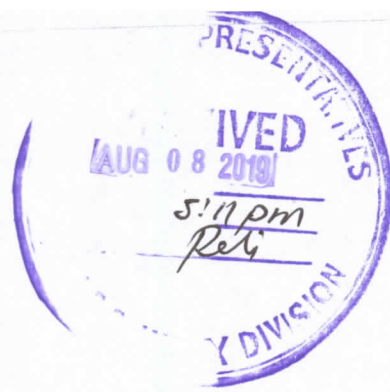


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. **3736**


EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the Philippines Statistics Authority, sixty percent of the population 15 years old and over are in the labor force. The total population 15 years old and over was estimated at 72.5 million wherein the number of persons who were in the labor force was reported at 43.7 million. The country's employment rate is at 94.8 percent.

Further, the number of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who worked abroad at any time during the period April to September 2018 was estimated at 2.3 million.

These numbers just show that labor plays a very important role in our economy. However, despite this, many Filipinos still do not have a working knowledge of the rights of labor and what they are entitled to. This is why it is important to have labor education in the curriculum.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly requested.


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Bill No. 3736

AN ACT
MANDATING THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION TO INCLUDE LABOR
EDUCATION AS AN ELECTIVE IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as "Labor Education Act."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act:

- (a) *Higher Education Curriculum* shall refer to the general education curriculum designed for students taking up courses leading to a degree;
- (b) *Labor Education* shall refer 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;

SEC. 4. Inclusion of Labor Education as an Elective in the Higher Education Curriculum. - Pursuant to its mandate under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994", the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), is hereby mandated to develop a labor education course as an elective in the higher education curriculum.

SEC. 5. Appropriations. - Such sums as may be necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current year's appropriations of CHED. Thereafter, the amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. Separability Clause. - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. - 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.

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

Approved,