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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

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SENATE
S. No. 2830

RECEIVED 

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

AN ACT
FURTHER AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7836, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE "PHILIPPINE TEACHERS PROFESSIONALIZATION ACT OF 1994", AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9293

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7836, or the Philippine Teachers Professionalization Act of 1994, was enacted to ensure and promote quality education through the proper supervision and regulation of the licensure examination and the professionalization of the teaching profession. It established the Board for Professional Teachers (BPT), under the supervision of the Professional Regulation Commission, to advance its objectives of promoting, developing, and professionalizing teachers while regulating the licensure examination process.

This proposed measure seeks to amend R.A. No. 7836 to strengthen the professionalization of teachers. It introduces the inclusion of a practical component, such as demonstration teaching or other evaluative modes, as a supplement to written examinations. Additionally, the bill provides for additional pathways for registration and licensure aside from the usual Board Licensure Examination for Professional Teachers (BLEPT), providing opportunities for individuals with prior teaching experience and graduates of accredited teacher education institutions to transition into teaching in basic education through non-examination methods, provided they meet the required competency standards. To elevate the proficiency of the board, the

bill introduces a heightened requirement for members, mandating at least a master's degree in education or its equivalent.

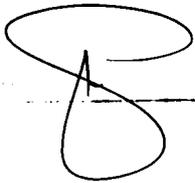
By introducing these amendments, this proposed measure reaffirms the government's commitment to elevating the teaching profession, recognizing that the quality of our nation's education relies heavily on the excellence of its educators. Strengthening the professionalization of teachers is an investment in ensuring our educators are equipped to meet the evolving needs of our learners—teachers who will challenge, inspire, and nurture the leaders of tomorrow. In doing so, we are building a foundation for an education system that is dynamic, inclusive, and fully ready to prepare our youth for the challenges and opportunities of a fast-changing world.

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



LOREN LEGARDA

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

1 Section 1. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

2 "Section 5. *Creation and Composition of the Board.* – There
3 is hereby created under this Act a Board for Professional
4 Teachers, hereinafter called the Board, a collegial body under the
5 general supervision and administrative control of the Professional
6 Regulation Commission, hereinafter referred to as the
7 Commission, composed of five (5) members, who duly possess
8 all the qualifications prescribed in Section 8 of this Act, and who
9 shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from
10 among the recommendees chosen by the Commission.

11 The recommendees shall be chosen from the list of
12 nominees from Teacher Education Council (TEC); Department of
13 Education (DepEd); Coordinating Council of Private Educational
14 Associations (COCOPEA); Commission on Higher Education
15 (CHED); Association of Local Colleges and Universities (ALCU);
16 Philippine Association of State Universities And Colleges
17 (PASUC); an Accredited Association of Teachers; and an

1 Association of Teacher Education Students, who duly possess all
2 the qualifications prescribed in Section 8 of this Act.

3 The final list of nominees shall be made public. A screening
4 committee shall be formed to evaluate the nominations received.

5 The chairman and the vice-chairman of the Board shall be
6 appointed from these five (5) members by the President:
7 Provided, That the members of the first Board appointed under
8 this Act shall be automatically registered as professional teachers
9 and issued with the certificate of registration and professional
10 license upon payment of the fees for examination, registration,
11 and other fees prescribed by the Commission."

12 Sec. 2. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

13 "Section 7. *Term of Office.* – The members of the Board
14 shall hold office for a term of three (3) years from the date they
15 assume office. Members of the board who are employees or
16 officials of government agencies shall be seconded to the
17 professional regulation commission for the duration of their term.
18 Vacancies shall be served for the unexpired term only. No person
19 who has served as member of the board for two (2) consecutive
20 terms shall be eligible for reappointment. Appointment to fill an
21 unexpired term shall be considered an appointment to a
22 complete term."

