


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
P. S. RES. NO. 441

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

RESOLUTION

TO DIRECT THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE, GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE COMPLAINTS OF VARIOUS STAKEHOLDERS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912 OR THE 'CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016' WITH THE END IN VIEW OF REVIEWING THE GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURE ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LAW AND INTRODUCING/PROPOSING POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW, THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) AND/OR THE OPERATING GUIDELINES THEREOF FOR EACH PROFESSION.

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to promote and upgrade the practice of professions in the country;

WHEREAS, in order to fulfill this policy, the State shall institute measures that will continuously improve the competence of the professionals in accordance with the international standards of practice, thereby ensuring their contribution in uplifting the general welfare, economic growth and development of the nation;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10912 or the "Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016", lapsed into law on 21 July 2016 and took effect on 16 August 2016;

WHEREAS, said law requires all professionals to take additional formal and non-formal training through Continuing Professional Development (CPD) as mandatory requirement for the renewal of their Professional Identification Card every three (3) years;

WHEREAS, starting last 01 July 2017, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) began requiring CPD units for the renewal of Professional Identification Cards, except for teachers and nurses;

WHEREAS, the implementation of the said law is guided by the General Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) as issued by the PRC under Resolution No. 1032, series of 2017, and the Individual Operational Guidelines as issued by the Professional Board of each profession;

WHEREAS, almost a year after said law took effect, numerous stakeholders have raised various pressing issues regarding its proposed implementation;

WHEREAS, the most pressing issue is the affordability and accessibility of acquiring the required CPD units. Several groups of stakeholders noted that many professionals, especially those who are unemployed, underemployed or who receive low-wages, and/or casual or contractual professionals, may not be able to afford to pay for the training, seminar and/or courses needed to renew their licenses;¹

WHEREAS, some stakeholders added that the application process alone is costly especially for those not in major cities, who have less access to PRC-accredited training and development institutions. Moreover, professionals assigned in far-flung areas would be compelled to travel back to Metro Manila and/or other urban centers to process their applications and complete the required CPD units;²

WHEREAS, other stakeholders have also raised the issue of the lack of sufficient PRC-accredited CPD providers, noting that their options are limited to the current providers which are mostly private institutions and/or Accredited Integrated Professional Organizations (AIPO), allegedly offering expensive training and seminars;³

WHEREAS, still some stakeholders have pointed out that PRC does not recognize in-house training by government agencies such as the Department of Education, and other companies, which are already instituted and are usually free⁴;

WHEREAS, there is an immediate need to look into and/or investigate these issues raised by these stakeholders regarding the implementation of the CPD law in order to fully realize the objectives of said legislation, which is to promote and upgrade the practice of Filipino professionals in preparation for the integration of the economies of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); and to consider/propose possible amendments to the law and/or the implementing rules and regulations and/or operational guidelines to address the issues which may be found to be valid, persuasive and/or compelling under the circumstances;

¹Umil, A.M. (18 July 2017). *'Continuing professional development program should be free'* – health groups. Retrieved from <http://bulatlat.com/main/2017/07/18/continuing-professional-development-program-free-health-groups/>

²Rivera, K. (14 July 2017). *Certified public disaster*. Retrieved from <http://opinion.inquirer.net/105556/certified-public-disaster>

³Sambalud, M. (18 March 2017). *Teachers' group hit 'profit-oriented' CPD law*. Retrieved from <http://davaotoday.com/main/economy/teachers-group-hit-profit-oriented-cpd-law/>

⁴ Ibid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation and other appropriate committees, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the complaints of various stakeholders on the implementation of Republic Act No. 10912 or the '*Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016*' with the end in view of reviewing the guidelines and procedure on the implementation of the law and introducing/proposing possible amendments to the law, the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) and/or the Operating Guidelines thereof for each profession.

Adopted,


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator