Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES **Quezon City**

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 4327



Introduced by: HONORABLE MARISOL C. PANOTES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to mandate the Department of Education (DepEd) to incorporate first aid in the Physical Education (P.E.) subject in elementary and secondary school curriculum in both public and private schools in the country.

It is worthy to emphasize that first aid is an important life skill that will effectively reduce fatalities, and enables the faster treatment of injuries. It has also an important role to play in providing pupils with a sense of purpose and achievement, giving them the necessary skills that will potentially save lives.

Considering the fact that there are some rigorous physical activities in schools that are vital parts of the school curriculum, some physically unfit school children may not be able to cope with such activities that may result in some unfortunate incidents that even school authorities may not be ready to handle.

Many people believe, including those from the Red Cross, that school children must be taught first aid primarily because its objectives according to some experts are to preserve life, prevent illness or injury from becoming worse, relieve pain, if possible, promote recovery, and protect the unconscious.

According to published scientific study, "Less than one in 10 people survive an out of hospital cardiac arrest in the United Kingdom, but evidence suggests nearly one in four could survive if all young people are trained with lifesaving CPR skills." And so, after years of tireless campaigning, first aid skills and Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) will become part of compulsory health education in all schools in England from 2020 to send a clear message that they are committed to empowering young people with lifesaving skills they will take in to adulthood.

The foregoing reasons warrant the immediate approval of this important legislative measure.

Second District, Camarines Norte

Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Ouezon City

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DepEd) TO INCORPORATE FIRST AID IN THE PHYSICAL EDUCATION (P.E.) SUBJECT IN ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULUM IN BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "First Aid in School Act of 2019."

- SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Toward this end, every school children must be taught basic first aid to help them to stay safe, and equip them with the necessary skills in order to save lives in emergency situations.
- SEC. 3. Mandate. The Department of Education (DepEd) is hereby mandated to incorporate first aid in the Physical Education (P.E.) subject in elementary and secondary school curriculum in both public and private schools.
- **SEC. 4.** *Rules and Regulations.* The DepEd shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.
- SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,