## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9311

By Representatives Rodriguez, Go (M.), Loyola, Garbin, Sy-Alvarado, Salo, Herrera-Dy, Silverio, Romero, Pineda, Cayetano (A.P.), Romualdez (F.M.), Salvador-Tambunting, Delos Santos, Villanueva (E.), Rivera, Salceda, Olivarez, Singson-Meehan, Bordado, Tutor, Velasco, Duterte, Villafuerte, Defensor (M.), Gonzalez, Bautista-Lim, Lara, Barba, Escudero, Bañas-Nograles, Mangaoang, Lusotan, Dalog, Balindong, Babasa, Savellano, Siao, Mariano-Hernandez, Arenas, Oaminal, Garcia (P.J.), Revilla, de Venecia, Biazon, Calderon, Campos, Cua, Cuaresma, Dalipe, Daza, Duavit, Frasco, Gasataya, Gonzaga, Haresco, Momo, Sagarbarria, Tejada, Violago, Albano (A.), Bascug, Benitez, Cabatbat, Caminero, Cari, Deloso-Montalla, Dimaporo (A.), Dimaporo (M.K.), Dujali, Dy (F.), Dy (F.M.C.), Dy (I.P.), Gorriceta, Gullas, Guya, Labadlabad, Maceda, Natividad-Nagaño, Ong (J.), Ortega, Reyes, Roman, Tan (A.S.), Tan (A.), Tiangco, Torres-Gomez, Vargas Alfonso, Vergara, de Jesus, Defensor (L.), Enverga, Flores, Saulog, Yap (E.), Villarica, Robes, Cagas, Nieto, Abante and Jimenez, per Committee Report No. 938

## AN ACT

ENHANCING THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF FILIPINO PROFESSIONALS AS AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF THE CAREER PROGRESSION AND SPECIALIZATION PROGRAMS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016"

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10912 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 3. Definition of Terms. — AS USED IN this Act:

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(E) CAREER PROGRESSION REFERS TO THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING OR MOVING TOWARDS A MORE ADVANCED STATE IN A PERSON'S

QUALIFICATIONS, JOB, TITLE, POSITION, OR PROFESSION. IT OUTLINES THE ROUTE THAT ONE MAY FOLLOW IN ORDER TO REACH IDENTIFIED CAREER DEVELOPMENT GOALS;

- (F) CAREER PROGRESSION AND SPECIALIZATION PROGRAM AND CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM (CPSP-CATS) COMMITTEE REFERS TO THE BODY THAT PROVIDES TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT (CPD) COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF EACH PROFESSION IN THE FORMULATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CPSP-CATS SUCH AS PROGRAM AND LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR EVERY IDENTIFIED QUALIFICATION TITLE OF THE PROFESSION AND RECOMMENDS TO THE COUNCIL PROGRAMS AND POLICIES NEEDED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CPSP-CATS;
- (G) CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION REFERS TO THE DOCUMENT ISSUED BY THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) SIGNIFYING THAT THE PERSON NAMED THEREIN HAS COMPLIED WITH ALL THE LEGAL AND PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SUCH ISSUANCE, INCLUDING, IN APPROPRIATE CASES, PASSING THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION OR REGISTRATION WITHOUT EXAMINATION;
- [(e) Competence refers to an ability that extends beyond the possession of knowledge and skills, which include cognitive, functional, personal and ethical competence;]
- (H) COMPETENCY REFERS TO THE CAPABILITY TO APPLY OR USE A SET OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES REQUIRED TO SUCCESSFULLY PERFORM AND IMPLEMENT CRITICAL WORK FUNCTIONS OR TASKS IN A DEFINED WORK SETTING:
- [f] (I) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) refers to the ACQUISITION of advanced knowledge, skills and ethical values in a post-licensure specialization or in an inter- or multidisciplinary field of study, for assimilation into professional practice, [self-directed research and/] or lifelong learning;
- [(g)] (J) CPD Council refers to a body created to promote and ensure the continuous improvement of professionals, in accordance with national, regional and international standards of practice;
- (K) CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM FOR PROFESSIONALS REFERS TO A LEARNER-CENTERED SYSTEM WHICH FACILITATES THE RECOGNITION, ACCUMULATION, TRANSFER, AND MOBILITY OF THE WORKLOAD OF THE PROFESSIONALS AND ACHIEVEMENT OF LEARNING OUTCOMES, WITH A VIEW TO ACHIEVING A PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION OR ANY OTHER FORM OF RECOGNITION ACROSS EDUCATION SECTORS;
- (L) CREDITS REFER TO THE VALUE GIVEN TO A LEARNING OUTCOME OR A PACKAGE OF LEARNING OUTCOMES:
- [(h)] (M) CPD Credit Unit refers to the value of an amount of learning that can be transferred to a qualification achieved from formal [, informal or] AND nonformal learning setting [,] wherein credits can be accumulated to predetermined levels for the award of a qualification;

- [(i)] (N) CPD Program refers to a set of STRUCTURED learning activities accredited by the CPD Council such as seminars, workshops, technical lectures or subject matter meetings, nondegree training lectures and scientific meetings, AND modules, [tours and visits,] which equip the professionals with advanced knowledge, skills and values in specialized or in an inter- or multidisciplinary field of study, [self-directed research] and [/or] lifelong learning;
- [(j)] (O) CPD Provider refers to a natural or juridical person accredited by the CPD Council to conduct CPD Programs;
- [(k)] (P) Formal learning refers to educational arrangements such as curricular qualifications and teaching-learning requirements that take place in education and training institutions recognized by relevant national authorities, and which lead to diplomas and qualifications;
- [(1) Informal learning refers to learning that occurs in daily life assessed, through the recognition, validation and accreditation process, and which can contribute to a qualification;]
- [(m)] (Q) Learning outcome refers to what a learner can be expected to know, understand and/or demonstrate as a result of a learning experience;
- [(n)] (R) Lifelong learning refers to learning activities undertaken throughout life for the development of competencies and qualifications of the professional;
- [(o)] (S) Nonformal learning refers to [learning that has been acquired in addition or alternatively to formal learning, which may be structured and made more flexible according to educational and training arrangements] ACTIVITIES THAT ARE STRUCTURED AND WHICH HAVE LEARNING PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES SUCH AS HIGHER DEGREE OR DIPLOMA OR CERTIFICATE COURSES, INSTITUTION OR COMPANY-SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS, SPECIALTY TRAINING, AND ONLINE LEARNING ACTIVITIES WITH SYLLABI AND RELATED TO ONE'S PROFESSION;
- [(p)] (T) Online OR DIGITAL learning activities OR APPROACHES refer to [structured or unstructured] FORMAL AND NONFORMAL learning initiatives, which make use of the internet and other web-based information and communications technology solutions, INCLUDING THE FOLLOWING: ONLINE SEMINARS WORKSHOPS, AND WHICH SYNCHRONOUS ONLINE LEARNING APPROACHES; 2) E-LEARNING, WHICH IS AN ASYNCHRONOUS SELF-PACED. ANYTIME. ANYWHERE LEARNING APPROACH; 3) MICROLEARNING, WHICH IS AN ASYNCHRONOUS BITE-SIZED LEAFNING THAT IS A SELF-PACED, "ANYTIME, ANYWHERE APPROACH", AND 4) BLENDED WHICH IS A COMBINATION OF LEARNING, THE OTHER LEARNING APPROACHES ENUMERATED HEREIN;
- (U) OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWS) REFER TO FILIPINO PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE WORKING OUTSIDE THE PHILIPPINES FOR A LIMITED PERIOD;
- [(q)] (V) Pathways and Equivalencies refer to mechanisms that provide access to qualifications and assist professionals to move easily and readily between the different education and training sectors, and between these sectors, and the labor market, through the Philippine Credit Transfer System;

