


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 P3:47

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 2335

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The various elementary and secondary schools in the country have already integrated computer subjects in their curriculum to teach their young students of the basic principles of computer subjects. This is important for the children to be able to learn at a very young age the significance of computer technology in the modern world. However, some schools fail to monitor their computer system and this enables the students to access harmful material especially from the Internet.

On this note, the attached bill requires the installation in various elementary and secondary schools of Internet filters that block the obscenity, violence, child pornography and any other matter considered to be harmful to the students. This will safeguard the moral values of the children against the destructive effects of modern technology and at the same time ensure that they acquire the necessary skills and knowledge of computer technology.


Accordingly, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



MANNY VILLAR

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AN ACT
TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF A SYSTEM FOR FILTERING OR
BLOCKING MATTER ON THE INTERNET ON COMPUTERS IN ELEMENTARY
AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES WITH INTERNET ACCESS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known and cited as the "Safe Schools Internet Act"

SECTION 2. No Universal Service For Schools Or Libraries That Fail To Implement A Filtering Or Blocking System For Computers With Internet Access.

No services may be provided to any elementary or secondary school, or any library, unless it provides the certification required under this Act.

SECTION 3. Certification for Schools- Before receiving universal service assistance, an elementary or secondary school shall certify to the Department of Education that it has-

1. selected a system for computers with Internet access to filter or block matter deemed to be inappropriate for minors; and
2. installed, or will install as soon as it obtains computers with Internet access, a system to filter or block such

SECTION 4. Certification for Libraries- Before receiving universal service assistance, a library that has a computer with Internet access shall certify to the Department that, on one or more of its computers with Internet access, it employs a system to filter or block matter deemed to be inappropriate for minors. If a library that makes a certification under this paragraph changes the system it employs or ceases to employ any such system, it shall notify the Department within 10 days after implementing the change or ceasing to employ the system;

SECTION 5. Local Determination Of Content- For purposes of this Act, the determination of what matter is inappropriate for minors shall be made by the

school, school board, library or other authority responsible for making the required certification.

SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* - In the event that any provision or part of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional by the courts, the remaining provisions shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Date of Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved.