

13TH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*First Regular Session*

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SECRETARY  
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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: Dela

S. No. 538

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR JR.

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State must harness its human resources to cope with advancement in technology. The youth, being an important component of its human resources, must be given their competitive edge in today's world. One way to do this is the proposal of this bill, which is to integrate computer education in the curricula for third and fourth year students.

In the Philippines, computers are already prevalent in the working place. If our youth are to be fully equipped to face the business world confidently and with a bright outlook to the future, they must, at the very least, be computer-literate. Graduates who are computer illiterate often find themselves at a disadvantage when faced with their computer-literate counterparts. Being knowledgeable on computers can make them competitive and responsive in the job market.

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

  
MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: Quila

S. No. 538

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR JR.

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

**AN ACT TO INTEGRATE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION INTO THE  
PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CURRICULA AND APPROPRIATING  
FUNDS THEREFOR**

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Information Technology Education Act of 2004.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to promote and support computer literacy starting at the earliest grade level in the public school system of the country. Likewise, the State shall encourage the use of Information Technology (IT) and its various components (computers, telecommunications, etc.) in order to upgrade and modernize the educational system, enhance the quality of education and achieve equity in the acquisition of skills among all students. The private sector is encouraged to participate in the development of the Information Technology Education Program.

Toward these ends, the State shall provide for an Information Technology Education Program integrated in the existing elementary and secondary school curricula.

SEC. 3. *Mandatory Coverage.* – It shall be mandatory for all public elementary and secondary schools to integrate information technology education in their curricula.

SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – Information Technology Education refers to the study and use of the computer and other Information Technology (IT) components in the school curricula.

Its objectives shall include:

- (a) The use of computers and related technologies to enhance learning and improve personal productivity;
- (b) The acquisition of knowledge and skills on the operation and maintenance of computers and peripherals, and the understanding of basic operating systems; and
- (c) The inculcation of the ethical use of information technology among learners.

Integration is an education strategy where the information technology education learning competencies become part of appropriate subjects in the school curricula.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall issue guidelines, rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act within ninety (90) days upon effectivity.

SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and regularly thereafter.

Approved,