

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
17th CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. **3962**




Introduced by **Representative Wes Gatchalian**

EPLANATORY NOTE

Some of our strongest held convictions are those which have been molded and branded on us from the days of our youth. It is those lessons which have been repeated, established, and demonstrated on us again and again, which we latched on to when situations where we could act contrary to them arises. It is under this premise that in this bill it is proposed that a mandatory continuing education on the perils of Drug Addiction be enacted in our school system in the secondary level.

This bill aims to implement the mandatory education on the perils of Drug Addiction to all secondary level students, both public and private. The proposed mandatory mode of doing it would be through an activity, be it in the form of lectures or out of school trips, designed by the Department of Education and other relevant agencies, conducted once every quarter of the school year. The intent would be that it opens the eyes of our students to the realities of drug addiction, as to how it is capable of not only destroying once life, but also the lives of people around them.

The vigor of the current administration in defeating the drug problem in the country is not without its marginal critics, that being said what cannot be doubted is that with the deliberate efforts of law enforcement, the eyes of this nation has been opened to the festering realities of our generation. We must work towards ensuring that the next generations do not fall into the same pits. This proposal will be a step towards achieving that goal.



Hon. Wes Gatchalian
Representative
1st District of Valenzuela City

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE CONTINUOUS EDUCATION
ON ILLEGAL DRUGS BE A PART OF THE CURRICULUM
OF ALL SECONDARY LEVEL STUDENTS BOTH IN
PRIVATE AND IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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

Section 1. *Title.* – This act shall be known as the “Anti-Illegal Drugs Education Act of 2016.”

Section 2. *Statement of Policy.* – This Act is adopted to enable the following declared State Policies:

- a. It is the policy of the State to protect the health of its citizens against the harmful effects of illegal drugs.
- b. It is the policy of the State to apprise its citizens as to the detriments of Drug Addiction to their physical, economic, spiritual, and social well-being.
- c. It is the policy of the State to protect the youth from falling into Drug Addiction; therefore, it should educate them as to the detriments of usage, and the penalties for engaging in it whether as a user or a part of the peddling business.
- d. It is the policy of the State that the youth be a part of Nation-building; therefore, it should provide them with tools that will enable them to participate in eradicating the Drug Problem in the country.

Section 3. *Coverage.* – Continuing Education on the Illegal Drugs shall be a mandatory part of the curriculum of all students enrolled in the secondary level, both in private and in public schools. A full day per quarter of the school calendar shall be spent for the purpose of this Act. There shall be a different content specifically tailored to the year-level the student is enrolled in.

Section 4. *Course design.* – The Department of Education, in consultation with the Department of Health and the Department of Justice, shall be charged to develop

the content of the sessions for the purpose of this Act. Such content shall be specifically tailored to the year of the students, taking into consideration the average age of the students in that particular year. The contents may include: Health Detriments, Penal Statutes, Testimonies of Former Addicts, Exposure Trips to Secured Facilities for Addicts, and Such Other Activities or Contents which in the interest of effecting this Act the Department of Education deems pertinent.

Section 5.*Funding.* - The funds for the establishment, development of modules, and training of course instructors, shall be provided for in the general appropriations act of the Department of Education.

Section 6.*Transitory Provision.* - The course shall be integrated in the current curriculum after one (1) year following the approval of this Act. During the interim, the Department of Education, pursuant to Section 3 of this Act, shall undertake the development of the course module, and the training of the teaching staff charged with the handling of the course. For this purpose, the Department of Education shall provide trainings, free of charge, for teachers both in the private and the public sector.

Section 7.*Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 8.*Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,