

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

'22 JUL -7 P4:54

SENATE

S. No. 191



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Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

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**AN ACT  
AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT 9173 OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS THE PHILIPPINE NURSING ACT OF 2002, PROVIDING FOR AN  
ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Filipino nurses are world-renowned for their skill, inherent compassion, and eagerness to provide care for their fellow people. The success of our nurses has brought recognition of our skill and qualities as a nation. Further, there has never been any doubt as regards the contribution Filipino nurses have made for the benefit of our economy.

It must be noted, however, that despite the perception of having a burgeoning and successful local nursing industry, education programs employed by our local nursing educational institutions, at times, appear to be too focused on churning out batches of graduates for immediate forays abroad in search of opportunities. Too much emphasis has been placed in producing nursing degree-holders, that the opportunity to further educate our nurses in advanced programs has been overlooked.

Advanced nursing education programs have the capacity to further catapult our nurses to realize greater opportunities through the opening up of leadership roles, specialization in specific practice areas, and recognition in the fields of research and advanced nursing education. Given the immense number of nursing degree holders produced in this country, the development of advanced nursing programs shall benefit

not only our nurses, but also the educational institutions who shall cater to a potentially large demand for advanced nursing education.

By introducing a new dimension to the local nursing education program and opening a whole new aspect of nursing education not previously tapped, we can elevate our status further to be recognized as a producer of leaders, experts, and authorities in the field of nursing.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is hereby earnestly sought.

  
**SENATOR CHRISTOPHER/LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO** ✓

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* — This Act shall be known as the "Advanced Nursing  
2 Education Act of 2022".

3  
4 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to  
5 assume responsibility for the protection and improvement of the nursing profession  
6 by instituting measures that will result in relevant nursing education, humane working  
7 conditions, better career prospects and a dignified existence for our nurses.

8  
9 Sec. 3. Section 25 of Republic Act No. 9173, otherwise known as the Philippine  
10 Nursing Act of 2002 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 ~~"Section 25. [Nursing Education Program.—The nursing education~~  
12 ~~program shall provide sound general and professional foundation for~~  
13 ~~the practice of nursing. The learning experiences shall adhere strictly~~  
14 ~~to specific requirements embodied in the prescribed curriculum as~~  
15 ~~promulgated by the Commission on Higher Education's policies and~~  
16 ~~standards of nursing education.] **NURSING EDUCATION. —**~~

1        **NURSING EDUCATION SHALL REFER TO THE FORMAL**  
2        **LEARNING AND TRAINING IN THE SCIENCE AND ART OF**  
3        **NURSING PROVIDED BY HIGHER EDUCATIONAL**  
4        **INSTITUTIONS DULY RECOGNIZED AND ACCREDITED BY**  
5        **THE CHED.**

6  
7        **THERE SHALL BE STANDARD BASIC AND GRADUATE**  
8        **PROGRAMS FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL BE**  
9        **ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7722,**  
10       **OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CHED LAW".**

11  
12        Sec. 4. A new Section 26 is hereby inserted after Section 25 of RA 9173, to  
13        read as follows:

14        **"SECTION 26. *BASIC AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS FOR***  
15        ***NURSING EDUCATION.* – THERE SHALL BE A BASIC**  
16        **PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL**  
17        **PROVIDE SOUND LIBERAL AND PROFESSIONAL**  
18        **EDUCATION, AND SHALL EQUIP BASIC NURSING STUDENTS**  
19        **WITH THE NECESSARY COMPETENCIES FOR ENTRY-LEVEL**  
20        **SAFE AND QUALITY NURSING PRACTICE. THE CURRICULUM**  
21        **AND RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCES SHOULD INCLUDE**  
22        **COMMUNITY INTEGRATION AND IMMERSION TO**  
23        **ENCOURAGE MORE GRADUATES TO WORK IN A COMMUNITY**  
24        **SETTING. ADMISSION TO THE BASIC PROGRAM FOR**  
25        **NURSING EDUCATION SHALL REQUIRE PASSING A**  
26        **NATIONAL NURSING ADMISSION TEST (NNAT). THE**  
27        **CURRICULUM AND THE RELATED LEARNING EXPERIENCES**  
28        **MUST BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL NURSING**  
29        **CORE COMPETENCY STANDARDS TO BE PROMULGATED BY**  
30        **THE BOARD AND IMPLEMENTED THROUGH THE POLICIES,**  
31        **STANDARDS, AND GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.**

