Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 677

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE ALIPIO CIRILO V. BADELLES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This legislative proposal was originally registered in the 11th Congress as the House Bill No. 2068 and was passed by the House of Representatives as House Bill No. 9004. In the 12th Congress it was enrolled as House Bill No. 845 and the same consolidated version is being refilled in this 13th Congress.

This legislative measure proposes to promote and support computer literacy starting at the earliest grade level primarily in the public school system of the country. Likewise, the proposal encourages the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) i.e. computers, telecommunications, etc. in order to upgrade and modernize the educational system, enhance the quality education and achieve equity in the acquisition of skills among all students.

Towards these ends, the proposal calls on the government to integrate Information Communication Technology Education Program in the existing curricula of the public elementary and secondary schools in the entire country.

In this context, I earnestly appeal to the distinguished members of the Twelfth Congress for the immediate approval of this legislative measure.

ALIPIO CIRILO V. BADELLES

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AN ACT
TO INTEGRATE INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION INTO THE PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY CURRICULA AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

Section 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as the "Information Communication Technology Education Act of 2004."

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to promote and support computer literacy starting at the earliest grade level in the public school system of the country. Likewise, the State shall encourage the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) and its various components (computers, telecommunications, etc.) in order to upgrade and modernize the educational system, enhance the quality education and achieve equity in the acquisition of skills among all students. The private sector is encouraged to participate in the development of the Information Communication Technology Education Program.

Toward these ends, the State shall provide for an Information Communication Technology Education Program integrated in the existing elementary and secondary school curricula.

Section 3. *Mandatory Coverage.* – It shall be mandatory for all public elementary and secondary schools to integrate information communication technology education in their curricula.

Section 4. *Definition of Terms.* – Information Communication Technology Education refers to the study and use of computer and other information communication technology components in the school curricula. Its objectives shall include:

(a) The use of computers and related technologies to enhance learning and improve personal productivity;
(b) The acquisition of knowledge and skills on the operation and maintenance of computers and peripherals, and the understanding of basic operating systems; and
(c) The inculcation of the ethical use of information communication technology among learners.

Integration is an education strategy where the information communication technology education learning competencies become part of appropriate subjects in the school curricula.

Section 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Education, shall issue guidelines, rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act within sixty (60) days upon effectivity.

Section 6. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of the Department of Education shall immediately include in the Department's Modernization program the operationalization of the integration of information communication technology curriculum, the initial funding of which shall be charged against current years appropriations of the department and thereafter in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 7. *Separability Clause.* – In the event any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Section 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,