

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3621



Introduced by **HON. GUS S. TAMBUNTING**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution Article II Section 17 declares that the State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports for the purpose of fostering patriotism and nationalism, accelerating social progress, and promoting total human liberation and development. Further, it affirms labor as a primary social economic force, protecting the rights of workers and promoting the welfare of the workers (Article II Section 18).

The Labor Code of the Philippines was primarily enacted for the protection of labor and ensuring industrial peace based on social justice. However, with over 37 million Filipinos in the labor force, not all of them are aware of their rights. In this regard, it is important for fully appreciate and implement its intention.

To respond to this situation and to mitigate the growing number of labor unrests, it is timely to include in the college curriculum basic labor education. With this, the future of the labor force will be equipped and ensured of the protection of their rights. In the same vein, future members of the management will be aware of the rights of their employees as well as the labor standards they should comply.

It is for these reasons that the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


GUS S. TAMBUNTING

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) TO
INCLUDE LABOR EDUCATION IN THE TERTIARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

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 "Labor Education Act of 2016."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be used:

A. "Labor Education" means the teaching of labor rights, worker's welfare and benefits, core labor standards, labor laws and regulations, national and global labor situation, labor market concerns, labor issues, overseas work and related problems, and other topics related to labor and employment.

B. "CHED" means the Commission on Higher Education.

SECTION 4. *Appropriations.* – The sum necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current appropriations of CHED. Thereafter, the fund necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, presidential proclamation, rules, regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,