended to read as
20 follows:

21 **“Section 7. *Capacity-Building.*** - The DepEd, CHED and TESDA, in
22 coordination with the DENR and other relevant agencies, shall
23 undertake capacity-building programs nationwide such as trainings
24 seminars, workshops on environmental education, development and
25 production of environmental education materials, and teacher-
26 education courses and related livelihood programs. **THE RELEVANT**
27 **AGENCIES SHALL INTRODUCE INNOVATIVE PRACTICES**
28 **AND DEVELOP DIGITAL TOOLS IN THE TEACHING OF**
29 **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION.”**

30 **SEC. 3.** A new Section 8 shall be inserted to read as follows, thereafter, the
31 succeeding sections shall be renumbered accordingly:

32 **“SECTION 8. *APPROPRIATIONS.* – SUCH AMOUNTS NECESSARY TO**

1 **EFFECTIVELY IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT SHALL BE**
2 **INCLUDED IN THE BUDGETS OF THE DEPED, CHED, TESDA AND**
3 **DSWD IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.”**

4 **SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, Acts, parts of Acts, rules of court,
5 executive orders, and administrative regulations which are inconsistent with this Code
6 are hereby repealed.

7 **SEC. 5. *Separability Clause*** – If any provision of this Act or the application of
8 such provision to any circumstances is held invalid, the remainder of the Act shall not
9 be affected thereby.

10 **SEC. 6. *Effectivity*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,