Servate of the secretary

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

24 MAY -6 A10:49

SENATE S. No. 2653 RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

AN ACT MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF RIZAL AS A NATURALIST AND MEDICAL DOCTOR IN THE TEACHING OF RIZAL IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, COLLEGES, AND UNIVERSITIES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1425, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RIZAL LAW

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Rizal Law, or Republic Act No. 1425 was debated heavily when it was passed in 1956. Since then, the teaching of Jose Rizal's novels in both high school and college has been a means for students to appreciate Jose Rizal.

However, the specificity of the Rizal Law in naming the novels as the major focus of Rizal studies has left the other aspects of Rizal's life and work to be little studied and even less appreciated.

Recent innovations in communication as well as the participation of the creative industries in the dissemination of the life and works of our greatest patriot and renaissance man have bolstered the nation's appreciation of Rizal. Maria Clara at Ibarra, a recent television series that sought to humanize Rizal's characters, as well as numerous plays, conferences, and academic discussions on other aspects of Rizal's life and works have caused a resurgence in interest.

Recent focus on the last four years of his life spent in exile in Dapitan also brought up the lack of further investigation as to his medical practice and his naturalist teachings as well as the curriculum at the school he established there.

Hence a renewed interest in Jose Rizal and his imagining of a great Filipino nation is needed and government support for such studies and teaching is long overdue.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

LOREN LEGARDA



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

Section 1. Section 1 of Act No. 1425 is hereby further amended to read as 1 2 follows: "SECTION 1. Courses on the life, works and writings of Jose Rizal, 3 INCLUDING HIS SCIENTIFIC CONTRIBUTIONS AS A NATURALIST 4 AND MEDICAL DOCTOR, HIS CORRESPONDENCE, AND HIS 5 ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN DAPITAN, AND particularly his novel Noli Me Tangere and El Filibusterismo, shall be included in the curricula of all schools, 7 colleges and universities, public or private: Provided, That in the collegiate courses, the original or unexpurgated editions of the Noli Me Tangere and El 9 Filibusterismo or their English translation shall be used as basic texts. 10 The Board of National Education DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) 11 is hereby authorized and directed to adopt forthwith measures to implement 12 and carry out the provisions of this Section, including the writing and printing 13 of appropriate primers, readers and textbooks, INCENTIVIZATION OF 14

RESEARCH AND FURTHER INQUIRY, AND THE INTEGRATION OF CULTURE, ARTS AND NATURE AS RIZAL DEMONSTRATED IN HIS LIFE. The Board DEPARTMENT shall, within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, promulgate rules and regulations, including those of a disciplinary nature, to carry out, UPDATE and enforce the provisions of this Act. The Board shall promulgate rules and regulations providing for the exemption of students for reasons of religious belief stated in a sworn written statement, from the requirement of the provision contained in the second part of the first paragraph of this section; but not from taking the course provided for in the first part of said paragraph. Said rules and regulations shall take effect thirty (30) days after their publication in the Official Gazette."

Sec. 2. xxx

Sec. 3. Section 3 of Act No. 1425 is hereby further amended to read as follows:

SECTION 3. The DEPED AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) Board of National Education shall cause the translation of the Noli Me Tangere and El Filibusterismo, as well as other writings of Jose Rizal into English, FILIPINO Tagalog and the principal Philippine LANGUAGES dialects; cause them to be printed in cheap, popular editions; and cause them to be distributed, free of charge, to persons desiring to read them, through the SCHOOL AND MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES AND BARANGAY READING CENTERS Purok organizations and Barrio Councils throughout the country.

Sec. 4. A NEW SECTION, SECTION 3A SHALL READ AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 3.A. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. THE CONTINUING STUDY ON THE LIFE OF RIZAL SHALL BE INCENTIVIZED AT ALL LEVELS AND INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, HIS LITERARY WRITINGS, HIS CORRESPONDENCE, HIS SCIENTIFIC WRITINGS AND HIS PHYSICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTS, SUCH AS THE DAPITAN WATERWORKS AND RELIEF MAP, SPECIMENS SUBMITTED IN INSTITUTIONS ABROAD, AS WELL AS ACADEMIC STUDIES ON HOW RIZAL IMAGINED THE FILIPINO NATIONS AS EXTRACTED FROM HIS LIFE AND WORKS.

1	THE DEPED AND THE CHED SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE
2	NATIONAL HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NHCP) AND
3	THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES (NMP) FOR THE
4	FURTHERANCE AND DISSEMINATION OF SUCH RESEARCH. IN THE
5	FULFILLMENT OF THEIR DUTIES UNDER THIS COLLABORATION, THE
6	NHCP AND THE NMP SHALL UNDERTAKE TO REPATRIATE SPECIMENS
7	AND ARTIFACTS CONNECTED TO RIZAL OR SENT BY HIM TO MUSEUMS
8	AND COLLECTIONS ABROAD.
9	Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) Within thirty (30) days from
10	the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Finance, upon recommendation of the
11	Commissioner of Internal Revenue, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
12	regulations for its effective implementation.
13	Sec. 6. Separability Clause If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional
14	or invalid, all other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.
15	Sec. 7. Repealing Clause All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules
16	and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with this Act
17	are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
18	Sec. 8. Effectivity This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
19	publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the
20	Philippines.
21	Approved,