

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

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SENATE
S.B. No. 1461

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 17 provides:

Section 17. The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture and sport to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.

Local businesses can play a key role in moving technology into schools, enhancing educators' technology capabilities, and making every student technologically literate.

Educational technologies help children learn and teachers teach. Students who learn to use educational technologies are prepared for both high wage high skilled jobs and higher education.

In order to encourage businesses to help schools provide educational technologies, this bill seeks to establish a program that will give national recognition to businesses, which show an exemplary commitment to participating with schools to make every student technologically literate.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

**AN ACT
RECOGNIZING BUSINESSES WHICH SHOW AN EXEMPLARY
COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATING WITH SCHOOLS TO ENHANCE
EDUCATORS' TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES AND TO MAKE EVERY
STUDENT TECHNOLOGICALLY LITERATE**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.*— This Act shall be known as the “Business and Education Sharing Technology Act (BEST).”

SECTION 2. *Purpose.* – It is the purpose of this Act –

(1) to establish a program to give local and national recognition to businesses which show an exemplary commitment to participating with schools to make every student technologically literate; and

(2) to make information about these exemplary partnerships available to other businesses and schools.

SECTION 3. *Nomination* – The Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) shall form a committees composed of qualified individuals, such as representatives from the government, academe, private sector and appropriate sectors to carry out the provisions of this Act. The members shall select, through a competitive process, the businesses engaged in technology partnerships with schools to receive a BEST award.

Representatives of any educational institutions or schools may nominate businesses which show an exemplary commitment to participating with schools to

enhance educators' technology capabilities and to make every student technologically literate. Such nominations shall, if available, include –

- (1) name of business;
- (2) address of business
- (3) internet address of business;
- (4) a description of the partnership between school or school district and the business, including the specific services provided by the business to the school;
- (5) a description of how the partnership is helping to enhance the technological capabilities of educators or to make every student technologically literate; and
- (6) a description of why the partnership is exemplary.

SECTION 4. *Criteria* – To be eligible to receive a BEST recognition award —

- (1) A business must be in active partnership with a school, consortium of schools, or local educational agency;
- (2) The purpose of the partnership must be to enhance educators' technology capabilities and contribute to making every student technology literate;
- (3) The partnership must have a plan to enhance educators' technology capabilities or contribute to making every student technologically literate which can be shared with other schools; and
- (4) The partnership activities must be of a high level of quality.

SECTION 5. *Dissemination* – The Department of Education shall issue the necessary rules and regulations in implementing this Act and shall make information and descriptions regarding the programs and partnerships that are chosen for a BEST recognition award available to schools nationwide.

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

SECTION 7. *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 8. *Effectivity Clause* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

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