


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session

7 NOV -6 P.M.

SENATE  
S.B. 1816

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Introduced by Senator Villar

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### Explanatory Note

True development commences at the grassroots. The town mayor or the father/mother of cities or the leaders in provinces are the torchbearers of real progress. Their being the basic providers of governmental services are the barometers of what we achieve as a nation and as a people.

As a major catalysts for advancement, the local units play vital roles in responding to the needs of the citizens in communities. It is thus significant that elected local chief executives who are the helm of provincial, cities and municipal governments be professionalised and trained with the rudiments of their works, responsibilities and functions.

It is common knowledge that Governor Vilma Santos-Recto, more than being known as Philippine cinema's great actress, is also respected as a competent public servant. The good Governor has acknowledged that her crash course on governance and leadership in a premier academic institution honed her management acumen and brand of public service. This, the bill wants to achieve.

Early recognition of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
MANNY VILLAR

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7 NOV -6 P1:11

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**AN ACT  
PROFESSIONALIZING LOCAL PUBLIC SECTOR MANAGEMENT  
MANDATING ELECTED LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES TO TAKE A TWO-  
WEEK INTENSIVE LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE COURSE THEREFOR  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the "Local Leaders Professionalization and Education Act of 2007."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is a declared policy of the State that public office is a public trust and that public officers at all times must be accountable to the people and must serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty and efficiency.

To this end, the professionalisation of the ranks of elected local chief executives is an objective of every government. As a major catalysts of development, the local executives play vital roles in nation building and in responding to the needs of the people in the community. Immersing them in issues of national and local significance through a two-week intensive leadership and governance course will capacitate them in formulating development blueprints for the people and deliver effective basic services to the citizens.

SECTION 3. *Mandatory Two-Week Intensive Leadership and Governance Course.* All elected local chief executives shall take a mandatory two-week intensive leadership and governance course.

The two-week intensive leadership and governance course shall include the following areas of study:

- a. The Roles of Chief Executives and the Philippine Constitution and the Local Government Code and relevant laws on local government;
- b. Effective Governance that includes financial/fiscal accountability, citizen participation, equity, best practices in local government management, and transparency;
- c. Administration and Operations of local units including development planning, resource generation, allocation and utilization of available resources, human resources and

- constituency, application of contemporary capacity building strategies and technologies;
- d. Social justice and services that include health and nutrition, decent shelter program, education and scholarships, basic utilities, peace and order and disaster preparedness
  - e. Business and Economic Development including agriculture and fisheries, entrepreneurship and opportunities, employment generation, business and industrial development and local industries promotions;
  - f. Ecology including the study of the problems of the environment, natural resource management, pollution and its treatment, solid waste management and adopting 3Rs of Environmental Initiatives (Recycling, Reduce and Reuse Schemes);
  - g. Preventing Graft and Corruption and Ethical Standards for Elected Government Officials
  - h. Such other courses and areas geared towards improving the quality of life of every citizen and their constituents.

SECTION 4. *Local Chief Executives, Coverage.* The elected local chief executives covered in this Act are the first time provincial governors and vice governors and city and municipal mayors and vice mayors.

A one-week intensive continuing professionalisation and education shall be taken as a course by second- and third-term local executives.

Appropriately, the two-week intensive governance and leadership course shall be conducted in the first one hundred eighty (180) days upon assumption to public office. The one-week mandatory continuing education on governance and leadership shall be conducted thereafter.

SECTION 5. *Leadership and Governance Course, May be Localised.* The leadership and governance course may be conducted in regions or in provinces by respected, highly distinguished and professionally known experts in their areas of studies and concerns. The course shall be conducted and given free of charge.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in coordination and consultation with relevant private and public institutions known for their outstanding advocacies on governance, leadership and management including the Asian Institute of Management, the Development Academy of the Philippines and the University of the Philippines; and the League of Provinces, Cities and Municipalities, shall formulate and issue the appropriate rules and regulations necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* Initially, the sum of fifty million pesos (Php 50,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any funds in the DILG or the Office of the Executive Secretary or the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to carry out the provisions of this Act. Thereafter, the sum needed for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the first year of the term of office (election year) of local executives and shall be included in the appropriation of the DILG

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, orders, decrees and other issuances or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* If any section or part of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, such declaration shall not invalidate other provisions thereof.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.