

SENATE

Senate Bill No. **1643**

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Books are the cheapest and the most effective tools for imparting information, achieving educational growth and for recording, preserving and disseminating the nation's cultural heritage.

It is therefore imperative that these books be made available to public through government libraries and state universities.

This bill proposes to require all publishers to furnish government libraries and state universities with books, free of charge, and likewise to provide depositories of these books to preserve for posterity and against unforeseen events.

This bill likewise endeavors to encourage book publishers to disseminate the books by granting them 100% tax credit of the value of books actually disseminated. This will eventually benefit the government as it will save a large sum of money in acquiring books for its universities.

Thus, the approval of this bill is highly recommended.


MANNY VILLAR

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Senate Bill No. **1643**

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AN ACT
REQUIRING PUBLISHERS OF ALL BOOKS TO FURNISH CERTAIN
GOVERNMENT LIBRARIES AND STATE UNIVERSITIES PRINTED BOOKS
FREE OF CHARGE AND PROVIDING CERTAIN PRIVILEGES THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title* – This Act shall be known as the “Book Dissemination Act”.

2
3 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* – It is recognized that the book publisher
4 has significant role in national development, considering that books are instrumental
5 in the citizenry's intellectual, technical and cultural development which is the basic
6 social foundation for the economic and social growth of the country. Books are the
7 most effective and economical tools for achieving educational growth, for imparting
8 information and for recording, preserving and disseminating that nation's cultural
9 heritage.

10
11 Accordingly, it is hereby declared a policy of the State to ensure that all
12 quality-produced books are made available to the public through national libraries
13 and state universities and the role of its publisher be recognized by the government
14 by giving certain privileges such as tax credit.

15
16 SECTION 3. *Book Dissemination* – Within a period of thirty (30) days from
17 the date of any printed book, as this term defined herein, is first delivered out of the
18 press, the publisher of such book, whether private or government owned, individual
19 or juridical person, shall furnish, free of charge and in the same finish as the best
20 copies of the same are produced, two copies thereof to the National Library, and a
21 copy each to the University of the Philippines Main Library, the University of the
22 Philippines Library at Cebu City, the Mindanao State University Library, Congress of
23 the Philippines Library and to at least ten State Universities in the Philippines. Upon
24 receipt of the respective copies, the Chief Librarian concerned shall issue an
25 acknowledgment receipt therefor to the proper person and shall keep a copy of such
26 receipt for record purposes.

27
28 SECTION 4. *Definition of Terms* – For the purpose of this Act, the terms
29 below shall mean:
30

- 1 a. *Book* – as defined by the United Nations Educational Scientific and
2 Cultural Organization (UNESCO), a printed non-periodical publication of at
3 least forty-eight (48) pages, exclusive of cover pages, published in the
4 country and made available to the public which includes all printed literary
5 works, musical arrangements, catalogues, periodicals, government
6 publications, prints, photographs, drawing and other graphic arts, maps,
7 plans, charts, and tables, and all supplements thereto, whether in their
8 original form or adaptations or reproduction of the same, which are made
9 available for sale or free distribution to the general public, but shall not
10 include legal documents, printed forms, trade circulars, timetables and
11 other commercial documents.
12
13 b. *Textbook* – a book which is an exposition of generally accepted principles
14 in one (1) subject, intended primarily as a basis for instruction in a
15 classroom or pupil-book-teacher situation.
16
17 c. *Printed* – as applied to books, means that which is produced by printing
18 establishment.
19
20 d. *Printer* – refers to the proprietor of the printing establishment.
21
22 e. *Publisher* – refers to the person, natural or juridical, which undertakes the
23 production of a book and its offer for sale or free distribution. The
24 publisher of a book may also be a printer.
25

26 SECTION 5. *Tax Credit* – A tax credit equivalent to One Hundred Percent
27 (100%) of the value of the books disseminated to government libraries and state
28 universities libraries as provided herein shall be given to the publisher who complied
29 with the minimum requirement of this Act.
30

31 SECTION 6. *Duties of the Director of the National Library* – (a) The Director
32 of the National Library is hereby empowered to make use of, allocate or distribute in
33 the manner he deems fit, and in the interest of educational or cultural advancement,
34 scholarship or research, the materials on legal deposit in the National Library.
35

36 (b) The Director of the National Library shall keep a record of all materials
37 received under Section 3 of this Decree, which record shall contain, as far as
38 practicable, the following particulars as supplied by the publisher:
39

- 40 1. The title of the book and the contents of the title page with a translation
41 into English language;
- 42 2. The language in which the book is written;
- 43 3. The name of the author, translator, or editor of the book;
- 44 4. The subject matter;
- 45 5. The place of printing and the place of publication;
- 46 6. The name or firm of the printer and/or the name or firm of the publisher;
- 47 7. The date of issue from the press and/or the date of publication;
- 48 8. The number of sheets, leaves or pages;
- 49 9. The size;
- 50 10. The number of the edition;
- 51 11. The number of copies which the edition consists;
- 52 12. The price at which the book is sold to the public; and
- 53 13. The name and residence of the proprietor of the copyright or any portion
54 of the copyright;
- 55

56 (c) The records to be kept by the Director of the National Library, pursuant to
57 the immediately preceding section, shall be published in the Official Gazette at the

1 end of each quarter, counted from the beginning of each calendar year, or not less
2 than one month after the end of such quarter.

3
4 SECTION 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* – The National Book
5 Development Board shall issue guidelines and prescribe rules and regulations for
6 the implementation of this Act.

7
8 SECTION 8. *Penalties* – Any person who violates any provision of this Act or
9 the terms and conditions of the rules and regulations issued pursuant thereto, or
10 aids or abets in any manner any violation shall be subject to a fine not less than Ten
11 Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) but not exceeding Fifty Thousand Pesos
12 (P50,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than five
13 (5) years or both, at the discretion of the Court. If the violation is committed by a
14 juridical entity, it shall be subject to a fine not exceeding One Hundred Thousand
15 Pesos (P100,000.00). The President and/or officials responsible therefore shall also
16 be subject to a fine and/or imprisonment as provided above.

17
18 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause* – If any part or section of this Act is
19 declared unconstitutional for any reason whatsoever such declaration shall not in
20 any way affect other parts or sections of this Act.

21
22 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause* – Presidential Decree 812 is hereby
23 repealed. All other laws, decrees, rules, regulations, and other administrative
24 issuances or provisions thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent herewith are
25 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

26
27 SECTION 11. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
28 following its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

29
30 Approved,