



S E N A T E

S. No. 2457

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INTRODUCED BY SENATORS GATCHALIAN AND REVILLA, JR.

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AN ACT DISCONTINUING THE USE OF THE MOTHER TONGUE AS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION FROM KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3, PROVIDING FOR ITS OPTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN MONOLINGUAL CLASSES, AND AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS 4 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013”

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

1           SECTION 1. *Discontinuing the Use of the Mother*  
2           *Tongue as Medium of Instruction.* – The use of the Mother  
3           Tongue as medium of instruction from kindergarten to the  
4           first three (3) years of elementary education under Section  
5           4 of Republic Act No. 10533, otherwise known as “An Act  
6           Enhancing the Philippine Basic Education System by  
7           Strengthening its Curriculum and Increasing the Number

1 of Years for Basic Education, Appropriating Funds  
2 Therefor and for Other Purposes”, is hereby discontinued.

3 The medium of instruction shall revert to Filipino  
4 and, until otherwise provided by law, English, pursuant to  
5 Article XIV, Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution. The  
6 regional languages shall serve as auxiliary media of  
7 instruction.

8 SEC. 2. *The Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual*  
9 *Education (MTB-MLE) in Monolingual Classes;*  
10 *Requirements; Monolingual Classes and Language*  
11 *Mapping.* – The principles and framework of MTB-MLE as  
12 embodied under Section 5(f) of Republic Act No. 10533  
13 may be applied in monolingual classes: *Provided, That* the  
14 Mother Tongue to be used as medium of instruction shall  
15 comply with the following requirements: an official  
16 orthography developed and published by the Komisyon sa  
17 Wikang Filipino (KWF); officially documented vocabulary  
18 published by the KWF such as glossary, dictionary,  
19 encyclopedia, or thesaurus; literature on languages and  
20 culture, such as big books, small books, picture stories, or

1 wordless picture books; grammar book; and availability of  
2 teachers in the school who speak and are trained to teach  
3 in the Mother Tongue.

4 For purposes of this Act, a monolingual class shall  
5 refer to a group of learners who speak the same Mother  
6 Tongue and are enrolled in the same grade level in a given  
7 school year. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall,  
8 in consultation with the KWF, develop a language mapping  
9 policy within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act  
10 and implement a language mapping framework to properly  
11 identify and classify learners based on their Mother  
12 Tongue in order to systematically determine the existence  
13 of monolingual classes per school year.

14 SEC. 3. *Reportorial Requirement.* – Three (3) years  
15 after the effectivity of this Act and every three (3) years  
16 thereafter, the DepEd shall conduct a review of the  
17 optional implementation of the MTB-MLE Program in  
18 monolingual classes, including learner assessment, teacher  
19 recruitment and matching, development of learning  
20 resources published in the Mother Tongue, capacity-

1 building efforts for teachers, and funding requirements for  
2 the program. The report shall be submitted to the President,  
3 the Senate of the Philippines, and the House of  
4 Representatives not later than June 30 following the year of  
5 review. The report shall also include recommendations to  
6 address gaps in the law and/or the implementation of this Act.

7 The report shall further include recommendations on  
8 whether to continue or discontinue the optional use of the  
9 Mother Tongue as medium of instruction in monolingual  
10 classes based on the review conducted by the DepEd.

11 SEC. 4. *Administrative Sanctions.* – Violations of the  
12 provisions of this Act shall be subject to administrative  
13 sanctions based on relevant laws.

14 SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The amount needed for the  
15 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the  
16 current year's appropriations of the DepEd. Thereafter,  
17 such sums as may be necessary for the continued  
18 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual  
19 General Appropriations Act (GAA).

1           SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* –

2   Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the  
3   DepEd, the KWF, and other education stakeholders shall  
4   issue the rules and regulations implementing its  
5   provisions. The IRR issued pursuant to this section shall  
6   take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in a  
7   newspaper of general circulation.

8           SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this

9   Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions  
10   not so declared shall remain in force and effect.

11          SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders,

12   presidential decrees, administrative orders, rules and  
13   regulations, issuances, or parts thereof contrary to or  
14   inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
15   repealed or amended accordingly.

16          SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen

17   (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a  
18   newspaper of general circulation.

          Approved,