[(r)] (W) Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) refers to the quality assured national system for the development, recognition and award of qualifications at defined levels, based on standards of knowledge, skills and values, acquired in different ways and methods by learners and workers PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10968, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "PQF ACT";

- (X) PHILIPPINE QUALIFICATIONS REGISTER (PhQuaR) REFERS TO THE NATIONAL DATABASE OF QUALITY ASSURED QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE PQF. IT PROVIDES INFORMATION TO EMPLOYERS, EDUCATION AND TRAINING PROVIDERS, AND STUDENTS. THE INFORMATION INCLUDES THE QUALIFICATION TITLE, QUALIFICATION INESCRIPTORS, THE PQF LEVEL, THE AUTHORITY-GRANTING AGENCY, THE QUALIFICATION CODE, THE INSTRUMENT AND DATE OF AUTHORIZATION;
- (Y) PORTABILITY REFERS TO THE ABILITY OF ENABLING LEARNERS TO TRANSFER CREDITS OF QUALIFICATIONS FROM ONE LEARNING INSTITUTION OR EMPLOYER TO ANOTHER. HOWEVER, SUCH TRANSFER AND RECOGNITION OF SKILLS ARE NOT AUTOMATIC TRANSFER OF CREDITS TO QUALIFICATIONS;
- (Z) POSITION REFERS TO A SET OF DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, ASSIGNED OR DELEGATED BY COMPETENT AUTHORITY AND PERFORMED BY AN INDIVIDUAL EITHER ON FULL-TIME OR PARTTIME BASIS;
- [(s)] (AA) Prior learning refers to a person's skills, knowledge and competencies that have been acquired through work experience, training, independent study, volunteer activities and hobbies, that may be applied for academic credit, as a requirement of a training program or for occupational certification;
- [(t)] (BB) Professional refers to a person who is registered and licensed to practice a regulated profession in the Philippines and who holds a valid Certificate of Registration and Professional Identification Card (PIC) from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC);
- (CC) PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARD REFERS TO THE CARD BEARING THE REGISTRATION NUMBER, DATES OF ISSUANCE AND EXPIRY, AND IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, DULY SIGNED BY THE PRC CHAIRPERSON AND ISSUED TO A REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL UPON PAYMENT OF THE PRESCRIBED FEE, AND WHICH IS VALID FOR THREE (3) YEARS;
- [(u)] (DD) Qualification refers to a status gained after a person has been assessed to have achieved learning outcomes or competencies in accordance with the SET standards [ standard specified for a qualification title, and is proven by a document issued by a recognized agency or body ];
  - (EE) QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK CREDIT REFERS TO A MEASUREMENT OF COMPREHENSION IN A SPECIALIZATION PROGRAM. IT SPECIFIES THE PROFICIENCY LEVEL TO BE ACQUIRED BY A LEARNER IN ORDER TO EARN THE RELEVANT QUALIFICATION SOUGHT;

