

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

15th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4198

11:35 AM
H. J. J. J.

Introduced by Representatives **SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III, JUAN EDGARDO M. ANGARA, MA. ISABELLE G. CLIMACO, BERNADETTE R. HERRERA-DY, FATIMA ALIAH Q. DIMAPORO, MARIANO U. PIAMONTE JR. and ANTONIO L. TINIO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) are national government agencies which were both created to implement the constitutional mandate of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality higher education. In principle, their respective duties and mandates have been clearly delineated: CHED's focus is the maintenance of standards in higher education so that the academic formation and training of students will prepare them for their chosen professions. PRC on the other hand works to ensure that the practice of such professions will be open only to those who meet the standards reflected in licensure examinations.

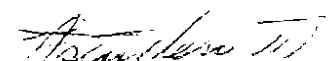
This distinction between the functions of the two agencies has been inadvertently blurred by the following provision in the PRC Modernization Act of 2000:


Section 11. *Person to Teach Subjects for Licensure Examination On All Professions* – All subjects for licensure examinations shall be taught by persons who are holders of valid certificates of registration and **valid professional licenses of the profession** and who comply with the other requirements of the CHED. *(Emphasis supplied.)*


This provision has caused some confusion in tertiary educators. For what CHED requires of faculty who are handling courses in the tertiary level (including general education courses) is a master's degree. A professional license is required only of those who teach in professional courses which are included in licensure examinations. PRC, per Section 11, requires that **all** who teach subjects that are also *incidentally* board examination subjects, whether teaching in general or professional education courses, must possess a professional license.


To settle this problem of contradiction in policies, the authority to determine the minimum qualifications of faculty in higher education must be vested in CHED alone, it being the agency that has the mandate to regulate higher education. An amendment to this effect in the PRC Modernization Act of 2000 must be made.


In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is highly recommended.


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Party List Representative
A Teacher


ANTONIO L. TINIO
Party List Representative
Act Teachers

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Introduced by Representatives SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III, JUAN EDGARDO M. ANGARA, MA. ISABELLE G. CLIMACO, BERNADETTE R. HERRERA-DY, FATIMA ALIAH Q. DIMAPORO, MARIANO U. PIAMONTE JR., and ANTONIO L. TINIO

AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 11 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8981, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PROFESSIONAL REGULATION COMMISSION (PRC) MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2000

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

SECTION 1. Section 11 of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) Modernization Act of 2000 is hereby amended as follows:

“Section 11. *Persons to teach subjects for Licensure Examination on all Professions.* --- The policies, standards and requirements of professional academic programs in the area of faculty as prescribed by the Commission on Higher Education in consultation with the respective professional boards shall be recognized by the Commission and complied with by higher education institutions.

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, rules and ordinances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 3. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,