

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

7 JUL -4 1925

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 959

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 6. Article II of the Constitution provides that "the State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature."

The duty imposed on the State is corollary to the people's right to protection against the degradation of the country's natural resources, and against any impairment of the ecological balance needed to maintain a healthful and sustainable environment for human existence and progress. The State's duty is, however, a shared responsibility between government and the people. Consequently, all of us are responsible for the environmental degradation and destruction of the earth.

The solution to this problem, therefore, must start with us through education. We ought to be educated on how to maintain a balanced and healthful ecology and to discontinue habits and practices that bring about disastrous consequences. Also, we must be informed of the remedial self-help measures that must be adopted in order to repair the damage we had inflicted on mother nature of which we are a steward and a part.

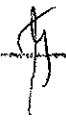
This bill, therefore seeks to educate and reform society by integrating in the curriculum of all educational institutions in the two (2) levels of instruction – Elementary and Secondary – a course on "The Philippine Society and the Environment" either as a separate subject or as a part of another relevant subject.

For these reasons, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


MANNY VILLAR

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**AN ACT TO INTEGRATE IN THE CURRICULA OF ALL EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS
INCLUDING NON-FORMAL, INDIGENOUS LEARNING AND OUT-OF SCHOOL
PROGRAMS, A COURSE ON PHILIPPINE SOCIETY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

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

Section 1. The teaching of the appreciation, conservation, rehabilitation and promotion of the environment shall be included in the curricula of all public and private elementary and secondary schools, including non-formal, indigenous learning and out-of-school program.

Section 2. The environment shall refer to the bio-physical world of human beings, the maritime, fluvial, and aerial domains, the mineral, coal, petroleum oils, all forces of potential energy, fisheries, flora and fauna and all other natural resources.

Section 3. There is hereby created a course with a proposed title "The Philippine Society and the Environment" which shall be added to the elementary and secondary school curriculum. In addition to the teaching of the appreciation, conservation, rehabilitation and promotion of environment, the course shall likewise include the teaching of environmental laws in the Philippines.

Section 4. The Department of Education in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural resources shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations and call upon the assistance of other government agencies, offices, entities and instrumentalities for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this Act.

Section 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication on the official gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,