



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5576

---

BY REPRESENTATIVES DEFENSOR, ESCUDERO, DURANO, NOGRALES (K.A.), CAGAS, ORTEGA (P.), BORDADO, FERRER (J.), RAMOS, ERIGUEL, GO (M.), TAN (A.), BOLILIA, GONZAGA, SAGARBARRIA, HERRERA-DY, ORTEGA (V.N.), DALIPE, PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, SUANSING (E.), VILLARICA, SALCEDA, DIMAPORO (M.K.), DEL MAR, LOBREGAT, BATAOIL, ABAYA, ARCILLAS, TEJADA, CHAVEZ, TUPAS, DELOSO-MONTALLA, SAVELLANO, CAMINERO, ROQUE (R.), AMATONG, GONZALEZ, BAGATSING, GONZALES (A.D.), SY-ALVARADO, SALO AND MANGAOANG, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 220

---

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CAREER GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING PROGRAM FOR ALL SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Secondary School  
2 Career Guidance and Counseling Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the role of the  
4 youth in nation building and in the acceleration of social progress. In this  
5 regard, the State shall ensure their total development by promoting relevant  
6 education that shall generate human resources that shall be responsive to the  
7 needs of the government, industry, and the economy.

8 SEC. 3. *Objectives.* – This Act shall pursue the following objectives:

9 (a) To institutionalize a career guidance and counseling program for  
10 students in all public and private secondary schools nationwide in order to  
11 provide them proper direction in pursuing subsequent tertiary education;

1 (b) To equip secondary education students with the capability to make  
2 educated career decisions and expose them to relevant labor markets; and

3 (c) To ensure graduates of tertiary education meet the requirements of  
4 the government, industry, and the economy.

5 SEC. 4. *Creation of a National Secondary School Career Guidance  
6 and Counseling Program.* – There is hereby created a National Secondary  
7 Schools Career Guidance and Counseling Program (CGCP) to be administered  
8 by the Department of Education (DepED). It shall be implemented in all  
9 public and private secondary education institutions and shall commence at the  
10 Grade 7 level. It shall be a prerequisite to senior high school graduation.

11 For this purpose, the DepED shall, in coordination with the Professional  
12 Regulation Commission (PRC), accredited professional organizations on  
13 guidance counseling, Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical  
14 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Labor  
15 and Employment (DOLE), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), National  
16 Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and Parent-Teacher  
17 Associations (PTAs), formulate, develop and review a Career Guidance and  
18 Counseling Instructional Module (CGCIM), which shall serve as the basic  
19 instructional material to guide secondary students in their pursuit for  
20 meaningful and rewarding tertiary education based on their capacity and skills,  
21 the accessibility of public tertiary education institutions, the labor market, and  
22 the requirements and expectations of the government, industry, and the  
23 economy.

24 SEC. 5. *CGCP Centers.* – There shall be established a CGCP Center in  
25 all secondary schools, to be headed by the school administrator who shall be  
26 assisted by a trained career and employment guidance counselor. The CGCP  
27 Center shall function as a resource center for the implementation of the CGCP  
28 and shall be primarily responsible for providing guidance and counseling  
29 based on the CGCIM: *Provided*, That in accordance with Section 9 of

1 Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the “Enhanced Basic Education  
2 Act of 2013”, and notwithstanding the provisions of Section 27 of Republic  
3 Act No. 9258, otherwise known as the “Guidance and Counseling Act of  
4 2004”, career and employment guidance counselors who are not registered  
5 with the PRC shall be allowed to conduct career advocacy activities to  
6 secondary level students of the school where they are currently employed:  
7 *Provided, further,* That they undergo a training program developed and  
8 accredited by the DepED.

9 SEC. 6. *National Career Assessment Examination.* – The DepED,  
10 through the National Education Testing and Research Center, shall conduct an  
11 annual National Career Assessment Examination (NCAE) among students in  
12 the appropriate grade level in all public and private secondary schools  
13 nationwide as a tool to assess and evaluate the aptitude, skill or inclination of  
14 the student in a particular occupational field and to serve as guide for the  
15 students in choosing their respective courses or career options.

16 The DepED Secretary shall determine the content of the NCAE, the  
17 date of examination, the location of examination centers, and the appropriate  
18 grade level of examinees, and shall issue the guidelines necessary for the  
19 effective implementation of the NCAE.

20 The DepED Secretary shall review the content of the NCAE from time  
21 to time and make revisions, as may be deemed necessary, to maintain the  
22 relevance, validity, and integrity of the examination.

23 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The DepED Secretary shall immediately  
24 include in the Department’s program the implementation of this Act, the  
25 funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

26 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90)  
27 days from the approval of this Act, the DepED shall, in consultation with the  
28 PRC, CHED, TESDA, DOLE, DTI, and NEDA, promulgate the necessary  
29 rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

1 SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held  
2 invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in  
3 force and effect.

4 SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules  
5 and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are  
6 hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

7 SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
8 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

O