



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7620

BY REPRESENTATIVES ONGCHUAN, GO (M.), MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, CO (E.), ACIDRE, BARONDA, BOLILIA, PALMA, PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, PUMAREN, SUAREZ, HERRERA, QUIMBO, ABANTE, ALONTE, ALVAREZ (M.), ALVAREZ (J.), ARENAS, BAUTISTA-LIM, BERNOS, BONGALON, CABREDO, CAMPOS, CARI, CELESTE, CO (A.N.), CUA, CUARESMA, DE VENECIA, DEL MAR, FUENTEBELLA, GO (E.C.), GONZAGA, HARESCO, LACSON, LARA, NAVA, SALIMBANGON, TIANGCO, UMALI, VARGAS-ALFONSO, VILLARAZA-SUAREZ, VIOLAGO, ZAMORA (M.C.), ZUBIRI, ABALOS, ADIONG, ADVINCULA, AMANTE, ANG, ASISTIO, ATAYDE, AUMENTADO, BASCUG, BOSITA, CHATTO, CO-PILAR, COJUANGCO (J.), CRUZ (A.), CRUZ (R.), DAGOOC, DIMAPORO (S.A.), EUDELA, FORTES, FRESNEDI, GARCIA (D.), GARCIA (M.A.), GARDIOLA, GUTIERREZ, HERNANDEZ, KHONGHUN, LAGON (D.), LAGON (S.), LAZATIN, MACEDA, MAGSINO, MANQUIZ, MATIBAG, MERCADO, NOGRALES (M.I.), OUANO-DIZON, PADUANO, PANALIGAN, PANCHO, PLAZA, PLEYTO, REVILLA (R.J.), RODRIGUEZ (E.), SALI, TALLADO, TULFO (J.), UNABIA, VARGAS, VERGARA, VERZOSA, VILLAFUERTE (M.L.), YAP (C.), AGARAO, BENITEZ, BUHAIN, CORVERA, DALOG, DUTERTE, ECLEO, FLORES, GOMEZ, GUINTU, KHO (R.), MARIÑO, MERCADO-REVILLA, ORDANES, ORTEGA, REVILLA (B.), ROMULO, SALCEDA, SAULOG, SILVERIO, SORIANO, TOLENTINO, VELOSO-TUAZON, VILLAFUERTE (L.R.), YAP (EDVIC) AND DALIPE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 445

AN ACT

PRESCRIBING THE USE OF NEO-ETHNIC PHILIPPINE TEXTILES IN THE ACADEMIC REGALIA OF ALL STATE AND LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 “Philippine Academic Regalia
2 Act”.

3
4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to instill patriotism and
5 nationalism among the youth whose academic preparation for adulthood and responsible
6 citizenship include values formation on love of country and pride in the uniqueness of their
7 cultural heritage. In this regard, opportunities for displaying these values shall be encouraged
8 by the school system not only as part of values development, but to preserve Philippine culture
9 and certain local traditions, and create avenues, such as the wearing of academic regalia that
10 is based on Filipino ethnic and traditional design to promote the production of neo-ethnic
11 Philippine textiles, boost the national effort to develop culture-based industries, and in the
12 process create jobs in local communities.

13
14 Pursuant thereto, the use of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles in the academic regalia of all
15 state universities and colleges (SUCs) and local universities and colleges (LUCs) is therefore
16 prescribed.

1 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:
2

3 (a) *Academic regalia* refers to the official garb worn by university officials, faculty, graduates,
4 and awardees during graduation, commencement exercises, and other academic functions; and
5

6 (b) *Neo-ethnic Philippine textiles* refer to textiles made of or containing natural or indigenous
7 materials, sourced, and produced in the Philippines using updated, relevant, and green,
8 scientific, and technological approaches and innovations, while integrating and retaining
9 traditional patterns, designs, icons, motifs, and approaches.
10

11 **SEC. 4. Creation of the Philippine Academic Regalia Council.** – There is hereby created
12 a Philippine Academic Regalia Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council”, which shall
13 be chaired and co-chaired by the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education
14 (CHED) and the Director of the Philippine Textile Research Institute of the Department of
15 Science and Technology (DOST-PTRI), respectively. The Council shall have the following as
16 members:
17

18 (a) Representative from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA);
19

20 (b) Representative from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);
21

22 (c) Representative from the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges
23 (PASUC);
24

25 (d) Representative from the University of the Philippines (UP) System;
26

27 (e) Representative from the Association of Local Colleges and Universities (ALCU); and
28

29 (f) Representative from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).
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31 **SEC. 5. Powers and Functions of the Council.** – The Council shall have the following
32 specific powers and functions:
33

34 (a) Formulate the National Academic Regalia Policy;
35

36 (b) Review, standardize, and adopt the academic regalia for graduates, administrators,
37 faculty, and awardees of SUCs and LUCs;
38

39 (c) Ensure sustainability, quality control, and availability of yarns, dyes, and loom parts;
40

41 (d) Propose ways to incorporate neo-ethnic textiles in the academic regalia;
42

43 (e) Prepare and publish a handbook containing information on the academic regalia and
44 its proper use, protection, trade, and management; and
45

46 (f) Protect the intellectual property rights as regards design silhouettes, textile pattern,
47 color, and textile specification for the academic regalia.
48

49 **SEC. 6. Mandatory Coordination with the Council.** – Pursuant to the provisions of this
50 Act, all SUCs and LUCs shall be required to coordinate with the Council to ensure that neo-
51 ethnic Philippine textiles shall be prescribed in their academic regalia, specifically in the
52 hood, robe or gown worn by students in important occasions, such as hooding ceremony or

1 graduation from either a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree, as well as the faculty and
2 other members of the academic community, and may be incorporated in the headgear
3 (mortarboard cap or tam), mortarboard tassel, stole, and cord, among others.
4

5 **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the
6 effectivity of this Act, the CHED shall, in consultation with the DOST-PTRI, NCCA, UP,
7 PASUC, ALCU, DTI and other relevant stakeholders, issue the rules and regulations for the
8 effective implementation of this Act.
9

10 **SEC. 8. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this
11 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
12

13 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is
14 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
15 remain in full force and effect.
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17 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent
18 with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.
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20 **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
21 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,