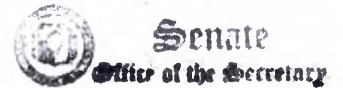


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



'22 JUL 27 P4 53

**SENATE**  
S. B. No. 918

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'J' or similar character, written over a horizontal line.

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Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

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**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING INCLUSION OF PANDEMICS, EPIDEMICS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH CRISES AS PART OF THE CURRICULUM OF ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

COVID-19 revealed the major gaps in the country's preparedness for a pandemic which resulted in an accumulated 3,735,383 cases, and 60,641 deaths since the virus reached our shores. The Philippines also posted a -9.5% full-year growth rate for 2020 as a result of the pandemic and the mobility restrictions that were imposed because of it. This proves that public health crises, if left unmanaged, could result in far reaching effects to the overall development and growth of a country.

Along with the country's initiatives to continuously curb the effects of COVID-19, both to our economy and our health system, there must also be efforts to educate the Filipino youth on public health crises and the proper interventions to mitigate their effects. In fact, in 2020, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) recommended a COVID-19 curriculum which included suggestions on how teachers can engage students on preventing and controlling the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.

Recognizing the importance of education in preparing individuals for the challenges ahead, the bill proposes to include in primary and secondary education a discussion on pandemics, epidemics and other public health crises, how to cope with

its effects and the appropriate preparedness and mitigation strategies to combat the same.

In view of the foregoing, passage of the measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'S' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that tapers to the right.

**SONNY ANGARA**

A small, handwritten mark or flourish located directly beneath the printed name 'SONNY ANGARA'.

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'22 JUL 27 P 4:53

SENATE  
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**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING INCLUSION OF PANDEMICS, EPIDEMICS AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH CRISES AS PART OF THE CURRICULUM OF ALL PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 Section 1. *Inclusion of Pandemics Education in the Curriculum.* – Teaching of  
2 and discussions on pandemics, epidemics, other public health crises, its effects and  
3 preparedness or mitigation strategies is hereby required to be part of the curriculum  
4 of all primary and secondary schools in the Philippines.

5 The Department of Education (DepEd) shall consult with the Department of  
6 Health, the National Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council, and other  
7 relevant public or private institutions in crafting the age and level-appropriate  
8 curriculum for this purpose.

9 SEC. 2. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Education  
10 shall adopt the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provision of this  
11 Act.

12 SEC. 3. *Appropriations.* – The funds needed for this purpose shall be taken  
13 from the appropriations of the Department of Education. Thereafter, such amount  
14 necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General  
15 Appropriations Act.

16 SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees,  
17 executive orders, presidential proclamations, issuances, rules and regulations, or

1 parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this  
2 Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

3       SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
4 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*