2 COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT ENTERED INTO THE PHILIPPINE 3 QUALIFICATIONS REGISTER (PhQuaR). THE CONFERMENT IS 4 GIVEN TO A PROFESSIONAL BY THE PRC, AND THE PRBs; 5 6 [(v)] (GG) Quality Assurance refers to planned and systematic processes that 7 provide confidence in the design, delivery and award of qualifications within 8 an education and training system, and [is a component of quality management 9 that is focused on ensuring that quality requirements will be fulfilled] A 10 COMPONENT OF QUALITY MANAGEMENT THAT IS FOCUSED 11 ON PROVIDING CONFIDENCE THAT QUALITY REQUIREMENTS 12 WILL BE FULFILLED. QUALITY ASSURANCE ENSURES THAT 13 STAKEHOLDERS' INTERESTS AND INVESTMENTS IN ANY 14 ACCREDITED PROGRAM ARE PROTECTED: 15 16 [(w) Self-directed learning refers to learning activities such as online training, 17 local/international seminars/nondegree courses, institution/companysponsored training programs, and the like, which did not undergo CPD 18 accreditation but may be applied for and awarded CPD units by the respective 19 20 CPD Council;] 21 22 (HH) SPECIALIZATION REFERS TO THE FIELD OF PRACTICE OF A 23 PROFESSION FOR A PARTICULAR AREA OF KNOWLEDGE OR THE 24 PROCESS OF BECOMING AN EXPERT IN A PARTICULAR FIELD OF 25 PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE; AND 26 27 SPECIALTY TRAINING REFERS TO NONDEGREE 28 POSTGRADUATE STRUCTURED TRAINING PROGRAM WITH 29 ASSESSMENT MECHANISMS, CONDUCTED BY ANY COMPANY, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, OR HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION." 30 31 SEC. 2. Section 5 of R.A. No. 10912 is hereby amended to read as follows: 32 33 "Sec. 5. Nature of CPD Programs. - The CPD Programs SHALL consist of 34 35 FORMAL AND NONFORMAL LEARNING activities that [range from] ARE structured [to nonstructured activities] SUCH AS DIPLOMA OR 36 37 CERTIFICATE COURSES. INSTITUTION OR COMPANY-38 SPONSORED TRAINING PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS, SPECIALTY TRAINING, AND ONLINE LEARNING ACTIVITIES WITH SYLLABI 39 THAT ARE RELATED TO ONE'S PROFESSION, AND which have 40 41 learning processes and outcomes SUCH AS A HIGHER DEGREE OR WHICH CONFERS HGHER PROFESSIONAL OR TRADE STATUS OR 42 43 SKILL CATEGORIZATION. 44 [These include, but are not limited to, the following: 45 46 (a) Formal learning; 47 (b) Nonformal learning; 48 (c) Informal learning; 49 (d) Self-directed learning; 50 Online learning activities; and (e) 51 (f) Professional Work Experience.] 52 THE IN-SERVICE TRAINING FOR TEACHERS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY 53 THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, WHICH ARE STRUCTURED AND WITH 54 55 CLEAR-CUT LEARNING PROCESSES AND OUTCOMES, SHALL BE

CONSIDERED AS PART OF THE CPD PROGRAM."

(FF) QUALIFICATION TITLE REFERS TO AN AWARD AFTER

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"Sec. 10. CPD as Mandatory Requirement in the [Renewal of Professional License and Accreditation System for the Practice of Professions] UPDATING AND UPGRADING OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, VALUES AND COMPETENCIES. - SUBJECT TO SEC. 13 OF THIS ACT AND THE IMPLEMENTING GUIDELINES TO BE PRESCRIBED BY THE CPSP-CATS FOR EVERY PROFESSION, [T] the CPD is hereby made as a mandatory requirement in the [renewal of the PICs of all registered and licensed professionals under the regulation of the PRC.] ALL PROFESSIONALS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO UPDATE AND UPGRADE THEIR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS BY UNDERGOING THE RELEVANT CPD PROGRAM WITHIN THE ALL-OTED PERIOD. THE COMPLETION OF THE RESPECTIVE PROFESSIONAL CPD TRAINING COURSES SHALL SERVE TO QUALIFY A REGISTERED AND LICENSED PROFESSIONAL TO THE USE OF QUALIFICATION OR TRADE TITLES, AND TO CLAIM COMPLIANCE WITH QUALIFICATION STANDARDS SET BYTHE PRC, THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY BODIES OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES WITH WHOM THE PHILIPPINES HAS RECIPROCAL AGREEMENTS WITH, AND THE RESPECTIVE BOARDS OF PROFESSIONS. THE CPD SHALL ALSO BE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING

A. ALL PROFESSIONALS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN FORTY-FIVE (45) CPD CREDIT UNITS EVERY FOUR (4) YEARS WHICH SHALL BE DEEMED AS THE COMPLIANCE PERIOD:

B. PROFESSIONALS COVERED BY MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS (MRAS) WHO MAY WISH THAT THEIR PROFESSION AND QUALIFICATIONS BE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNIZED, SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRED CPD UNITS AS PRESCRIBED IN THE MRAS WHICH IN NO CASE SHALL BE LESS THAN FORTY-FIVE (45) CREDIT UNITS;

C. PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE REQUIRED TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION PRIOR TO THE PRACTICE OF THEIR PROFESSION AS PROVIDED IN THEIR PROFESSIONAL REGULATORY LAWS (PRL), SHALL COMPLY WITH THE REQUIRED CPD COURSES;

D. PROFESSIONALS WHO WISH TO BE ISSUED A CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING (COGS) BY THEIR AIPO AS INDICATED IN THEIR PRL, SHALL COMPLY WITH THE CPD REQUIREMENT, WHICH IN NO CASE SHALL BE LESS THAN FORTY-FIVE (45) CREDIT UNITS; AND

E. DURING A PANDEMIC, STATE C/F CALAMITY OR NATIONAL EMERGENCY, THE PRC MAY TEMPORARILY SUSPEND THE COMPLIANCE PERIOD FOR CPD REQUIREMENTS INDEFINITELY OR EXTEND THE END OF THE SAID COMPLIANCE PERIOD TO THE EQUIVALENT DURATION OF THE PANDEMIC, STATE OF CALAMITY OR NATIONAL EMERGENCY."

SEC. 4. A new Section 10-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"Sec. 10-A. EXEMPTIONS FROM CPD REQUIREMENTS - THE NUMBER 1 2 OF REQUIRED CREDIT UNITS PER COMPLIANCE PERIOD SHALL NOT APPLY 3 TO THE FOLLOWING: 4 5 a. NEWLY LICENSED OR REGISTERED PROFESSIONALS ON 6 THE FIRST RENEWAL OF THEIR PIC WITHIN THE FIRST 7 FOUR (4) YEARS AFTER OBTAINING THEIR LICENSE: 8 b. OFWS, AS DEFINED IN SECTION 2, LETTER (U) OF THIS 9 10 ACT; AND 11 c. SENIOR CITIZENS WHO ARE NOT ENGAGED IN THE 12 13 PRACTICE OF THEIR PROFESSION, AS DEFINED UNDER 14 THEIR RESPECTIVE REGULATORY LAWS." 15 16 17 SEC. 5. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 109/2 is hereby amended to read as follows: 18 19 "Sec. 12. Career Progression and Specialization PROGRAM AND 20 CREDIT ACCUMULATION AND TRANSFER SYSTEM. - THE CPD SHALL BE A BENEFICIAL AND INTEGRATED COMPONENT IN 21 22 THE UPGRADING OF QUALIFICATION STANDARDS AND TITLE 23 TOWARDS CPSP-CAT'S OF ALL REGISTERED AND LICENSED PROFESSIONALS UNDER THE REGULATION OF THE PRC. 24 25 26 FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE PRC AND THE PRBs SHALL CREATE THE CPSP-CATS COMMUTTEE FOR EACH PROFESSION TO ASSIST THE 27 28 CPD COUNCIL AND THE PRBs IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 29 CPSP-CATS. 30 31 THE PRC [and], the PRBs AND THE CPSP-CATS COMMITTEE, in consultation with the APPO/APO, the Civil Service Commission (CSC), THE 32 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), other 33 concerned government agencies, EMPLOYERS' BUSINESS AND 34 35 PROFESSIONAL CRGANIZATIONS and industry stakeholders, shall formulate and implement a [ Carcer Progression and Specialization Program] 36 CPSP-CATS for every profession [. The Career Progression and 37 38 Specialization Program shall form part of the CPD.1, WITH CPD AS INTEGRAL COMPONENT FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENT, SUBJECT TO 39 40 THE FOLLOWING: 41 42 A. THE CPSF-CATS COMMITTEE SHALL ESTABLISH 43 MECHANISMS TO FACILITATE THE MATCHING OF CPD 44 LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR CREDITS WITH THE INTENDED 45 LEARNING OUTCOMES OF PROFESSIONAL OUALIFICATIONS FOR CAREER PROGRESSION AND 46 47 SPECIALIZATION, AS WELL AS FOR THE TRANSFER OF 48 CREDITS BETWEEN AND ACROSS EDUCATIONAL AND 49 TRAINING SECTORS: 50 B. CPD UNITS EARNED SHALL BE AN UPGRADE TOWARDS 51 52 MOVEMENT IN THE PQF QUALIFICATION LEVEL AS IT 53 RESULTS IN EARNING QUALIFICATION FRAMEWORK (QF) 54 CREDIT **FOR** CAREER PROGRESSION 55 SPECIALIZATION; 56 C. THE PRBs AND THE CPSP-CATS COMMITTEE, TOGETHER 57