1           **THERE SHALL ALSO BE A GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR**  
2           **NURSING EDUCATION WHICH SHALL BE A POST**  
3           **BACCALAUREATE NURSING PROGRAM, WHICH BUILDS ON**  
4           **THE EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS OF A NURSE TOWARDS**  
5           **MASTERY, EXPERTISE, AND LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE,**  
6           **RESEARCH, AND EDUCATION. SUCH PROGRAMS WILL**  
7           **DEVELOP HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SKILLS NEEDED FOR**  
8           **NURSING PRACTICE IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF ADVANCED**  
9           **NURSING, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO; ADVANCED**  
10          **PRACTICE NURSING, AMBULATORY CARE NURSING,**  
11          **CRITICAL CARE NURSING, PALLIATIVE CARE NURSING,**  
12          **REHABILITATION NURSING, AND OTHER SPECIALIZED**  
13          **FIELDS OF ADVANCED NURSING. IT SHALL INCLUDE A**  
14          **MASTER'S DEGREE AND DOCTORATE DEGREE IN NURSING**  
15          **FOUNDED ON THE PHILOSOPHIES, AND THE SCIENTIFIC**  
16          **BODY OF KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE. GRADUATE**  
17          **PROGRAMS FOR NURSING EDUCATION SHALL BE OFFERED**  
18          **ONLY IN HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AS**  
19          **PRESCRIBED BY THE PREVAILING CHED POLICIES,**  
20          **STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION.**

21  
22          **THE FACULTY-TO-STUDENT RATIO MUST BE IN**  
23          **ACCORDANCE WITH THE STANDARD TO BE DETERMINED**  
24          **AND PRESCRIBED BY THE CHED ."**

25  
26          Sec. 5. Section 26 of RA 9173 is hereby renumbered to Section 27.

27  
28          Sec. 6. Section 27 of RA 9173 is hereby renumbered and amended,  
29          to read as follows:

30          "Section 2[7]8. *Qualifications of the Faculty.* — [~~A member of the~~  
31          ~~faculty in a college of nursing teaching professional courses must:~~  
32          ~~(a) Be a registered nurse in the Philippines;~~

1 ~~(b) Have at least one (1) year of clinical practice in a field of~~  
2 ~~specialization;~~

3 ~~(c) Be a member of good standing in the accredited professional~~  
4 ~~organization of nurses; and~~

5 ~~(d) Be a holder of a master's degree in nursing, education, or other~~  
6 ~~allied medical and health sciences conferred by a college or university~~  
7 ~~duly recognized by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines.~~

8 ~~In addition to the aforementioned qualifications, the dean of a college~~  
9 ~~must have a master's degree in nursing. He/she must have at least~~  
10 ~~five (5) years of experience in nursing.]~~

11 **(1) BASIC PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION. - A**  
12 **MEMBER OF THE FACULTY IN A COLLEGE OF NURSING**  
13 **TEACHING PROFESSIONAL COURSES:**

14 **(A) MUST BE A REGISTERED NURSE IN THE PHILIPPINES**  
15 **AND HOLDER OF A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION**  
16 **AND A CURRENT PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION**  
17 **CARD ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION;**

18 **(B) MUST HAVE AT LEAST THREE (3) YEARS OF NURSING**  
19 **PRACTICE;**

20 **(C) MUST BE A HOLDER OF A MASTER'S DEGREE IN**  
21 **NURSING, CONFERRED BY A UNIVERSITY DULY**  
22 **RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC**  
23 **OF THE PHILIPPINES; AND**

24 **(D) MUST HAVE THE APPROPRIATE CERTIFICATE OF**  
25 **NURSING PROFICIENCY, OR ITS EQUIVALENT, TO BE**  
26 **ISSUED BY THE BOARD OF NURSING.**

27 **(2) GRADUATE PROGRAM FOR NURSING EDUCATION. - A**  
28 **MEMBER OF THE FACULTY TEACHING GRADUATE**  
29 **PROFESSIONAL COURSES:**

30 **(A) MUST FOLLOW PARAGRAPHS (A) AND (B) ABOVE ON**  
31 **BASIC NURSING EDUCATION; AND**

32 **(B) MUST BE A HOLDER OF A DOCTORAL DEGREE IN**

1                   **NURSING CONFERRED BY A UNIVERSITY DULY**  
2                   **RECOGNIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC**  
3                   **OF THE PHILIPPINES.”**

4  
5           Sec. 7. Section 28 of RA 9173 is hereby renumbered as Section 29, and all  
6 succeeding sections of the same Act are hereby renumbered accordingly.

7  
8           *Sec. 8. Implementing Guidelines.* — Within thirty (30) days after the effectivity  
9 of this Act, the Board and the Professional Regulatory Commission, in coordination  
10 with the Commission on Higher Education and other concerned government agencies,  
11 shall formulate such rules and regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
12 Act. The implementing rules and regulations shall be published in the Official Gazette  
13 or in any newspaper of general circulation.

14  
15           *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* — Should any provision of this Act be declared  
16 invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions unaffected thereby shall remain valid  
17 and subsisting.

18  
19           *Sec 10. Repealing Clause.* — All other laws, decrees, executive orders,  
20 proclamations and other executive issuances, which are not consistent with or contrary  
21 to the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended.

22  
23           *Sec. 11. Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
24 its complete publication in the Official Gazzette or in a newspaper of general  
25 circulation.

*Approved,*