

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

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE SENATE

TO SEN - 1 P1:11

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 61

Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Career service in the government is an essential factor in the continued smooth delivery of services as well as in the administration and operations of a certain public office. It is the system where government career officers and staff serve as the institutional memory of their respective agencies towards the pursuit of progressive achievement in the public service.

The Civil Service Commission has certainly put up and maintained a professional career service over the years where government employees are recruited and promoted on the basis of a merit-and-seniority system based on their education, knowledge and skills. Actually, it encompasses the three branches of the government—the Executive, the Legislative and the Judiciary.

It may be noted, however, that career service in the executive branch of the government has somehow been the focus throughout and so it has now become well-developed. In fact, there is the Career Executive Service that has already been put in place. On the other hand, similar development had been carried in pursuit of excellence in the Judiciary where the Philippine Judicial Academy has been established more than a decade ago.

In the 14<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Philippine Tax Academy was enacted into law with the mandate of training our tax collectors and customs personnel. Thus, this bill for the Legislative branch of the Government.

The function of the Legislature is altogether a different field of work as it specializes alone on legislation where detailed steps are taken within the process of the legislative mill, which employs laborious committee and plenary work for every bill passed into law. And apart from legislating proposed measures, Congress also conducts inquiries and investigations, in aid of legislation, on various socio-economic and political issues.

As such, it is about time that career service in the Legislative branch of government should now be given focus and attention. The Congress of the Republic of the Philippines equally needs a set of career service officials and employees who are adequately trained and attuned to the needs of legislative work.

It is imperative that officials and employees in Congress are able to provide efficient technical as well as administrative support to our legislators considering that

technical research and bill drafting and administrative management are the primary roles that must be effectively performed by them.

Thus, this bill seeks to establish a Legislative Career Service, a Legislative Career Service Board and a Legislative Academy which would govern and ensure the recruitment and training of prospective legislative career service officers and employees in Congress. The Academy would likewise serve as a venue for training prospective and elected legislators on parliamentary rules, precedents, practices, and traditions, including the process of the legislative mill.

It is on this note that the urgent approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: KA

S. No. 61

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Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

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**AN ACT  
CREATING THE PHILIPPINE LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY, DEFINING ITS  
POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR  
OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 “*Philippine*  
2 *Legislative Academy Act of 2010*”.

3           **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared to be the policy of  
4 the State to enhance and develop our human resources in the civil service to  
5 provide effective and efficient administrative and technical support, particularly in  
6 the field of policy making. The State recognizes that Congress of the Philippines  
7 requires career service officials and employees adequately trained in providing  
8 technical support in the conduct of inquiries and investigation, bill drafting,  
9 administrative management, preparation of committee reports, and legislation  
10 making. For this purpose, the State recognizes the need to create a specialized  
11 training institution that will provide the appropriate education, training, and skills to  
12 the career service officials and employees of the Legislature.

13           **Section 3. Objective.** – This Act aims to upgrade, strengthen, and  
14 professionalize the Legislative Branch of the Government to ensure that the  
15 legislative officials, employees, prospective and elected legislators are adequately  
16 trained on legislation making, including the process of legislative mill and plenary  
17 work for every bill passed into law. Towards this end, a continuing professional  
18 development with pool of competent and development-oriented legislative career  
19 service officers and employees shall be maintained.

20           **Section 4. Creation of the Philippine Legislative Academy.** – To carry out  
21 the policy under this Act, there is hereby created a corporate body to be known as  
22 the “*Philippine Legislative Academy*” which shall have the attribute of perpetual

1 succession and possessed of the powers of corporations, to be exercised in  
2 conformity with the provisions of this Act.

3 **Section 5. Purpose.** - The Philippine Legislative Academy shall serve as  
4 the primary training institution that will provide continuing education, training,  
5 seminar, conferences, workshops for professional development of the legislative  
6 officials, employees, and prospective and elected Members of the Congress. For  
7 this purpose, it shall be managed by the Legislative Governing Board.

8 The Academy shall develop and implement a curriculum in training models  
9 pertaining to (a) the technical aspects of legislation making, (b) career officer  
10 orientation, and (c) development for civil servants.

