

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



22 DEC -5 P 1 :14

SENATE

S. No. 1580

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7743, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONGRESSIONAL, CITY, AND
MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES AND BARANGAY READING CENTERS THROUGHOUT
THE PHILIPPINES", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The phenomenon of technology has taken the world by storm. Its uses seem limitless, especially when it comes to the dissemination of information. In this day and age, the blessing of technology does wonders for education across the globe. The children of the world are no longer restricted within the four walls of their classrooms, nor are they limited only to the use of books and magazines.

Republic Act No. 7743 was enacted specifically to put up libraries and reading centers in every city, municipality and barangay in order to accelerate the literacy rate of our citizenry. Sadly, since the passage of the law, its intended purpose has yet to be fully implemented across the nation. It is high time we push for the full implementation of this monumental piece of legislation.

The State recognizes the need for R.A. No. 7743 to be in full effect to better serve our fellowmen. It also recognizes the need to upgrade our learning system. With that being said, the State acknowledges the practicality and efficiency of using technology as means for furthering the intent of the previous legislation. The State shall provide existing and future learning and reading centers with the latest computer and electronic library technology in order to best serve the people.

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

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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THE PHILIPPINES", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 Section 1. Section 2 of R.A. 7743 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2 "Section 2. *Establishment of Public Libraries and Reading Centers.*
3 – The National Library in coordination with the Department of Interior
4 and Local Government (DILG) shall undertake in the establishment of
5 additional public libraries to serve all congressional districts, cities and
6 municipalities in the Philippines and reading centers in every barangay
7 except in cities or municipalities where there are existing public libraries
8 or in barangays where there are existing public libraries or in barangays
9 where there are existing reading centers: *Provided*, that the
10 establishment program of the National Library **BASED ON THE LATEST**
11 **COMPUTER AND ELECTRONIC LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY** in
12 coordination with the development council of each city or municipality
13 and in the case of the barangay reading centers, in coordination with
14 the respective barangay councils: *Provided, further*, that where these
15 public libraries and reading centers already exist, the National Library
16 shall continue to upgrade the facilities thereof. [.] **WITH COMPLETE**
17 **STANDARD SETS OF BOOKS AND OTHER MATERIALS AS**

1 **PROVIDED UNDER SEC. 3 OF THIS ACT, AS WELL AS THE**
2 **LATEST ELECTRONIC LIBRARY SYSTEM USING COMPUTERS**
3 **FOR STORING, CATALOGING, AND FILING OF DATA AND**
4 **MATERIALS: *PROVIDED, FINALLY,* THAT BY THE YEAR 2025,**
5 **ALL THE CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES**
6 **WILL BE PROVIDED WITH ELECTRONICALLY-OPERATED**
7 **LIBRARY SYSTEMS."**

8
9 Sec. 2. Section 7 of R.A. 7743 is hereby amended to read as follows:

10 "Section 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the
11 provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act
12 of the year following its enactment into law [~~and for the next five (5)~~
13 ~~years: thereafter this local government unit shall undertake the~~
14 ~~maintenance of public libraries and reading centers while the National~~
15 ~~Library shall continue to provide reading materials and supplies to the~~
16 ~~said libraries and reading centers].~~ **IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FUNDS**
17 **NECESSARY FOR THE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY SYSTEM TO BE**
18 **IMPLEMENTED, THE BUDGET OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARY**
19 **SHALL INCREASE IN THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED MILLION**
20 **PESOS (P500,000,000.00) PER YEAR UNTIL ALL CITIES AND**
21 **MUNICIPALITIES IN THE PHILIPPINES ARE PROVIDED AND**
22 **HAVE ACCESS TO FULL ELECTRONIC LIBRARY FACILITIES."**

23
24 Sec. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or
25 portions thereof contrary to, or inconsistent with, this Act are hereby repealed,
26 modified or amended accordingly.

27 Sec. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
28 publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
29 circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,