Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2117

Introducer by Representative Jose Enrique Garcia III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution enshrines a myriad of policies to lay down the framework by which the State institutions operate, develop and conserve its resources, and secure the welfare and well-being of the governed. Among such policies include the recognition by the State of its responsibilities to:

1. inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs;

2. foster the appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline;

3. foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of a Filipino national culture based on the principle of unity in diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression; and

4. conserve, promote, and popularize the nation’s historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations.

To breathe life to the abovementioned policies, this bill seeks the inclusion of mandatory visitation of historical landmarks, monuments, and cultural heritage sites, as part of the off-campus activities of all public and private schools in the country. This aims to truly promote and popularize our historical and cultural heritage, and inculcate patriotism and nationalism among Filipinos, especially the youth.

Support for this bill is earnestly requested from my colleagues.

REP. JOSE ENRIQUE S. GARCIA III
Second District, Bataan
AN ACT
MANDATING THE INCLUSION OF VISITS TO HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES AS PART OF THE OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10066, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "NATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE ACT OF 2009"

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

SECTION 1. Section 39 of Republic Act No. 10066 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 39. Cultural Heritage Education Program. - Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and the Commission on Higher Education, in consultation with the Commission, shall set forth in its teaching programs nationwide the following cultural heritage education programs with emphasis at the provincial, city and municipal levels:

(a) Protection, conservation and preservation of cultural heritage properties;

(b) Instructional materials in print, film and broadcast media on the cultural and historical significance of cultural properties; and

(c) Visitation, public accessibility and information dissemination on designated local cultural properties.

SEC. 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall jointly promulgate the rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 3. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.