


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

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SENATE
SB No. **909**

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JINGGOY ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Since 70's, a bilingual Education Policy has been in force with English as the medium of instruction in science and mathematics subjects and Filipino as the medium of instruction for all other subjects. Also, teaching science and mathematics in English is considered as a response to the need "to avail of the advantage of scientific, commercial and cultural links of an international language and the need to further develop the national language as an instrument of national unity, and integration." Note that the revised Bilingual Education Policy of 1987 provided for the maintenance of English as an international language of the Philippines and the further enhancement of the use of English and Filipino in the educational system.

The report of the Presidential Commission to Survey Philippine Education supports the above allegation.

With the onset of the new millenium, it is high time we re-examine as well as re-assert the Pilipino language in functional library in order to strengthen the learning process inside the classroom.

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


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

'04 JUN 30 P11:03

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SENATE

S.B. NO. **909**

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

ON ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF THE VERNACULAR AND FILIPINO IN
FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AND PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR ITS
CLASSROOM USE

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to strengthen, accelerate and enrich Filipino as the national language of the Philippines. In pursuance of such policy, Filipino shall be further developed and enriched on the basis of existing Philippine languages such that by the year 2009 Filipino shall be the language of instruction in the educational system.

SECTION 2. **Definition of Terms.** Filipino refers to the national language of the Philippines.

Vernacular refers to the dominant regional language.

Auxiliary language of instruction refers to a language which supports the language of instruction.

SECTION 3. In Grades One, Two, and Three of the elementary level, the vernacular shall be the language of instruction, for all subjects with Filipino as a separate subject and the auxiliary language of instruction. Filipino shall be taught as a separate subject until the fourth year of secondary education.

SECTION 4. In Grade Three, English as foreign language shall be introduced as a separate subject and shall continue to be taught as a separate subject until the fourth year of secondary education.

SECTION 5. In Grade Four, Filipino shall be the language of instruction and shall continue to be the language of instruction for all subjects, except English, until the fourth year of education.

SECTION 6. All textbooks, reading and teaching materials for the elementary level written in the Vernacular and Filipino shall be prepared in accordance with the guidelines and standards for linguistic forms and expressions proposed by the Commission on the Filipino language.

SECTION 7. The Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall promulgate such rules and regulations to carry out effectively the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 8. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,