

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

'22 AUG -2 A8 :47

SENATE
S. No. 986

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The integration of information and communication technology (ICT) in basic education has been an important component of the national policy framework over the years. The Medium Term Development Plan of the Philippines (MTPDP) 2004-2010 envisions ICT as a development tool, "ICT will be harnessed as a powerful enabler of capacity development. It will therefore be targeted directly towards specific development goals like ensuring basic education for all and lifelong learning, among others." As emphasized in the paper of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), "The Department of Education envisions an ICT-supported system of quality basic education for all. It is committed to the appropriate, effective, and sustainable use of ICTs to broaden access to and improve the quality and efficiency of basic education service delivery."

Despite the efforts of the government and the private sector to intensify the utilization of ICT in the delivery of education, much still has to be done. Recently, the importance of computers and internet in education was highlighted in the new learning modalities that were adopted by the Department of Education in its Basic Education – Learning Continuity Program (BE-LCP) as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic that

struck the entire international community. Hence, there is a need to enact a law that will squarely address this concern.

The "*ICT in Education Act*" seeks, among others, to provide public schools with updated computer facilities including a stable internet connection and hardware necessary for easier access to information, with electronic books as a replacement of outdated textbooks. It further mandates the Department of Education, with the technical assistance of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) to develop an ICT-based administrative system that will enhance organizational communication; facilitate gathering, analysis, dissemination, and maintenance of educational statistics; and streamline office procedures.

This measure was filed by Senator Ralph G. Recto in the 18th Congress.

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



RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR. *R*

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*ICT in Education Act*
2 *of 2022*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It Shall be the policy of the State to provide
4 quality education that is accessible to all citizens. Furthermore, the State shall also
5 establish and maintain an education system that is relevant to the needs of the society.

6 This Act shall attain the following objectives:

7 (a) Provide public schools with up-to-date computer facilities including a
8 stable wireless network and equipment necessary for easier access to
9 information;

10 (b) Train educators to supplement traditional classroom learning with
11 Information and Communication Technology (ICT);

12 (c) Replace outdated textbooks with up-to-date electronic books; and,

13 (d) have an online shared curriculum among public schools to ensure that
14 students even in rural areas will be given the same quality of education.

15 Sec. 3. *ICT in Public Elementary Schools and High Schools.* - the Department
16 of Education (DepEd) shall use appropriate and effective ICT in public schools to

1 broaden access to basic education, improve the quality of learning, enhance the
2 quality of teaching, and improve educational planning and management.

3 *Sec. 4. Physical and Technological Infrastructure.* – Within a period of six (6)
4 years, all public schools shall establish at least one (1) Computer Center with a stable
5 Internet connection that will provide and ensure the access of students to the Internet.
6 The schools shall avail of the services of existing commercial Internet providers and
7 shall establish and maintain a computer facility system which should have, at the
8 minimum, the following equipment:

- 9 (a) Desktop Personal Computer (PC);
- 10 (b) Wireless Broadband Router;
- 11 (c) Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS);
- 12 (d) Computer Printer; and,
- 13 (e) Multimedia Projector.

14 The number of computer units for the Computer Center of each public school
15 will be based on the standards provided for by the DepEd in consultation with the
16 Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and with each
17 respective public school.

18 *Sec. 5. Training for Educators and Maintenance of ICT.* – The Regional Offices
19 of the DepEd and the DICT shall carry out training for educators in public schools to
20 integrate ICT in classroom learning, to instill in educators the professional and
21 educational benefits of investment in ICT, and to allow educators to have mastery of
22 sourcing out appropriate resources for education.

23 The aforementioned agencies shall monitor the use and upkeep of the ICT
24 introduced in public schools.

25 *Sec. 6. Utilization of ICT in Classroom Learning and in Computer Centers.* –
26 Educators in public schools shall make full use of ICT and presentation tools to
27 complement traditional teaching methods. Presentation tools may include, but shall
28 not be limited to, multimedia projectors, television and guided Internet surfing where
29 the educator and the students will be able to view internet sites simultaneously.

30 Computer Centers In public schools should be made available to students for
31 training on computer and internet use, and for research purposes.

1 Sec. 7. *Computerization of Administrative Systems.* – The DepEd with the
2 technical assistance of the DICT shall develop an ICT-based administrative system
3 that will enhance organizational communication; facilitate gathering, analysis,
4 dissemination, and maintenance of educational statistics; and streamline office
5 procedures.

6 Sec. 8. *Appropriations.* – The Amount necessary for the immediate
7 implementation of the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated
8 out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter,
9 funds for its implementation shall be included in the regular appropriations of the
10 Department of Education.

11 Sec. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd and the DICT shall,
12 within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, issue the necessary rules and
13 regulations for its effective implementation.

14 Sec. 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or
15 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise
16 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

17 Sec. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
18 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary
19 to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or
20 amended accordingly.

21 Sec. 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
22 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,