WITH THE ACCREDITED SPECIALTY SOCIETY OR SIMILAR

1 PROFESSIONAL SPECIALTY ORGANIZATION 2 DETERMINE THE REQUIRED NUMBER OF QF CREDITS 3 REQUIRED FOR THE CONFERMENT OF QUALIFICATION 4 LEVELS OR TITLE PURSUANT TO THE PQF; 5 6 D. UPON ASSESSMENT AND COMPLETION OF THE QF 7 REQUIREMENTS AND COMPLIANCE WITH 8 REQUIREMENTS, THE PRC AND THE PRB SHALL CONFER 9 THE QUALIFICATION OR TITLE COMMENSURATE TO THE 10 PQF QUALIFICATION LEVEL, WHICH SHALL BE INDICATED 11 AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN THE PIC; 12 13 E. PhQuaR AS LINKED TO THE ASEAN QUALIFICATIONS 14 REFERENCE FRAMEWORK (AQRF) AND THE PRC SHALL 15 MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF THESE QUALIFICATIONS 16 TITLES FOR EVERY PROFESSION; AND 17 18 F. PROFESSIONALS WHO ARE COVERED BY MRAS AND 19 OTHER INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WHO DESIRE THAT THEIR QUALIFICATIONS BE RECOGNIZED OR REGISTERED 20 21 UNDER THESE AGREEMENTS SHALL COMPLY WITH THE 22 MANDATORY CPD AND CPS REQUIREMENTS." 23 24 SEC. 6. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10912 is hereby amended to read as fellows: 25 26 "Sec. 13. Role of Concerned Government Agencies and the Private 27 Sector. - [All concerned government agencies and private firms and organizations 28 employing professionals shall include the CPD as part of their human resource development plan and program.] AS PART OF THEIR HUMAN RESOURCE 29 DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND PROGRAMS, AND AS PROVIDED IN THE 30 31 SUBSECTIONS BELOVA: 32 33 CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PUBLIC 34 HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER 35 PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS SHALL PROVIDE FULL 36 FUNDING FOR THE CPD COMPLIANCE OF 37 PROFESSIONALS EMPLOYED BY THEM; 38 39 PRIVATE FIRMS SHALL SUPPORT THE CPD 40 COMPLIANCE OF THEIR EMPLOYED PROFESSIONALS. 41 NOTHING IN THIS PROVISION SHALL PREVENT, 42 OR OTHERWISE REVOKE EXISTING COMPANY POLICY MORE FAVORABLE TO THE 43 44 EMPLOYEE; 45 46 THE RESPECTIVE CPD COUNCILS SHALL DEVISE 47 MECHANISMS FOR PROVIDING DISCOUNTS TO SENIOR 48 CITIZENS IN THE FEES TO BE CHARGED FOR 49 ATTENDANCE IN CPD SEMINARS, TRAININGS AND 50 SIMILAR PROGRAMS, SPECIFICALLY THOSE ENGAGED IN 51 THE PRACTICE OF THEIR PROFESSIONS AND WHO ARE 52 REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE CPD REQUIREMENTS; 53 54 d. ALL PROFESSIONALS SHALL BE GIVEN CPD 55 MANDATORY PAID LEAVE IN SUFFICIENT NUMBER OF 56 DAYS NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH

REQUIREMENTS OF THIS ACT, TO BE CHARGED TO THEIR EXISTING LEAVE CREDITS; AND

e. IN THE PROCESSING OF DOCUMENTS FOR RENEWAL OF PIC, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT, NO FEES SHALL BE REQUIRED IN ADDITION TO WHAT THE PRO ALREADY REQUIRES FOR PIC RENEWAL, IF ANY, PRIOR TO THE PASSAGE OF THIS ACT."

