

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

Office of the Secretary

'22 AUG -8 P 2 :29

SENATE
S. No. 1096

RECEIVED BY:



Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9173,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002",
PROVIDING FOR AN ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7164 or the "Philippine Nursing Act of 1991" aims to achieve relevant nursing education, humane working conditions, better career prospects, and a dignified existence for the Filipino nurses. This law was repealed by Republic Act No. 9173, otherwise known as the "Philippine Nursing Act of 2002" which seeks to better protect and improve the nursing profession, but still upholding the same revered state policies and aspirations.

These laws are testaments of the importance that the government is giving to the health industry, to the nursing profession, to their contribution to the nation and the economy, and to each and every Filipino nurse who is committed to serve with utmost knowledge, skills and compassion, here in the country and abroad.

Through the years, we have seen the developments in the nursing profession as well as the various concerns and issues that surround it, especially when the COVID-19 pandemic struck. While these are being addressed by concerned government agencies and appropriate legislation and policies, it is also necessary to

revisit the structure and quality of nursing education in the country which serves as the foundation of this profession.

Enhancing nursing education will provide a defined pathway for advanced education that will open opportunities for career development of our nurses. It will not only broaden their roadmap for professional growth; but more importantly, it will empower them as experts in their profession and agents of transformation in the healthcare industry.

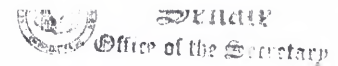
This measure proposes to provide an advanced nursing education program by amending certain sections of Republic Act No. 9173. In particular, it establishes two (2) levels of nursing education, namely: (1) basic program; and, (2) graduate program that will be created pursuant to Republic Act No. 7722 or the "Higher Education Act of 1994". To effectively carry out these programs and ensure that the educators are competent and well-equipped to guide their students, the bill also proposes to elevate the qualifications of the faculty of colleges of nursing.

Through this measure, we foresee a corps of highly-skilled, competent, and dedicated nurses not only in our health institutions but also in the academe who will lead and in turn educate and train future nurses. By building a strong foundation of nursing education, we are looking forward to Filipino nurses taking leadership roles, practicing specialization in various areas, and excelling in fields of research and advanced nursing education.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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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 "*Advanced Nursing*
2 *Education Act of 2022*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 assume responsibility for the protection and improvement of the nursing profession
5 by instituting measures that will result in relevant nursing education, humane working
6 conditions, better career prospects and a dignified existence for our nurses.

7 Sec. 3. Section 25 of Republic Act No. 9173, otherwise known as the "Philippine
8 Nursing Act of 2002", is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 "Sec. 25. [~~Nursing Education Program~~ – The nursing
10 education program shall provide sound general and
11 professional foundation for the practice of nursing.]

12 "[~~The learning experiences shall adhere strictly to~~
13 specific requirements embodied in the prescribed curriculum
14 as promulgated by the Commission on Higher Education's
15 policies and standards of nursing education.] **NURSING**
16 **EDUCATION. – NURSING EDUCATION SHALL REFER**

1 TO THE FORMAL LEARNING AND TRAINING IN THE
2 SCIENCE AND ART OF NURSING PROVIDED BY
3 HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS DULY
4 RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED BY THE CHED.

5 "THERE SHALL BE BASIC AND GRADUATE
6 PROGRAMS FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL
7 BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO.
8 7722, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'HIGHER
9 EDUCATION ACT OF 1994'."

10 Sec. 4. A new Section 25-A is hereby inserted after Section 25 of Republic Act
11 No. 9173, which shall read as follows:

12 "SEC. 25-A. *BASIC AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS*
13 *FOR NURSING EDUCATION.* – THERE SHALL BE A
14 BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH
15 SHALL PROVIDE SOUND LIBERAL AND
16 PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION, AND SHALL EQUIP
17 BASIC NURSING STUDENTS WITH THE NECESSARY
18 COMPETENCIES FOR ENTRY-LEVEL SAFE AND
19 QUALITY NURSING PRACTICE. THE CURRICULUM
20 AND RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCES SHOULD
21 INCLUDE COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND
22 IMMERSION TO ENCOURAGE MORE GRADUATES TO
23 WORK IN A COMMUNITY SETTING. ADMISSION TO
24 THE BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION
25 SHALL REQUIRE PASSING A NATIONAL NURSING
26 ADMISSION TEST (NNAT). THE CURRICULUM AND
27 RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCES MUST BE IN
28 ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL NURSING CORE
29 COMPETENCY STANDARDS TO BE PROMULGATED BY
30 THE BOARD AND IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE
31 POLICIES, STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES OF THE
32 CHED.

