



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6717

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROMULO, GO (M.), TAMBUNTING, VERGARA AND DALIPE, PER COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 264

AN ACT
SUSPENDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE USE OF MOTHER TONGUE AS
THE MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FOR KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3 PROVIDED
UNDER SECTION 4 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013”

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Suspension of the Use of the Mother Tongue or First***
2 ***Language as the Medium of Instruction from Kindergarten to Grade 3.*** – The
3 implementation of Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as the
4 “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013, which mandates the use of the mother tongue
5 as the medium of instruction or first language from kindergarten to Grade 3 is hereby
6 suspended: *Provided*, That Filipino Sign Language shall remain the medium of
7 instruction for students with pertinent disabilities: *Provided, further*, That the use of the
8 mother tongue in schools where it is assessed to be effective shall continue. The
9 suspension shall be lifted upon certification by the DepEd on the readiness of all school
10 districts to implement the mother tongue curriculum and that the prescribed books,
11 teaching materials, and supplies to support it are available.

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13 **SEC. 2. *Development of Teaching Materials.*** – The DepEd shall coordinate
14 with the Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) in developing books, teaching materials,
15 and other supplies necessary in the implementation of the use of mother tongue or first
16 language within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act: *Provided*, That the
17 DepEd and the KWF shall consider that many certain regions, provinces, cities, or
18 municipalities may have more than one mother tongue.

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20 **SEC. 3. *Assessment and Certification of First Language Instruction.*** – The
21 DepEd and KWF shall assess the appropriateness and capacity of all local school
22 districts to use the mother tongue or first language as the method of instruction for
23 learners in kindergarten to Grade 3, as well as the appropriateness and availability of
24 the necessary books, materials, and other supplies to be used therefor. Upon
25 termination of the assessment process conducted by said agencies, the DepEd shall
26 submit to Congress the results of their assessment together with their
27 recommendations.

1 **SEC. 4. Automatic Repeal of this Act.** – This Act shall be deemed repealed
2 upon the approval of Congress of the assessment report provided in Section 3 and the
3 certification of DepEd to Congress on the readiness of all the schools districts to
4 implement the use of mother tongue or first language as the medium of instruction for
5 learners in kindergarten to Grade 3.

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7 **SEC. 5. Separability Clause.** – If any part of this Act is held invalid or
8 unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof shall remain valid and effective.

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10 **SEC. 6. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, orders, issuances, rules and regulations
11 or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
12 amended accordingly.

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

Approved,