

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session



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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 445**

Submitted by the Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Appropriations on **March 15, 2023**

Re: House Bill No. **7620**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4127

Sponsors: Representatives Mark O. Go, Elizaldy S. Co, and Harris Christopher M. Ongchuan

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Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Appropriations, to which was referred House Bill No. 4127, introduced by Rep. Harris Christopher M. Ongchuan, entitled:

“AN ACT  
PRESCRIBING THE USE OF NEO-ETHNIC PHILIPPINE TEXTILES IN THE  
ACADEMIC REGALIA OF ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES,  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. **7620**, entitled:

“AN ACT  
PRESCRIBING THE USE OF NEO-ETHNIC PHILIPPINE TEXTILES IN THE  
ACADEMIC REGALIA OF ALL STATE AND LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND  
COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

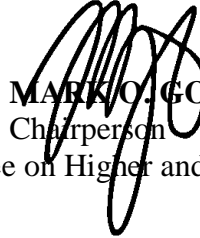
be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 4127 and with Representatives Harris Christopher M. Ongchuan, Mark O. Go, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Elizaldy S. Co, Jude A. Acidre, Julienne "Jam" Baronda, Lianda B. Bolilia, Wilter Y. Palma, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Franz S. Pumaren, David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, Bernadette "BH" Herrera, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Bienvenido M. Abante, Jr., Marlyn "Len" B. Alonte, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Jose C. Alvarez, Maria Rachel J. Arenas, Claudine Diana D. Bautista-Lim, Ching B. Bernos, Raul Angelo "Jil" D. Bongalon, Fernando T. Cabredo, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Arthur F. Celeste, Angelica Natasha Co, Midy N. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Christopher V. P. De Venecia, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Arnie B. Fuentebella, Ed Christopher S. Go, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Virgilio S. Lacson, Joseph "Jojo" L. Lara, Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Janice Z. Salimbangon, Tobias "Toby" M. Tiangco, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Joseph Gilbert F. Violago, Maria Carmen S. Zamora, Jose Maria R. Zubiri, Jr., JC Abalos, Zia Alonto Adiong, Adrian Jay C. Advincula, Loreto S. Amante, James "Jojo" A. Ang, Jr., Dean Asistio, Juan Carlos "Arjo" C. Atayde, Maria Vanessa C. Aumentado, Alfelito "Alfel" M. Bascug, Bonifacio L. Bosita, Edgar M. Chatto, Ma. Victoria C. Co-Pilar, Jaime D. Cojuangco, Ambrosio C. Cruz, Jr., Ricardo S. Cruz, Jr., Sergio C. Dagooc, Sittie Aminah Q. Dimaporo, Antonieta R. Eudela, Wowo Fortes, Jaime R. Fresnedi, Dante S. Garcia, Maria Angela S. Garcia, Edwin L. Gardiola, Ramon Rodrigo L. Gutierrez, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Jefferson F. Khonghun, Daphne A. Lagon, Sonny "SL" L. Lagon, Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Marissa "Del Mar" P. Magsino, Doris E. Maniquiz, Ma. Rene Ann

Lourdes G. Matibag, Luz V. Mercado, Margarita Ignacia B. Nograles, Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, Arnan C. Panaligan, Augustina Dominique "Ditse Tina" C. Pancho, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Salvador A. Pleyto, Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, Eulogio R. Rodriguez, Dimszar M. Sali, Josefina B. Tallado, Jocelyn P. Tulfo, Christian S. Unabia, Patrick Michael D. Vargas, Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara, Samuel S. Verzosa, Jr., Miguel Luis R. Villafuerte, Christopherson "Coco" M. Yap, Maria Jamina Katherine B. Agarao, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Eric R. Buhain, OLY, Dale B. Corvera, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Paolo Z. Duterte, Alan I B. Ecleo, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Richard I. Gomez, DPA, Ivan Howard A. Guintu, Ricardo T. Kho, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Rodolfo "Ompong" M. Ordanes, Francisco Paolo P. Ortega V, Bryan B. Revilla, Roman T. Romulo, Joey Sarte Salceda, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Lorna C. Silverio, Jeffrey Soriano, Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino, Anna Victoria Veloso-Tuazon, Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr. and Edvic G. Yap as authors thereof.



