

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
S. No. 1784

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 14, Section 1, provides that the State shall protect and promote the right of all the citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.

In order to prepare our nation's youth for the challenges of the future, as well as to keep our nation competitive in a global economy, every public elementary and secondary school in the Philippines should be equipped with the best and most up-to-date library resources, certified library media specialists, access to advanced technology, and instruction on the use of library and information resources.

To comply with the constitutional mandate and to meet the challenges in education, this bill proposes to establish an Office of School Library Media Services that will provide information and leadership to school library media programs and personnel nationwide.*

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Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.



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SENATE
S. No. 1784

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 TO PROVIDE FOR SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY
3 ENHANCEMENT, TRAINING, AND IMPROVEMENT

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "School Library Media
5 Services Act."

6 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is a policy of the State to protect and promote the
7 right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such
8 education accessible to all.

9 SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* -As used in this Act, the term:

10 (A) "Director" means the Director of the Office of School Library Media Services
11 established under this Act; and

12 (B) "Secretary" refers to the Secretary of Education.

13 SECTION 4. *Establishment and Functions of the Office of School Library Media
14 Services.* -

15 (A) *Establishment.* - There is established within the Department of Education an
16 Office of School Library Media Services, to be administered by a Director.

17 (B) *Functions.* - The Office of School Library Media Services shall -

18 (1) Provide information and leadership to elementary and secondary school library
19 media specialists, teachers, and school administrators in order to encourage

1 improvement of educational programs, train library personnel, use advanced
2 technology, and develop library resources, including resources that will encourage
3 students to acquire skills in other languages; and

- 4 (2) Monitor and administer the grant programs for elementary and secondary school
5 library media center resource development; elementary and secondary school
6 library media specialist and teacher partnership grants for innovative education;
7 and grants for uses of technology in the classroom that are linked to the library
8 media center.

9 SECTION 5. *Elementary and Secondary School Library Media Program.* -

10 (A) *Establishment of the Elementary and Secondary School Library Media Resource*
11 *Development Program.* - The Director shall award grants to provinces for the acquisition of
12 school library media resources for the use of students, library media specialists, and teachers in
13 public elementary and secondary schools.

14 (B) *Allocation to Provinces.* - From the amount appropriated in each fiscal year, the
15 Director shall allocate to each province having an approved plan an amount which bears the
16 same relationships to such funds as the amount such province received for educational purposes.

17 (C) *Provincial Plans.* - In order for a province to receive an allocation of funds under
18 paragraph (B) for any fiscal year, such province shall have in effect for such fiscal year a
19 provincial plan. Such plan shall set forth a program under which funds paid to the province from
20 its allocation under paragraph (B) shall be expended solely for -

21 (1) Acquisition of school library media resources, including foreign language
22 resources, for the use of students, school library media specialists and
23 teachers in elementary and secondary schools; and

24 (2) Administration of the provincial plan, including development and revision
25 of standards relating to school library media resources, except that the
26 amount used for administration of the provincial plan in any fiscal year

1 shall not exceed five per centum (5%) of the amount allocated to such
2 province under paragraph (B) for such fiscal year; and

- 3 (3) Set forth criteria to be used in allotting funds for school library media
4 resources among the elementary and secondary schools in the province,
5 which allotment shall take into consideration the relative need of the
6 students, school media specialists, and teachers to be served.

7 (D) *Distribution of Allocation to Elementary and Secondary Schools.* -

- 8 (1) *Distribution Rule.* - From the funds allocated to a province under
9 paragraph (B) in each fiscal year, such province shall distribute not less
10 than ninety-five per centum (95%) of such funds in such fiscal year to
11 elementary and secondary schools within such province according to the
12 relative enrollment of students in public elementary and secondary schools
13 within the school districts of such province, adjusted to provide higher per
14 pupil allotments to schools that have the greatest number or percentages of
15 students whose education imposes a higher than average costs per child,
16 such as those students -

- 17 (a) Living in areas with high concentrations of low-income families;
18 (b) From low-income families; and
19 (c) Living in sparsely populated areas.

- 20 (2) *Calculation of Enrollment.* - The calculation of relative enrollments under
21 subparagraph (1) shall be made on the basis of the total number of
22 students enrolled in public schools in the province.

23 SECTION 6. *Establishment of the School Library Media Specialist and Teacher*
24 *Partnerships for Instructional Innovation Program.* - The Director shall award grants to projects
25 that -

1 (A) Encourage collaboration between public elementary and secondary school library
2 media specialists and teachers in order to develop units of instruction that enable elementary and
3 secondary school students to use a variety of information resources; and

4 (B) Expand student's information-gathering abilities and cognitive skills of selection,
5 analysis, evaluation, and application.

6 SECTION 7. *Establishment of the Use of Technology in the Classroom Program.* -

7 (A) *In General.* - The Director shall award grants to encourage collaborative
8 elementary and secondary school library media specialist and teacher program assigned to -

9 (1) Expand the use of computers and computer networks in the curriculum;
10 and

11 (2) Enable elementary and secondary school library media centers to access
12 information from computerized databases.

13 (B) *Operative Agreements.* - The Director may enter into cooperative agreements with
14 appropriate non-profit agencies and organizations in carrying out this Section.

15 SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Secretary shall promulgate the
16 necessary rules and regulations to assure the smooth and efficient implementation of the
17 provisions of this Act.

18 SECTION 9. *Construction.* - Nothing in this Act shall be construed to interfere with
19 national and local initiative and responsibility in the conduct and support of school library media
20 services, the administration of school library media centers, or the selection of personnel or
21 library books and materials.

22 SECTION 10. *Supplementation.* - Funds provided under this Act shall be used so as to
23 supplement and not supplant other national or local funds available to carry out the activities and
24 services assisted under this Act.

1 SECTION 11. *Appropriations.* - To carry out the provisions of this Act, such sum as may
2 be necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury. Thereafter, the
3 sum necessary for the continuous operation of the program shall be included in the annual
4 appropriation of the Department of Education.

5 SECTION 12. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or
6 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
7 valid and subsisting.

8 SECTION 13. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
9 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
10 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

11 SECTION 14. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
12 publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,