11 **Section 6. Corporate Powers.** The Philippine Legislative Academy shall, in  
12 carrying out the purposes for which it was created, have the following powers:

13 (a) To adopt, alter and use a corporate seal;

14 (b) To take and hold by bequest, devise, gift, purchase , or lease, either  
15 absolutely or in trust for any of its purposes, any property, real or  
16 personal, without limitation as to amount or value; to convey such  
17 property and to invest any principal, and deal with and expend the income  
18 and principal of the Philippine Legislative Academy in such manner that  
19 will best promote its objectives;

20 (c) To collect, receive and maintain a fund or funds, by subscription or  
21 otherwise, and to apply the income and principal thereof to the promotion  
22 of its aims and purposes herein before set out;

23 (d) To contract any obligation, or enter into any agreement necessary or  
24 incidental to the proper management of its corporate powers and

25 (e) In general, to carry on any activity and to have and exercise all of the  
26 powers conferred by the laws upon private or government-owned or  
27 controlled corporations.

28 **Section 7. Governing Board.** – The Philippine Legislative Academy shall  
29 have a governing board to be composed of the Secretary of the Senate as ex-  
30 officio Chairperson, the Secretary General of the House of Representatives, ex-  
31 officio Vice Chairperson; one (1) Career Official from among the officials and  
32 employees of the Senate to be designated by the President of the Senate, one (1)  
33 Career Official from among the officers and employees of the House of  
34 Representatives to be designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
35 and the Chairpersons of Civil Service Commission and Commission on Higher  
36 Education or their representative. The Members of the Board shall serve for a term  
37 of three (3) years, without prejudice to subsequent re-appointment. In case of  
38 vacancy in the Board, the person so appointed or designated shall serve for the

1 unexpired term. The members of the Governing Board shall serve without  
2 compensation for the performance of their functions but they shall be entitled to  
3 reasonable honoraria/allowance pursuant to existing laws and regulations.

4 **Section 8. *The Executive Officers.*** – The Executive Officials of the  
5 Academy shall be composed of a Chancellor, a Vice-Chancellor, and an Executive  
6 Director, to be appointed by the Senate President for a term of three (3) years  
7 without prejudice to subsequent reappointment.

8 **Section 9. *The Corps of Professional Lecturers.*** - The Philippine  
9 Legislative Academy shall be staffed by a Corps of Professional Lecturers with  
10 sufficient knowledge, education, training, and actual experience in policy making,  
11 public finance and development administration, among others. A lecturer shall be  
12 appointed by the Governing Board, upon nomination of any member, and shall be  
13 exempt from the requirements and restrictions of the Civil Service Law, laws, rules  
14 and regulations on position-qualification and salary standardization. For the purpose  
15 of filling up the staffing requirements for the Corps of Professional Lecturers,  
16 officers, employees or personnel of the Philippine Senate, the House of  
17 Representatives and the Commission on Appointments may be transferred to and  
18 from the Academy and their respective institutions.

19 **Section 10. *Staff Appointments.*** – Any provision of law to the contrary  
20 notwithstanding, appointments to the administrative or research staff of the  
21 Philippine Legislative Academy may be on a full-time basis or part-time basis, and  
22 shall be covered by the requirements and restrictions of the Civil Service Law, laws,  
23 rules and regulations on position-classification and salary standardization. For the  
24 purpose of filling up the staffing requirements, officers, employees or personnel of  
25 the Bureau of Internal Revenue, Bureau of Customs, and Bureau of Local  
26 Government Finance may be transferred to and from the Academy and their  
27 respective institutions.

28 **Section 11. *Authority to Enter Into Consortium.*** – The Academy may  
29 enter into consortium agreements with the Centers of Excellence, Centers of  
30 Development and other reputable training institutions (local and foreign) for the  
31 development of the curriculum, programs for orientation, career development and  
32 continuing legislative education.

33 **Section 12. *Special Fund.*** - All legacies, gifts, and donations to the  
34 Academy shall constitute a special fund to be known as the Philippine Legislative  
35 Academy Fund which shall be administered by the Board exclusively for the use of  
36 the Academy.

37 All incomes, legacies, gifts, donations for the benefit of the Academy shall be  
38 exempt from the payment of all forms of taxes and duties, donor's tax, fees, income

1 tax, real estate, assessments, and other charges of the government its agencies,  
2 instrumentalities, branches and subdivisions.

3 **Section 13. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the initial  
4 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations  
5 of the Congress. The President of the Senate, with respect to the Senate and the  
6 Commission on Appointments, and the Speaker, with respect to the House of  
7 Representatives, are hereby authorized to realign any portion of their respective  
8 appropriations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

9 **Section 14. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The President of the  
10 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall jointly promulgate  
11 such rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

12 **Section 15. Separability Clause.** - If for any reason, any section or  
13 provision of this Act is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections  
14 or provisions hereof which are not affected hereby, shall continue to be in full force  
15 and effect.

16 **Section 16. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and  
17 regulations, policies, programs or parts thereof, that are inconsistent with any of the  
18 provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

19 **Section 17. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
20 from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general  
21 circulation.

22 *Approved.*