**ELIZALDY S. CO**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Appropriations

Respectfully submitted,



**MARK O. GO**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Higher and Technical Education

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**House Bill No. 7620**  
*(In substitution of House Bill No. 4127)*

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Introduced by Representatives Harris Christopher M. Ongchuan, Mark O. Go, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Elizaldy S. Co, Jude A. Acidre, Julienne "Jam" Baronda, Lianda B. Bolilia, Wilter Y. Palma, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabab, Franz S. Pumaren, David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, Bernadette "BH" Herrera, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Bienvenido M. Abante, Jr., Marlyn "Len" B. Alonte, Mercedes K. Alvarez, Jose C. Alvarez, Maria Rachel J. Arenas, Claudine Diana D. Bautista-Lim, Ching B. Bernos, Raul Angelo "Jil" D. Bongalon, Fernando T. Cabredo, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Arthur F. Celeste, Angelica Natasha Co, Midy N. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Christopher V. P. De Venecia, Rachel Marguerite B. Del Mar, Arnie B. Fuentebella, Ed Christopher S. Go, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Virgilio S. Lacson, Joseph "Jojo" L. Lara, Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Janice Z. Salimbangon, Tobias "Toby" M. Tiangco, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Baby Aline Vargas-Alfonso, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, Joseph Gilbert F. Violago, Maria Carmen S. Zamora, Jose Maria R. Zubiri, Jr., JC Abalos, Zia Alonto Adiong, Adrian Jay C. Advincula, Loreto S. Amante, James "Jojo" A. Ang, Jr., Dean Asistio, Juan Carlos "Arjo" C. Atayde, Maria Vanessa C. Aumentado, Alfelito "Alfel" M. Bascug, Bonifacio L. Bosita, Edgar M. Chatto, Ma. Victoria C. Co-Pilar, Jaime D. Cojuangco, Ambrosio C. Cruz, Jr., Ricardo S. Cruz, Jr., Sergio C. Dagooc, Sittie Aminah Q. Dimaporo, Antonieta R. Eudela, Wowo Fortes, Jaime R. Fresnedi, Dante S. Garcia, Maria Angela S. Garcia, Edwin L. Gardiola, Ramon Rodrigo L. Gutierrez, Charisse Anne C. Hernandez, Jefferson F. Khonghun, Daphne A. Lagon, Sonny "SL" L. Lagon, Carmelo "Jon" B. Lazatin II, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Marissa "Del Mar" P. Magsino, Doris E. Maniquiz, Ma. Rene Ann Lourdes G. Matibag, Luz V. Mercado, Margarita Ignacia B. Nograles, Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, Arnan C. Panaligan, Augustina Dominique "Ditse Tina" C. Pancho, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Salvador A. Pleyto, Ramon Jolo B. Revilla III, Eulogio R. Rodriguez, Dimszar M. Sali, Josefina B. Tallado, Jocelyn P. Tulfo, Christian S. Unabia, Patrick Michael D. Vargas, Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara, Samuel S. Verzosa, Jr., Miguel Luis R. Villafuerte, Christopherson "Coco" M. Yap, Maria Jamina Katherine B. Agarao, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Eric R. Buhain, OLY, Dale B. Corvera, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Paolo Z. Duterte, Alan I B. Ecleo, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Richard I. Gomez, DPA, Ivan Howard A. Guintu, Ricardo T. Kho, Mario Vittorio "Marvey" A. Mariño, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Rodolfo "Ompong" M. Ordanes, Francisco Paolo P. Ortega V, Bryan B. Revilla, Roman T. Romulo, Joey Sarte Salceda, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Lorna C. Silverio, Jeffrey Soriano, Aniela Bianca D. Tolentino, Anna Victoria Veloso-Tuazon, Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr., and Edvic G. Yap

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**AN ACT**  
**PRESCRIBING THE USE OF NEO-ETHNIC PHILIPPINE TEXTILES IN THE**  
**ACADEMIC REGALIA OF ALL STATE AND LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND**  
**COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1        **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine Academic Regalia  
2 Act”.

