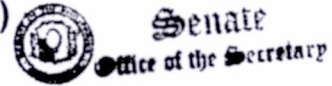


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session



SENATE

'19 DEC -9 A9:13

S. B. NO. 1216

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

**AN ACT DECLARING MAY 18 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE NATIONAL
HIGHER EDUCATION DAY**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Following the recommendation of the Congressional Commission on Education to Review and Assess Philippine Education (EDCOM) in 1991, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED or Commission) was created by virtue of Republic Act No. 7722 or the Higher Education Act of 1994 to be the agency primarily responsible for public and private colleges and universities. Signed on May 18, 1994 by then President Fidel V. Ramos, the Higher Education Act of 1994 reiterates the policy of the State to "protect, foster and promote the right of all citizens to affordable quality education at all levels and [to] take appropriate steps to ensure that education [is] accessible to all."¹

Since its establishment in 1994, the Commission has played a big role in developing human resources, bridging the gap between the skills set of the Filipino workforce and the demands of the employers, and ensuring that the country's higher education system is locally responsive yet globally competitive.

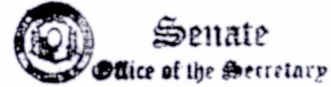
This bill seeks recognize the valuable role that the Commission has played for over 25 years in the country's development by declaring May 18th of every year as the "National Higher Education Day" in commemoration of the signing of the law creating the Commission.

The immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA

¹ Section 2.

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Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

**AN ACT DECLARING MAY 18 OF EVERY YEAR AS THE
NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION DAY**

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

1 **SECTION 1. National Higher Education Day.** – The eighteenth (18th) day of May of
2 every year is hereby declared as the “National Higher Education Day” in
3 commemoration of the founding anniversary of the Commission on Higher Education
4 (CHED).
5

6 To ensure a meaningful observance of this special working day as herein declared,
7 all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-
8 owned-and-controlled corporations, local government units, public and private
9 educational institutions, employers in the private sector, and industry associations,
10 shall encourage and afford sufficient time and opportunities for their students or
11 employees to engage and participate in any activity conducted within the premises of
12 their schools, offices or establishments in celebration of the “National Higher
13 Education Day.”
14

15 **SEC. 2. Lead Agency.** – The CHED shall be the lead agency in charge of the
16 preparation and implementation of an annual program of activities and advocacy
17 campaign for the observance of the “National Higher Education Day.”
18

19 All higher education institutions shall also provide full support and assistance to the
20 preparation of the annual program of activities and events to be conducted by CHED
21 in observance of the event pursuant to this Act.
22
23

1 **SEC. 3. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
2 in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation,
3 whichever comes earlier.

4
5 **Approved,**