

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

7 JUN 1976

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. Bill No. 759

Introduced by Senator Antonio F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Computers play a vital role in education and the movement and flow of information. Information, when harnessed, brings about exchange of ideas and innovation, trade and commerce, and ultimately, development.

Computer education is no longer just a luxury which only first world countries can afford; it is in fact now a necessity which would define the ability of a nation to join developed countries in this information age or be forever be banished in the dustbin of underdevelopment.

It is, therefore, imperative to equip our students at least with basic skills in computer operation. Hence, this proposed bill for mandatory computer education for all high school students.

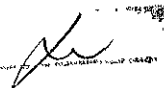
It is hoped that with this critical training and with knowledge and expertise gained from the use of computers, together with our language skills, our workers and professionals would be able to maintain their competitive edge in the global marketplace and serve as the catalyst which would ultimately propel our country to first world status.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV

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AN ACT
REQUIRING MANDATORY COMPUTER EDUCATION IN ALL
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS AND FOR OTHER
RELATED PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives in joint session assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This act shall be known as the "*Mandatory Computer Education Act of 2007*".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It shall be the policy of the State to foster and promote education utilizing advancements in science and technology that will ensure adequate computer education among all high school students.

SEC. 3. Mandatory Computer Education. - All public and private high schools shall establish and maintain a computer facility system that will provide and ensure the access of all students to computers. For the purpose of this Act, "*computer education*" shall refer to the basic training in computer operations as well as in the use of basic computer programs such as word processing, database encoding and spreadsheets programs.

SEC. 4. Curriculum. - The Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with the Commission on Information and Communication Technology (CICT) shall develop the appropriate computer education modules which shall be included as part of the regular curriculum of secondary public and private schools all over the country.

SEC. 5. Training. - If and when necessary, the National Computer Center (NCC) shall train qualified DepEd personnel in every

public and private high school to enable them to serve as instructors and/or facilitators for computer education classes.

SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The DepEd in coordination with the CICT and the NCC shall formulate the necessary guidelines and promulgate rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 7. Allocations for Computers. - The DepEd, in consultation with the CICT and the NCC, shall determine the total capital outlay necessary to provide computers for all public high schools in the country (which still do not have computers) over a period of three (3) years. The same shall be proportionally distributed per legislative district in accordance with their share of student enrollment relative to the total population.

SEC. 8. Computers for Private High Schools. - The DepEd shall henceforth make it a mandatory requirement for all persons and/or entities applying for registration and/or accreditation to establish private high schools to set-up the appropriate computer laboratory and/or computer system which will adequately meet the computer education needs of their students. Likewise, the DepEd shall ensure that all existing Private High Schools will set-up their own computer system and/or computer laboratory within a period of three (3) years from the issuance of the implementing rules and regulations of this Act as a precondition for their continued operation.

SEC. 9. Appropriation. Such sum as may be necessary for the immediate implementation of the provisions of this act is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, funds for its implementation shall be included in the regular appropriations of the DepEd, the CITC and the NCC.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect 15 days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,