

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

**HOUSE BILL NO. 480**



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**Introduced by Representative Roman T. Romulo**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

According to Article II Section 13 of the 1987 Constitution, it is the policy of the State to recognize the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

Patriotism and nationalism are further accentuated during the times when our people are not only fighting for survival but also for freedom. During World War II, our nation became involved when the quest for world domination of superpowers occupied our lands.

Nevertheless, this great war united the Filipino people and cemented the country as a nation of patriots ready to defend the motherland against a superpower at all costs.

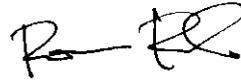
World War II in the Philippines is an experience in our national past which "was felt by every Filipino of every age in every inhabited region of the archipelago" (Alfonso J. Aluit). It showed the magnificent valor and exceptional strength of character of Filipino soldiers, guerrillas, and civilians alike.

Inculcating the youth with an intensified sense of patriotism, nationalism, and respect for the rule of law entails a comprehensive and holistic pedagogical approach to educating them on World War II in the Philippines that will include relevant chapters in world history and, most importantly, in Philippine military history.

This bill seeks to mandate the instruction of World War II in the Philippines in Higher Education Institutions which shall result in preserving the stories about the relentless struggle and great heroism of our World War II veterans, and about the crucial role played by the Filipino guerillas who turned and advanced the tide or

winning against the Japanese which led for the Filipinos to the very freedom and liberties which we are all enjoying right now.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roman T. Romulo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**ROMAN T. ROMULO**  
Lone District, Pasig City

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**AN ACT**  
**INTEGRATING A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF PHILIPPINE HISTORY DURING**  
**WORLD WAR II INTO THE HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** It is the policy of the State to promote and protect the physical,  
2 moral, intellectual and social well-being of the youth and inculcate the values of  
3 patriotism and nationalism to foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, and  
4 encourage involvement in the political and civic affairs of the country.

5           To this end, the State shall put in place a mechanism that shall highlight the  
6 role of national heroes in the historical development of the country and thus educate  
7 the youth on the values of patriotism and nationalism and preserving for posterity the  
8 stories on the great struggle and heroism of Filipino soldiers who fought the Japanese  
9 occupational forces during the war.

10           **SEC. 2.** A comprehensive study of Philippine History during World War II shall  
11 be integrated into and shall cover not less than fifty percent (50%) of the mandatory  
12 Philippine History subject being offered under the general education curriculum in  
13 higher education courses of all higher education institutions (HEIs) in the country.

14           The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall, pursuant to its mandate  
15 under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994",  
16 develop in close collaboration with the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office-Department  
17 of National Defense (PVAO-DND), a program to execute and implement the provisions  
18 of this Act.

1 In support of the study of the history of World War II, all HEIs are encouraged  
2 to keep in their libraries adequate books, resources, and reference materials on World  
3 War II as it transpired in the Philippines.

4 **SEC. 3.** Within one hundred eighty (180) days from the effectivity of this Act,  
5 the CHED shall, in coordination with the PVAO-DND, formulate and issue the rules  
6 and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act. Other governmental  
7 entities may be tapped jointly by the principals as resource or advisory groups in this  
8 undertaking.

9 Resource persons such as prominent historians, history professors, members  
10 of historical associations, college or university presidents or administrators, faculty  
11 members and students may also be invited jointly by CHED and PVAO-DND to  
12 participate.

13 **SEC. 4.** If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or  
14 invalid, the other provisions not affected, shall remain in full force and effect.

15 **SEC. 5.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, memorandum orders,  
16 memorandum circulars, administrative orders, ordinances or parts thereof which are  
17 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
18 accordingly.

19 **SEC. 6.** Notwithstanding the non-issuance of its IRR, this Act shall take effect  
20 fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
21 circulation.

22  
*Approved,*