

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1228



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVES ENRICO A. PINEDA and
MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO, PhD.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the more critical resources of the country that has been contributing much to the improvement of its economy is its labor force. It accounts for over half of the national population placing the Philippines 13th in the world among countries with the most available pool of workers. The abundance of labor in the Philippines, plus the fact of having one of the more educated and highly skilled people in our side of the world, makes the country one of the more attractive havens for investments.

In that regard, protection of the labor force has been an imperative for the government and no less that the Philippine Constitution provides that the state shall protect the rights of the workers and promote their welfare. Consequently, numerous laws have been enacted regulating regular work hours, mandating a minimum wage, rest periods and overtime pay, among others and many regard that the Philippine labor policy is one that is more biased to labor.

However, much has to be achieved to ensure that the labor force is made aware of the rights and privileges extended by the existing labor policies. It is but fitting that individuals undergoing tertiary education, before they are immersed into work and be part of the labor force, be educated of the labor laws through a compulsory subject offered in college.

This proposed bill was filed in the 17th Congress, underwent thorough deliberations and was subsequently passed on the Third Reading. Hence, immediate passage of this measure is earnestly prayed for.

ENRICO A. PINEDA
1PACMAN

MICHAEL ODYLON L. ROMERO, PhD
1PACMAN

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Introduced by REPRESENTATIVES ENRICO A. PINEDA and
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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

**AN ACT INTEGRATING LABOR EDUCATION INTO THE SOCIAL SCIENCE
SUBJECTS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Labor Education Act".

SECTION 2. It is the policy of the State to protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare, living and working conditions, and terms of employment. Towards this end, the State shall put in place a mechanism to educate the youth on the rights and welfare of the workers and promote a society that is responsive and sensitive to the needs of the labor sector.

SECTION 3. As used in this Act:

- (a) Higher Education Curriculum refers to the general education curriculum designed for students taking up courses in higher education institutions leading to a degree;
- (b) Labor Education refers to the teaching of labor rights, workers' welfare and benefits, core labor standards, labor laws and regulations, the national and global labor situation, labor market concerns, labor issues, overseas work and related problems, the nature of human labor, the role of labor in the self-realization of the human being, the foundations of the dignity of labor and other topics related to labor and employment;
- (c) Social Science subjects refer to subjects pertaining to the branches of science that deal with the institutions, functioning and aspects of human society and the inter-personal relationships of individuals as members of society.

SECTION 4. Labor education shall be integrated into the mandatory social sciences subjects being offered under the general education curriculum in the higher education courses.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED), pursuant to its mandate under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the Higher Education Act of 1994," shall develop the program to execute and implement this Act.

SECTION 5. If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of other provisions.

SECTION 6. All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,