SEC. 7. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10912 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Sec. 14. Funding. — The implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be irrimediately included in the PRC programs, the funding of which shall be included in its annual submissions for inclusion in the annual General Appropriations Act. The funding requirement herein mentioned shall be used for the regular operations of the CPD Councils, including the monitoring of the conduct of the CPD programs, AND THE OPERATION OF THE PRBs AND THE CPSP-CATS COMMITTEE. The PRC shall review and approve the proposed budget for each CPD Council, PRBs, AND CPSP-CATS COMMITEEE taking into consideration the reasonable expenses that will be incurred BY THEIR MEMBERS—for travel, honorarium [/] OR allowances, and per diems, when attending official CPD Council meetings or performing other related functions assigned to them.

THE PRC SHALL INCLUDE THE FUNDING FOR THE FULL COMPUTERIZATION OF THE CPD SYSTEM AND DATABASE DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ENHANCEMENT OF THE PROFESSIONAL IDENTIFICATION CARD TO INCLUDE CPD DATA AND OTHER INFORMATION ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE.

ALL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, INCLUDING GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS, SHALL INCLUDE IN THEIR ANNUAL BUDGET AN ALLOCATION FOR THE CONDUCT OF FREE TRAININGS AND SEMINARS FOR THEIR PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT."

SEC. 8. A new Section 14-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"SEC. 14-A. FREE OR INEXPENSIVE SEMINARS, WEBINARS AND SIMILAR TRAINING PROGRAMS. – THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, AND PRIVATE COMPANIES SHALL, IN CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION WITH THE PRC, ESTABLISH A MECHANISM WHEREBY THEY SHALL PROVIDE PROFESSIONALS UNDER THEIR JURISLUCTION, WITH FREE OR INEXPENSIVE SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS. ONLINE AND SIMILAR TRAINING PROGRAMS, TO EARN CPD PROGRAM CREDITS WITH NO OR VERY LOW COST TO PROFESSIONALS. THEY MAY CREATE MECHANISMS WHERE QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS FROM OUTSIDE THE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OR PRIVATE COMPANIES MAY BE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE SAID SEMINAR, WORKSHOPS AND ONLINE OR SIMILAR TRAINING PROGRAM AND EARN CPD CREDITS."

SEC. 9. A new Section 15 is hereby inserted to read as follows:

"Sec. 15. ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES. – WHEN THE FAILURE TO OBTAIN REQUIRED CPD CREDIT'S IS SOLELY DUE TO THE

OF THE CONCERNED AGENCIES FAILURE OR THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE TO PROFERLY IMPLEMENT THE CPD PROGRAM IN LOCATION AND PROFESSION OF THE CONCERNED PROFESSIONALS: PROVIDED, THAT, THE PROFESSIONAL HAS EXERCISED DUE DILIGENCE IN COMPLYING WITH THE CPD REQUIREMENTS CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE PERSONS OR AGENCIES RESPONSIBLE SHALL BE ADMINISTRATIVELY LIABLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT LAWS FOR THE FAILURE TO PROPERLY IMPLEMENT THE CPD PROGRAM, UPON COMPLIANCE WITH DUE PROCESS."

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SEC. 10. SECTIONS 16, 17, 18, AND 19 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912 ARE HEREBY RENUMBERED AS SECTIONS 17, 18, 19, AND 20.

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SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The PRC and the PRBs shall, in consultation with the AIPO/APO, the CSC, DOLE, and other relevant stakeholders, promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act within six (6) months from its effectivity.

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19 **SEC. 12.** Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

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SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders and other administrative issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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SEC. 14. Effectivity. - This Actshall take effect lifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
 Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,