



Office of the Secretary

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES**

Third Regular Session

'19 JAN 14 P 6 :10

**SENATE
S.B. NO. 2146**

RECEIVED

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SAFETY INTERNET EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THE
CURRICULUM OF ALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 13 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:


"The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being."

The Internet links and connects millions of people's computers together globally. It is a massive networking infrastructure that forms a linkage wherein computers can communicate with each other provided that it is connected to the Internet. The Internet can enrich lives, provide information, entertainment, social networking, and connections to people all over the world. However, the Internet can be a cause of problems when people use it to do unscrupulous acts like cybersex, pornography, gambling, cyber bullying and among others. Students may develop a habit of overusing the Internet consequently interfering with their ability to keep up with school, relationships, and may have a negative effect on their mood.

The proposed bill seeks to establish a comprehensive program that will require a mandatory Internet safety education for all students in order to prevent the

problems arising from the misuse of the Internet and other new media by guiding students to properly use the Internet.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator



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

Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Internet Safety Education Act."

Sec. 2. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the terms:

(A) "DepEd" means the Department of Education;

(B) "Internet Safety Education Program" means an age-appropriate, research-based program that encourages safe, ethical, and responsible use of the Internet, promotes an informed, critical understanding of the Internet, and educates children and communities about how to prevent or respond to problems or dangers related to the internet or new media;

(C) "New Media"

(1) means emerging digital, computerized, or network informed and communication technologies that often have interactive capabilities; and

(2) includes e-mail, instant messaging, text messaging, web sites, blogs, interactive gaming, social media, cell phones, and mobile devices; and

1 (D) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Department of
2 Education;

3
4 Sec. 4. *Implementing Agency and its duties.* –

5 (A) The DepEd shall:

- 6 (1) identify, develop, and implement Internet safety
7 education programs, including educational
8 technology, multimedia and interactive applications,
9 online resources, and lesson plans;
10 (2) provide professional training to elementary and
11 secondary teachers, administrators, and other staff
12 on Internet safety and new media literacy;
13 (3) develop online-risk prevention programs for children;
14 (4) train and support peer-driven Internet safety
15 education initiatives;
16 (5) coordinate and fund research initiatives that
17 investigate online risks to children and Internet
18 safety education;
19 (6) develop and implement public education campaigns
20 to promote awareness of online risks to children and
21 Internet safety education;
22 (7) educate parents about teaching their children how to
23 use the Internet and new media safely, responsibly,
24 and ethically and help parents identify and protect
25 their children from risks relating to use of the
26 Internet and new media; or

27 (B) The DepEd Secretary shall, within sixty (60) days from the
28 effectivity of this Act, promulgate rules and regulations,
29 including those of disciplinary nature, to carry out and enforce
30 the provisions of this Act. Further, the DepEd shall be the lead

1 agency in the carrying out the following: the Secretary is
2 hereby authorized and directed to adopt a system to
3 implement and carry out the provisions of this Act.
4
5

6 Sec. 5. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such
7 amount as may be necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the
8 National Treasury. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continuous
9 operation of this program shall be included in the annual appropriation of the
10 DepEd.
11

12 Sec. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
13 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
14 provisions hereof.
15

16 Sec. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or
17 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are
18 hereby repealed amended or modified accordingly.
19

20 Sec. 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
21 after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
22 circulation.

Approved,