23 Sec. 3. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby amended as follows:

24 "Sec. 8. *Qualifications of Board Members.* – Each Board
25 member must at the time of his or her appointment:

- 26 (a) Be a citizen and resident of the Philippines;
27 (b) Be at least thirty-five (35) years of age, of proven
28 integrity, and possessed of high moral values in his
29 personal as well as professional conduct and has not
30 been convicted of any offense involving moral turpitude;
31 (c) Be a holder of at least a master's degree, preferably
32 holding a doctorate degree, in education, or their

1 equivalent, from a university, school, college, academy
2 or institute duly constituted, recognized and/or
3 accredited by the Philippine government;

4 (d) Be a professional teacher with a valid certificate of
5 registration and valid professional license, save those
6 members who shall compose the first Board for
7 Professional Teachers;

8 (e) Has been a professional teacher in the active practice of
9 the teaching profession for at least ten (10) years; and

10 (f) Not to be, at time of appointment an official or member
11 of the faculty of, nor have pecuniary interest in any
12 university, college, school, or institution conferring a
13 bachelor's degree in education or its equivalents and
14 neither connected with a review center or with any group
15 or association where review classes or lectures in
16 preparation for the licensure examination are offered or
17 conducted, nor have pecuniary interest in such.

18 Provided, that the PRC shall issue the appropriate rules to
19 govern the practice of members of the board to ensure that no
20 conflict of interest shall arise in their functions related to the
21 conduct of the licensure examination and release of the results.

22 Provided, further, That the membership to the Board shall
23 be evenly distributed to cover all levels of education, including
24 equitable representation of the different fields of specialization.

25 Provided, that the members of the board shall also have the
26 necessary expertise in implementing teacher education programs
27 that are offered by Teacher Education Council (TEC) and
28 regulated by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), test
29 development and analysis, and logistics in implementing wide-
30 scale assessments and system accreditations."

31 **Sec. 4. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby further amended as follows:**

1 "Sec. 9. *Compensation of the Board.* – The chairman, vice-
2 chairman, and members of the Board shall receive compensation
3 comparable to the compensation received by existing regulatory
4 boards under the Professional Regulation Commission, computed
5 on the basis of the number of examinees/candidates."

6 Sec. 5. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby further amended as
7 follows:

8 "Sec. 12. *Removal of a Board Member.* – The chairman or
9 any member of the Board may be removed by the President of
10 the Philippines upon recommendation of the Commission for
11 neglect of duty, incompetence, terminal illness, unprofessional,
12 unethical, immoral or dishonorable conduct, commission or
13 tolerance of irregularities in the examination, after having been
14 given the opportunity to defend himself in a proper
15 administrative investigation.

16 In the course of the investigation, the President may
17 preventively suspend the respondent."

18 Sec. 6. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby further amended as
19 follows:

20 "Sec. 13. *Examination, Registration, and License Required.*
21 – Applicants for registration as professional teachers shall be
22 required to undergo either one of the following pathways:

23 (1) A written examination which shall be given at least once
24 a year in such places and dates as the board may
25 determine upon approval by the commission. A written
26 examination will be required for:

27 (a) Graduates of education programs, stated in
28 Section 8 of this Act

29 (b) Graduates of non-education programs who
30 have completed 18 units of Certification in
31 Professional Education (CPE)

- 1 (2) Accreditation of teacher education programs by the
2 Teacher Education Council, wherein graduates of these
3 accredited programs need to submit a portfolio of
4 attainment of the teaching professional standards in lieu
5 of taking the written examination.
- 6 (3) Submission of a teaching experience portfolio for
7 purposes of thorough evaluation and recognition of
8 knowledge or expertise acquired, comparable to
9 professional standards, for those who have been
10 teaching in high-level basic education and tertiary
11 education programs. For this purpose, the PRC, TEC, and
12 CHED shall provide the appropriate guidelines for the
13 assessment, evaluation, and equivalency of prior
14 teaching experience towards the awarding of a
15 professional license to teach, including the required
16 number of years of teaching experience.

17 Sec. 7. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 7836 is hereby further amended as
18 follows:

19 "Sec. 14. *Scope of Examination.* – The examinations for
20 teachers shall be given separately by program, aligned with the
21 relevant programs, standards and guidelines issued. The
22 examinations shall include the following components:

- 23 (1) Teacher professional standards,
- 24 (2) Teacher education programs offered by TEC and
25 regulated by CHED; and
- 26 (3) Existing curriculum of basic and child care education.

