

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11551, May 27, 2021]

AN ACT INTEGRATING LABOR EDUCATION IN THE TERTIARY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Labor Education Act".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State shall afford protection to labor, promote full employment, ensure equal work opportunities regardless of sex, race or creed, and regulate the relations between workers and employers. It shall assure the rights of workers to self-organization, collective bargaining, security of tenure, and just and humane conditions of work.

To this end, the State shall put in place a mechanism to educate future workers, employers, and entrepreneurs, on their rights and responsibilities in promoting harmony in the workplace and social progress in the society.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, the following terms are defined as follows:

(a) *Tertiary Education Curriculum* refers to the general education curriculum designed for students taking up courses in higher education institutions (HEIs) leading to a degree and nondegree diploma and certificate courses in technical-vocational institutions (TVIs); and

(b) *Labor Education* refers to the teaching of basic knowledge on labor rights and other skills relating to negotiation, fostering smooth interpersonal relations in the workplace, and mechanisms for redress of grievances and other concerns.

SEC. 4. *Integration of Labor Education in Higher Education Curriculum.* - All public and private higher education institutions (HEIs) shall integrate labor education as part of an elective course; and as far as practicable, hold a Labor Empowerment and Career Guidance conference which graduating students shall attend.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED), pursuant to its mandate under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994," shall develop the program to execute and implement this Act.

SEC. 5. *Integration of Labor Education in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Curriculum.* - All TVIs offering nondegree certificate and diploma courses ranging from one (1) to three (3) years shall integrate labor education as an elective course in the TVET curriculum.