


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

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SENATE
S. B. No. **1249**

RECEIVED BY: 

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 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 elementary, secondary, and tertiary 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: (1) establish, within each of the Bureaus of Elementary Education, Secondary Education and Higher Education, a Division of School Library Media Services, that will provide information and leadership t school library media programs and personnel nationwide; (2) provide continued funding for public elementary, secondary, and tertiary school library media program improvement, equity, innovation, and technological advancement; (3) establish a partnership program for elementary, secondary, and tertiary school teachers and school library media specialists, who will jointly design resource and curriculum-based instructional activities, that provide opportunities for students to access a broad diversity of resources and information, and other languages and cultures, including materials that will encourage understanding; and (4) establish a partnership program for encouraging uses of technology and the sharing of information and access to resources by elementary and secondary school students, school library media specialist, and teachers.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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

'04 JUL -1 AM 1:10

SENATE
S. B. No. 1249

APPROVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**AN ACT
TO PROVIDE FOR ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY, AND TERTIARY SCHOOL
LIBRARY MEDIA RESOURCES, TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT, TRAINING, AND
IMPROVEMENT**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Elementary, Secondary and Tertiary School Library Media Services Act."

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

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

(1) "Director" means the Director of the Division of Elementary, Secondary, and Tertiary School Library Media Services established under this Act;

(2) "Local Educational Agency" refers to a public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within a state for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service function for public elementary, secondary or tertiary school in a province, city or municipality;

(3) "National Educational Agency" refers to the officer or agency primarily responsible for the national supervision of public elementary, secondary, and tertiary schools;

(4) "Secretary" refers to the Secretary of Education;

such year to local educational agencies within such province according to the relative enrolment of students in public elementary, secondary, and tertiary schools within the school districts of such province, adjusted to provide higher per-pupil allotments to local educational agencies that have the greatest number or percentages of students whose education imposes a higher than average cost per child, such as those students --

- (A) living in areas with high concentrations of low-income families;
- (B) from low-income families; and
- (C) living in sparsely populated areas.

(2) CALCULATION OF ENROLMENT - The calculation of relative enrolments under paragraph (1) shall be made on the basis of the total numbers of students enrolled in public schools in the province.

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

(1) encourage collaboration between public elementary, secondary, and tertiary school library media specialist and teachers in order to develop units of instruction that enable elementary, secondary, and tertiary school students to use a variety of information resources; and

(2) expand students' information-gathering abilities and cognitive skills of selection, analysis, evaluation, and application.

SECTION 7. *Establishment of the Uses of Technology in the Classroom Program* - The Program established --

(1) IN GENERAL - The Director shall award grants to encourage collaborative elementary, secondary, and tertiary school library media specialist and teacher programs designed to --

(A) expand the use of computers and computer networks in the curriculum; and

(B) enable elementary and secondary school library media centers to access information from computerized databases.

(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS. – The Director may enter into cooperative agreements with appropriate non-profit agencies and organizations in carrying out this section.

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

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

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

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

SECTION 12. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision, or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision shall remain valid and subsisting.

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

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

Approved.