



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6101

BY REPRESENTATIVES NOGRALES, DEFENSOR (A.), GONZALES (N.),
REMULLA, GONZALEZ, CUA (J.), LAGMAN, MAGSAYSAY, DE GUZMAN,
AGBAYANI, VELARDE AND ROMULO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 1869

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE LEGISLATIVE ACADEMY,
DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Policy.* – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to
2 ensure an efficient and credible Career Service of the Legislature (CSL).
3 Toward this end, it is imperative to provide members of the CSL with
4 continuing appropriate education and training.

5 The CSL shall include the officers and employees of Congress
6 composed of the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Commission on
7 Appointments and the Senate and House of Representatives Electoral
8 Tribunals. It shall also include the career officers and employees of the
9 *Philippine Legislative Academy established under this Act.*

1 SEC. 2. *Objectives.* – It is the purpose of this Act to professionalize,
2 upgrade and strengthen the work force of Congress in order:

3 (a) To enable its officers and employees to efficiently and effectively
4 provide the necessary legislative and administrative support services to
5 Congress and its Members;

6 (b) To create a pool of competent and development-oriented career
7 legislative service officers and employees; and

8 (c) To provide a system of training and continuing education for
9 personnel in order to ensure that only competent and qualified persons are
10 recruited into the career legislative service.

11 SEC. 3. *Philippine Legislative Academy.* – To carry out the policy and
12 objectives enunciated in Sections 1 and 2 hereof, there is hereby established a
13 Philippine Legislative Academy, herein referred to as the Academy. The
14 Academy shall be a unit of both Houses of Congress and shall operate under its
15 administration, supervision and control. It shall be located at the House of
16 Representatives, Batasan Complex, Quezon City.

17 SEC. 4. *Functions.* – The Academy shall serve as a training school for
18 legislative officers and employees for positions in the CSL. For this purpose, it
19 shall provide and implement a curriculum for legislative education as well as
20 conduct seminars, workshops and other training programs to upgrade
21 legislative support services, capabilities and efficiency, and shall perform such
22 other functions as may be necessary in carrying out its mandate.

23 SEC. 5. *Governing Board.* – The Academy shall have, as its governing
24 body, a Board of Trustees composed of the Chair of the Civil Service
25 Commission, the Secretary of the Senate and the Secretary General of the
26 House of Representatives, as *ex officio* members; and an incumbent Deputy
27 Secretary of the Senate chosen by the Senate President, and an incumbent
28 Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives chosen by the

1 Speaker, both of whom shall have served in such positions for at least five (5)
2 years, as designated members.

3 The *ex officio* members of the Board of Trustees shall serve as such for
4 the duration of their incumbency in their respective offices.

5 All members shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to a
6 reasonable *honoraria*/allowance for the performance of their duties.

7 SEC. 6. *Executive Board.* – The Executive Board of the Academy shall
8 be designated by the Board of Trustees, and shall be composed of a
9 Chancellor, two (2) Vice Chancellors and an Executive Secretary. The
10 Executive Board shall serve for a term of three (3) years without prejudice to
11 subsequent reappointments.

12 In case of a vacancy in any Executive Board position, the Board of
13 Trustees shall designate a replacement who shall serve in such position for the
14 remainder of the unfinished term.

15 The Chancellor shall have as requisite qualifications meritorious
16 service as an incumbent Deputy Secretary of the Senate or an incumbent
17 Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives, who shall have
18 served as such for at least three (3) years, and belongs to the ranks of the
19 Career Executive Service.

20 A Vice Chancellor shall be chosen from each House. A Vice
21 Chancellor shall have as requisite qualifications meritorious service as an
22 incumbent Executive Director or Deputy Executive Director of the Senate or
23 the House of Representatives, who shall have served as such for at least
24 three (3) years, and belongs to the ranks of the Career Executive Service.

25 The Executive Secretary shall have the same requisite qualifications and
26 the same compensation at least as a Service Director II. He or she shall serve
27 on a full-time basis and shall be the Recorder-Secretary of the Board of
28 Trustees.

1 If no such person meets the abovementioned requirements for any
2 position, the Board of Trustees shall designate such official with the closest
3 qualifications.

4 The Chancellor and the Vice Chancellors shall serve without
5 compensation, but shall be entitled to reasonable *honoraria*/allowance for the
6 performance of their designated duties as determined by the Board of Trustees
7 or as provided by law.

8 The members of the Executive Board shall not engage in the private
9 practice of any profession.

10 SEC. 7. *Academy Staff.* – The Academy shall be staffed by a corps of
11 professional lecturers. A lecturer shall be nominated by any of the members of
12 the Executive Board of the Academy; and, such nomination shall be submitted
13 to the Board of Trustees for approval. Lecturers whose nominations are
14 approved by the Board of Trustees shall be included in the list of lecturers, and
15 shall be entitled to reasonable *honoraria*/allowance as deemed fit by the Board
16 of Trustees or as provided by law.

17 SEC. 8. *Academic Courses.* – The academic courses and the
18 publication of a legislative service journal and such other documents shall be
19 determined by the Executive Board and shall be approved by the Board of
20 Trustees.

21 SEC. 9. *Criteria for Selection and Admission to the Academy.* – The
22 criteria for the selection and admission to the Academy shall be determined by
23 the Executive Board and subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

24 SEC. 10. *Appointment and Promotion.* – Legislative officers and
25 employees who have completed the programs prescribed by the Academy and
26 have satisfactorily complied with all the requirements incident thereto shall be
27 given priority for appointment, selection or promotion to any position or
28 vacancy in the CSL.

1 SEC. 11. *Consortium Agreements.* – The Academy may enter into
2 consortium and similar or related agreements with educational and training
3 institutions for the development and implementation of programs for capability
4 building, career development and legislative orientation.

5 SEC. 12. *Tax Exemptions.* – The provision of any general or special
6 law to the contrary notwithstanding:

7 (a) All revenues and assets of the Academy used actually, directly and
8 exclusively for educational purposes shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;

9 (b) Gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds to
10 the Academy shall be exempt from the donor’s tax and the same shall be
11 considered as allowable deductions from the gross income of the donor, in
12 accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997,
13 as amended;

14 (c) Importation of economic, technical, vocational, scientific,
15 philosophical, historical and cultural books, supplies, equipment, machinery
16 and other materials, including scientific and educational computer and software
17 equipment, shall be exempt from customs duties and taxes; and

18 (d) Educational services rendered by the Academy shall be exempt
19 from value-added tax.

20 SEC. 13. *Legislative Academy Fund.* – All legacies, gifts and donations
21 to the Academy established under this law shall constitute a special fund to be
22 known as the Legislative Academy Fund. This fund shall be administered and
23 disbursed by the Board of Trustees of the Academy exclusively for the
24 purposes of this Act.

25 SEC. 14. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the
26 initial implementation of this Act, including the operation, maintenance and
27 improvement of the Academy, shall be charged against the General

1 Appropriations Act of 2009 and every year thereafter under the programs of
2 the Congress of the Philippines.

3 SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.* – Should any provision under this Act be
4 deemed invalid, the remainder of this Act not otherwise affected thereby shall
5 remain in full force and effect.

6 SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws and regulations inconsistent
7 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

8 SEC. 17. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
9 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2)
10 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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