1 **"THERE SHALL ALSO BE A GRADUATE PROGRAM**
2 **FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL BE A POST**
3 **BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM, WHICH**
4 **BUILDS ON THE EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS OF A**
5 **NURSE TOWARDS MASTERY, EXPERTISE, AND**
6 **LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE, RESEARCH, AND**
7 **EDUCATION. SUCH PROGRAMS WILL DEVELOP**
8 **HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SKILLS NEEDED FOR NURSING**
9 **PRACTICE IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF ADVANCED**
10 **NURSING, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:**
11 **ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING, AMBULATORY CARE**
12 **NURSING, CRITICAL CARE NURSING, PALLIATIVE**
13 **CARE NURSING, REHABILITATION NURSING, AND**
14 **OTHER SPECIALIZED FIELDS OF ADVANCED**
15 **NURSING. IT SHALL INCLUDE A MASTER'S DEGREE**
16 **AND DOCTORATE DEGREE IN NURSING FOUNDED ON**
17 **THE PHILOSOPHIES, AND THE SCIENTIFIC BODY OF**
18 **KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE. GRADUATE PROGRAM**
19 **FOR NURSING EDUCATION SHALL BE OFFERED ONLY**
20 **IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AS**
21 **PRESCRIBED BY THE PREVAILING CHED POLICIES,**
22 **STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR GRADUATE**
23 **EDUCATION.**

24 **"THE FACULTY-TO-STUDENT RATIO MUST BE IN**
25 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARDS TO BE**
26 **DETERMINED AND PRESCRIBED BY THE CHED."**

27 Sec. 5. Section 27 of Republic Act No. 9173 is hereby amended to read as
28 follows:

29 "Sec. 27. *Qualifications of the Faculty.* – [~~A member of~~
30 ~~the faculty in a college of nursing teaching professional~~
31 ~~courses must:]~~

32 "~~[(a) Be a registered nurse in the Philippines];~~

1 ~~"[(b) Have at least one (1) year of clinical practice in a~~
2 ~~field of specialization];~~

3 ~~"[(c) Be a member of good standing in the accredited~~
4 ~~professional organization of nurses; and,]~~

5 ~~"[(d) Be a holder of a master's degree in nursing,~~
6 ~~education, or other allied medical and health sciences~~
7 ~~conferred by a college or university duly recognized by the~~
8 ~~Government of the Republic of the Philippines.]~~

9 ~~"[In addition to the aforementioned qualifications, the~~
10 ~~dean of a college must have a master's degree in nursing.~~
11 ~~He/she must have at least five (5) years of experience in~~
12 ~~nursing.]~~

13 **"(1) BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING**
14 **EDUCATION. – A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY IN A**
15 **COLLEGE OF NURSING TEACHING PROFESSIONAL**
16 **COURSES:**

17 **"(A) MUST BE A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE**
18 **PHILIPPINES AND A HOLDER OF A CERTIFICATE OF**
19 **REGISTRATION AND A CURRENT PROFESSIONAL**
20 **IDENTIFICATION CARD ISSUED BY THE**
21 **COMMISSION;**

22 **"(B) MUST HAVE AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS OF**
23 **NURSING PRACTICE;**

24 **"(C) MUST BE A HOLDER OF A MASTER'S**
25 **DEGREE IN NURSING, CONFERRED BY A UNIVERSITY**
26 **DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE**
27 **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES; AND,**

28 **"(D) MUST HAVE THE APPROPRIATE**
29 **CERTIFICATE OF NURSING PROFICIENCY, OR ITS**
30 **EQUIVALENT, TO BE ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF**
31 **NURSING.**

1 **"(2) GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR NURSING**
2 **EDUCATION. – A MEMBER OF THE FACULTY TEACHING**
3 **GRADUATE PROFESSIONAL COURSES:**

4 **"(A) MUST COMPLY WITH THE ABOVE**
5 **PARAGRAPHS (A) AND (B) ON BASIC NURSING**
6 **EDUCATION; AND,**

7 **"(B) MUST BE A HOLDER OF A DOCTORAL**
8 **DEGREE IN NURSING CONFERRED BY A UNIVERSITY**
9 **DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE**
10 **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.**

11 **Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* –** Within sixty (60) days after the
12 effectivity of this Act, the Board and the Professional Regulatory Commission, in
13 coordination with the Commission on Higher Education and other concerned
14 government agencies, shall formulate such rules and regulations necessary to carry
15 out the provisions of this Act. The implementing rules and regulations shall be
16 published in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

17 **Sec. 7. *Separability Clause.* –** If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
18 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise
19 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

20 **Sec. 8. *Repealing Clause.* –** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
21 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

22 **Sec. 9. *Effectivity.* –** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,