

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE

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s.B. No. 205

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Introduced by SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

# AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016"

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Six years after the enactment of Republic Act No. 10912 or the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Act of 2016, the issues of affordability and accessibility of the CPD programs continues to be the concern of most Filipino professionals. By virtue of the said law, all registered and licensed Filipino professionals are mandated to take additional formal and non-formal learning as a requirement in the renewal of their professional license and identification cards with the Philippine Regulatory Commission (PRC). Foremost, the goal of the law is to keep all professionals be knowledgeable of the developments and latest updates in their respective professions.

Despite the good intentions of the law which is to promote and upgrade the competencies and qualifications of Filipino professional, numerous criticisms against the law have been made after its enactment. Many of our professionals are lamenting the practicality of the law and the difficulty in complying with the same. Among these problem is the affordability of this seminars and trainings. CPD units

fact that many of our professionals cannot afford to attend these seminars and trainings because of the lack of budget to support these kind of activities. The training or seminar may cost P15,000 to P30,000, depending on the service provider. This is an additional financial burden to employees who are earning minimum wage or those who are not employed but would want to renew their licenses. Similarly, our migrant workers abroad are also complaining of the costly online courses that they need to take in order to comply with the CPD law. They need to pay \$40 - \$50 for courses offered by universities abroad and additional expense to be paid to the PRC for the review of their compliance.

Aside from the financial aspect is the time to be allotted in joining this CPD seminars. Attending these seminars means that the employed professionals need to sacrifice a day or two of their workdays in order to earn CPD units.

Another major problem is the accessibility of these CPD trainings because of limited CPD providers. Specifically, professionals in the far-flung areas have limited access to PRC-accredited institutions, and are constrained to process their applications and complete the required CPD units in major cities.

One year after the law took effect, then PRC Commissioner Teofilo Pilando, Jr. admitted that the PRC have limited capacity to monitor the implementation of the law because of lack of funding.

As early as 2017, at least 43,000 Filipinos professionals signed an online petition appealing for the review of the law. It is but appropriate that at this time of global health crisis, the repeal of this law must be pursued. This will immensely unburden our professionals who are still recovering from the effects of the pandemic.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.



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### AN ACT

# REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OTHERWISE KOWN AS THE "CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016"

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

- Section 1. Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the "Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016", is hereby repealed.
- Sec. 2. All other laws, executive orders, resolutions, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
- Sec. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

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