3  
4        **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to instill patriotism and  
5 nationalism among the youth whose academic preparation for adulthood and responsible  
6 citizenship include values formation on love of country and pride in the uniqueness of their  
7 cultural heritage. In this regard, opportunities for displaying these values shall be encouraged  
8 by the school system not only as part of values development, but to preserve Philippine culture  
9 and certain local traditions, and create avenues, such as the wearing of academic regalia that  
10 is based on Filipino ethnic and traditional design to promote the production of neo-ethnic  
11 Philippine textiles, boost the national effort to develop culture-based industries, and in the  
12 process create jobs in local communities.

13  
14        Pursuant thereto, the use of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles in the academic regalia of all  
15 state universities and colleges (SUCs) and local universities and colleges (LUCs) is therefore  
16 prescribed.

17  
18        **SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.*** – As used in this Act:

- 19  
20        (a) *Academic regalia* refers to the official garb worn by university officials, faculty, graduates,  
21 and awardees during graduation, commencement exercises, and other academic functions; and  
22  
23        (b) *Neo-ethnic Philippine textiles* refer to textiles made of or containing natural or indigenous  
24 materials, sourced, and produced in the Philippines using updated, relevant, and green,  
25 scientific, and technological approaches and innovations, while integrating and retaining  
26 traditional patterns, designs, icons, motifs, and approaches.

27  
28        **SEC. 4. *Creation of the Philippine Academic Regalia Council.*** – There is hereby created  
29 a Philippine Academic Regalia Council, hereinafter referred to as the “Council”, which shall  
30 be chaired and co-chaired by the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education  
31 (CHED) and the Director of the Philippine Textile Research Institute of the Department of  
32 Science and Technology (DOST-PTRI), respectively. The Council shall have the following as  
33 members:

- 34  
35        (a) Representative from the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA);  
36  
37        (b) Representative from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP);  
38  
39        (c) Representative from the Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges  
40 (PASUC);  
41  
42        (d) Representative from the University of the Philippines (UP) System;  
43  
44        (e) Representative from the Association of Local Colleges and Universities (ALCU); and  
45  
46        (f) Representative from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

47  
48        **SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions of the Council.*** – The Council shall have the following  
49 specific powers and functions:  
50

- 1 (a) Formulate the National Academic Regalia Policy;  
2  
3 (b) Review, standardize, and adopt the academic regalia for graduates, administrators,  
4 faculty, and awardees of SUCs and LUCs;  
5  
6 (c) Ensure sustainability, quality control, and availability of yarns, dyes, and loom parts;  
7  
8 (d) Propose ways to incorporate neo-ethnic textiles in the academic regalia;  
9  
10 (e) Prepare and publish a handbook containing information on the academic regalia and  
11 its proper use, protection, trade, and management; and  
12  
13 (f) Protect the intellectual property rights as regards design silhouettes, textile pattern,  
14 color, and textile specification for the academic regalia.  
15

16 **SEC. 6. *Mandatory Coordination with the Council.*** – Pursuant to the provisions of this  
17 Act, all SUCs and LUCs shall be required to coordinate with the Council to ensure that neo-  
18 ethnic Philippine textiles shall be prescribed in their academic regalia, specifically in the  
19 hood, robe or gown worn by students in important occasions, such as hooding ceremony or  
20 graduation from either a bachelor’s, master’s or doctorate degree, as well as the faculty and  
21 other members of the academic community, and may be incorporated in the headgear  
22 (mortarboard cap or tam), mortarboard tassle, stole, and cord, among others.  
23

24 **SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the  
25 effectivity of this Act, the CHED shall, in consultation with the DOST-PTRI, NCCA, UP,  
26 PASUC, ALCU, DTI and other relevant stakeholders, issue the rules and regulations for the  
27 effective implementation of this Act.  
28

29 **SEC. 8. *Appropriations.*** –The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this  
30 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.  
31

32 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is  
33 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall  
34 remain in full force and effect.  
35

36 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent  
37 with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.  
38

39 **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
40 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*