27 The examinations may include a practical component as a
28 supplement to written examinations.

29 Graduates from non-education programs shall be able to
30 choose their exam program regardless of bachelor's degree.

1 In case of failure in the exam by the aforementioned takers,
2 content courses in their chosen subject shall be required before
3 they can retake the exam.”

4 Sec. 8. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 7836 and Section 1 of Republic Act 9293
5 is hereby further amended as follows:

6 “Sec. 15. *Qualification Requirements of Applicant.* – No
7 applicant shall be admitted to take the examination unless, on
8 the date of the filing of the application, he or she has complied
9 with the following requirements:

- 10 (a) A citizen of the Philippines or an alien whose country has
11 reciprocity with the Philippines in the practice of the
12 teaching profession;
- 13 (b) At least eighteen (18) years of age;
- 14 (c) In good health and of good reputation with high moral
15 values;
- 16 (d) Has not been convicted by final judgment by a court for
17 an offense involving moral turpitude;
- 18 (e) A graduate from a teacher education institute duly
19 recognized by the Commission on Higher Education and
20 possesses the minimum educational qualifications
21 pursuant to teacher education programs offered by TEC
22 and regulated by CHED, or equivalent programs, or other
23 programs, as may be determined by CHED, with at least
24 eighteen (18) units in professional education;
- 25 (f) The results of the exam shall be given by component. If
26 an applicant has previously failed to pass component/s
27 of the examination in the past three years, he or she shall
28 be required to complete a refresher course for the failed
29 component in a CHED-recognized teacher education
30 institute before being allowed to retake the
31 examination.”

32 Sec. 9. Section 16 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

1 "Sec. 16. *Release of the questions and Report of the Results*
2 *of the Examination.* – The Board shall, not later than forty-eight
3 (48) hours after exam administration, release the questions and
4 information on the makers of the exam to the public. The board
5 shall form a testing board every year, to consist of
6 representatives from various accredited teacher education
7 institutions. The exam shall be validated through a third-party
8 assessment before and after administration. Item analysis is
9 recommended to be done after exam administration.

10 Additionally, the Board shall, within one hundred twenty
11 (120) days after the examination, report the ratings obtained by
12 each candidate by exam component to the Professional
13 Regulation Commission for approval and appropriate action.

14 The board shall also make public the licensure exam
15 performance of teacher education institutions, with a 10-year
16 track record analysis, as provided by CHED, through appropriate
17 administrative issuances for dissemination to the public including
18 posting of the same on the official PRC and other government
19 agencies' websites, and publications in newspapers of national
20 circulation in such period and frequency as the board shall
21 determine.

22 Teacher education institutions shall upon release of school
23 performance in the examination, also make public their licensure
24 exam performance, with a 10-year track record analysis, through
25 posting in three (3) conspicuous places accessible to the general
26 public, including the school website and social media accounts if
27 available.

28 No undue promotion or advertisements shall be allowed for
29 review centers and similar entities for purposes of owning credit
30 for passing of those who took the licensure examinations for
31 teachers, and such credit shall be attributed solely to the teacher
32 education institutions where the examinees graduated.

1 **Sec. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from
2 the effective date of this Act, the Professional Regulation Commission shall update its
3 implementing rules and regulations necessary for the full and effective implementation
4 of this Act.

5 **Sec. 11. *Transitory Provision.*** — The Professional Regulation Commission and
6 the Board of Professional Teachers shall update its existing policies and issuances
7 relevant to this Act and ensure its alignment with the same within a period of six (6)
8 months from the effectivity of this Act and report the same to Congress on the first
9 year of its implementation.

10 **Sec. 12. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any section or provision of
11 this Act or the application of such section in provision to any person in circumstance
12 is declared unconstitutional or invalid, no other section or provision of this Act shall
13 be affected thereby.

14 **Sec. 13. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, circulars, administrative orders,
15 rules and regulations, and other issuances which are inconsistent with the provisions
16 of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,