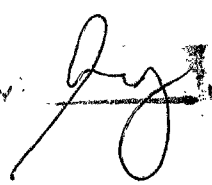


**THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session**

30 P10:28

SENATE 1190
S. No. _____



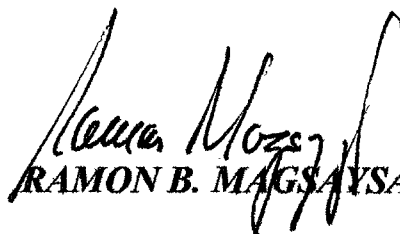
Introduced by Senator Magsaysay, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A finding by the Education Commission reveals that 26 % of Filipinos are functionally illiterate. Baffling as this report indicates, there appears a compelling need to facilitate the delivery of reading materials to public elementary schools not only to supplement the knowledge obtained in the classroom but to put school children, students and teachers in the forefront of awareness of what is happening in the rest of the country, what are the issues of national character that affect the family, the school, the community and the person of the reader. Reading *per se* stimulates the mind, but reading the proper news materials promotes knowledge and awareness of information that can serve as a positive catalyst for intellectual growth, preparedness and personal enhancement.

Newspapers have the unique quality of providing a stimulus as well as impetus for development - spurs readers to action as reaction makes one alert of his surroundings and can inspire participation in matters of national significance. It can also mean enjoyment or amusement and avoidance of dangers. It broadens one's perspective and encourages participatory governance.

In view of the foregoing considerations, approval of the bill is earnestly recommended.



RAMON B. MAGSAYSAY, JR.

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

04 JUN 30 P10:28

SENATE
S.No. 1190

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Sen. Magsaysay, Jr.

AN ACT
TO SUBSIDIZE NEWSPAPER SUBSCRIPTIONS OF PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "*Newspaper Subscription Subsidy Act of 2004*".

SEC. 2. Subject to certain requirements of this Act, the newspaper subscriptions of libraries of public schools shall be subsidized.

SEC. 3. Only newspapers of national circulation as determined by the Department of Education and subscribed by public school libraries, can qualify for the subsidy provided in this Act: *Provided*, That the subsidy shall be limited to only two of such newspapers: *Provided, further*, That the amount of such subsidy shall be the equivalent of one-half (1/2%) of the cost of the subscription of national circulation.

SEC. 4. There shall be appropriated out of the budget of the Department of Education such sums as may be necessary to finance the subsidy provided in this Act. Thereafter such sums shall be appropriated in the General Appropriation Act.

SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,