



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

13 JUL -8 P5:24

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

Senate Bill No. 659

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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The proposed bill puts into implementation the basic law of the land, such that the State shall *"establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the people and society."* (Sec. 2 [1], Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution).

Also Section 13 of Article XIV of the fundamental law of the land provides that: *"The State shall protect and secure the exclusive rights of scientists, investors, artists, and other gifted citizens to their intellectual property and creations, particularly when beneficial to the people, for such period as may be provided by law."*

Pursuant to abovementioned Constitutional provisions, Congress on July 6, 1997, enacted into law Republic Act No. 8293, entitled: "An Act Prescribing the Intellectual Property Code and Establishing the Intellectual Property Office, Providing For Its Powers and Functions, and Other Purposes."

Moreover, under the National Book Policy adopted pursuant to Republic Act No. 8047, otherwise known as the "Book Publishing Industry Development Act," it mandates "to respect and inculcate the concept of intellectual property ownership and to protect the rights of authors and publishers by strictly enforcing copyright laws and providing legal assistance to authors and publishers in suits related thereto,"

It must be noted, however, in spite and despite of various laws and regulations, intellectual infringement and piracy of intellectual rights are rampant in the country. The provisions of the laws are derogated if not circumvented. Due to these situations, the Philippines is under the watch list as one of the countries where intellectual property rights are ignored and piracy of intellectual creations is widespread.

Along this line, this bill mandates the teaching of intellectual property ownership, particularly copyright law as part of the curriculum of all primary, secondary and tertiary schools in the country.

Toward this end, it is imperative that the importance of copyright be imparted to our citizenry at an early age as well as later in life. It may be the desired precondition that may convert the Philippines into one of the knowledge-based centers.

With proper education it is hope that piracy will be curtailed and our laws will be strictly implemented. Finally, this bill if passed into law will reaffirm and ensure the country's commitment to the UNESCO Principle of Free Flow of Information and other related provisions as embodied in the Florence Agreement and in other similar international agreements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Ejercito', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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AN ACT  
REQUIRING THE TEACHING OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY  
OWNERSHIP PARTICULARLY COPYRIGHT LAW AS PART OF THE  
CURRICULUM OF ALL PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND TERTIARY  
SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

**SECTION 1.** The teaching of intellectual property ownership, particularly copyright law is hereby required to be a part of the curriculum of all primary, secondary and tertiary schools in the country.

**SECTION 2.** The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall adopt the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 3.** The funds needed for this purpose shall be taken from the appropriations of the Department of Education (DepEd) and/or the Economic Support Fund allotted to said Department. Thereafter, such sum, which may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 4.** All laws, orders, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*