

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

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1034



Introduced by REP. ISIDORO E. REAL, JR.

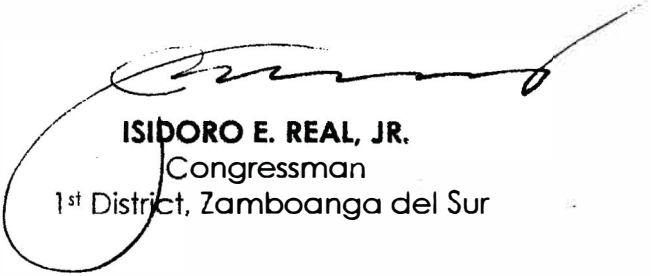
EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is a valid observation that many countries rise or advance from their pitiable Third World Country status to a higher category not because of their wealth or natural resources. Rather, the principal reason is the advancement of the educational and technological levels of their inhabitants.

Towards this end, libraries constitute the best cheap and readily available source of knowledge and information. A well-informed, literate citizenry is adequately equipped to free themselves from the shackles of poverty and is more capable of improving their economic condition than those consigned to the dark alleys of ignorance.

There is, therefore, a need to establish libraries in local government units. With the passage of the Local Government Code of 1991, the annual incomes of local government units (LGUs) tremendously increased. They are now in a position to establish local libraries, as in fact many have already done. But several LGUs still do not have their own libraries.

Hence, approval of this Bill is urgently sought.


ISIDORO E. REAL, JR.
Congressman
1st District, Zamboanga del Sur

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AN ACT
REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL, CITY, MUNICIPAL AND
BARANGAY LIBRARIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the educational and technological advancement of its citizens, to prepare them for the steep competition for employment, business and industrial pursuits and economic advancement. Only the well-informed people are in an enviable position to succeed in these areas.

SEC. 2. Within the second calendar year following the approval of this Act, there shall be established a library in each province, city and first to third class municipalities. Municipalities belonging to the fourth class or lower category and barangays with an annual income of at least Five Million Pesos (₱5,000,000.00) shall comply with this Act within five (5) years from its approval. Lower class barangays may establish their libraries when their respective annual incomes reach ₱5,000,000.00.

SEC. 3. The appropriations for the establishment, operation and maintenance of such libraries, including the salaries of library personnel and the acquisition of books and information materials, shall be taken from the LGU's Twenty Percent (20%) Economic Development Fund or any other available source.

SEC. 4. Local Government Units which have existing libraries shall be exempt from compliance herewith.

SEC. 5. The Director of the National Library shall provide technical and other forms of assistance to the LGUs in the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. The Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government shall issue the Rules and Regulations implementing this Act within ninety (90) days from approval hereof.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,