

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 AUG 29 P4:57

SENATE
S. No. 1433

RECEIVED BY: *js*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago


EXPLANATORY NOTE

A public school often serves as a center for the delivery of education and human resources for all members of a certain community. In line with this, there is a need for public schools, primarily in rural and urban city communities, to collaborate with other public and nonprofit agencies and organizations, local business, educational entities, recreational, cultural and other community and human service entities, to meet the needs and expand the opportunities available to residents of the communities served by such schools.

By using school facilities, equipment, and resources, communities can promote a more efficient use of public education facilities, especially in rural and urban areas where limited financial resources have enhanced the necessity for local public schools to become social service centers.

A high technology, global economy of the 21st century will require lifelong learning to keep our workforce competitive and successful, and local public schools should be centers for lifelong learning and provide educational opportunities for individuals of all ages.

This bill seeks the establishment of 21st Century Learning Centers to enable the entire community to develop an educational strategy that addresses the educational needs of all members of local communities.*

ccr

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 AUG 29 P4 57

SENATE
S. No. 1433

RECEIVED BY: *js*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 TO DEVELOP AN EDUCATIONAL STRATEGY THAT ADDRESSES THE
3 EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF MEMBERS OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act may be cited as the “21st Century Community
5 Learning Center’s Act.”

6 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
7 develop an education strategy that addresses the educational needs of all members of local
8 communities.

9 SECTION 3. *Definition of Community Learning Center.* – For purposes of this Act, the
10 term “community learning center” means an entity within a public elementary or secondary
11 school building that –

12 (A) Provides educational, recreational, health, and social service programs for
13 residents of all ages within a local community; and

14 (B) Is operated by the Department of Education in conjunction with local government
15 agencies, businesses, institutions of higher education, and cultural, recreational, and other
16 community and human service entities.

17 SECTION 4. *Program Authorization.* –

18 (A) *Grant by the Secretary of Education.* – The Secretary is authorized, in accordance
19 with the provisions of this Act, to award grants to public elementary or secondary schools, or

1 consortia of such schools, to enable such schools or consortia to plan, implement, or to expand
2 projects that benefit the educational, health, social service, cultural, and recreational needs of
3 their community.

4 (B) *Equitable Distribution.* – In awarding grants under this Act, the Secretary shall
5 ensure an equitable distribution of assistance among the local government units and among urban
6 and rural areas.

7 (C) *Grant Period.* – The Secretary shall award grants for a period not to exceed three
8 (3) years.

9 SECTION 5. *Application Period.* – To be eligible to receive a grant under this Act, an
10 elementary or secondary school or consortia shall submit an application to the Secretary at such
11 time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably
12 prescribe. Each application shall include –

13 (A) A comprehensive local plan that enables the school or consortium to serve as a
14 center for the delivery of education and human resources for members of a community;

15 (B) An evaluation of the needs, available resources, and goals and objectives for the
16 proposed project in order to determine which activities will be undertaken to address such needs;
17 and

18 (C) A description of the proposed projects, including—

19 (1) A description of the mechanism that will be used to disseminate information
20 in a manner that is understandable and accessible to the community;

21 (2) Identification of national and local programs to be merged or coordinated so
22 that public resources may be maximized;

23 (3) A description of the collaborative efforts to be undertaken by community-
24 based organizations, related public agencies, business, or other appropriate
25 organizations;

26 (4) A description of how the school or consortium will serve as a *delivery center*
27 for existing and new services, especially for interactive telecommunications
28 used for education and professional training; and

1 (5) An assurance that the school or consortium will establish a facility utilization
2 policy that specifically states the rules and regulations applicable to building
3 an equipment use and supervision guidelines.

4 SECTION 6. *Priority.* – The Secretary shall give priority to applications describing
5 projects that offer broad selection of services which address the needs of the community.

6 SECTION 7. *Use of Funds.* – Grants awarded under this Act may be used to plan,
7 implement, or expand community learning centers which include not less than four (4) of the
8 following activities:

- 9 (A) Literacy education programs;
- 10 (B) Senior citizen programs and services for individuals with disabilities;
- 11 (C) Children’s day care services;
- 12 (D) Integrated education, health, social service, recreational, or cultural programs;
- 13 (E) Summer and weekend school programs in conjunction with recreational programs;
- 14 (F) Nutrition and health programs;
- 15 (G) Expanded library service hours to serve community needs;
- 16 (H) Telecommunications and technology education programs for individuals of all
17 ages;
- 18 (I) Parenting skills education programs;
- 19 (J) Support and training for child day care providers;
- 20 (K) Employment counseling, training, and placement; and
- 21 (L) Services for out-of-school youth.

22 SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provision of this
23 Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated for every fiscal year.

1 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
3 valid and subsisting.

4 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree, or issuance, executive
5 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
6 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

7 SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
8 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,