



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



Thirteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4645

Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to require all public elementary, secondary schools as well as state colleges and universities to subscribe to newspapers of general circulation for their respective library.

Nowadays, there are a lot of mass media for us to choose from, namely, television, radio, computer and newspaper. Among the many media, majority of the people choose to read newspapers. It is the main conveyor of news. Aside from being the cheapest among the mass media, the newspaper gives us deep insight into events than television does, thus it plays a very critical role in community awareness.

Televisions and internet connections, while providing news faster than the newspaper, cannot have the width, breadth and depth of the newspapers and do not provide references that we can access repeatedly and at leisure and comfort. People of all profession read newspapers because they want to know the day-to-day developments in their respective fields, to know the changes around them that may affect their lives, be it environmental, political, social or economic.

Reading newspapers enhances mental growth and enlightenment irrespective of the field of interest or livelihood, serves to broaden knowledge and keep abreast of the recent developments in various fields,

like politics, health, economics, science and technology, sports, arts and culture, and entertainment. Newspaper is an important tool of the learning process, not only for students, but also for those who are undertaking informal education.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is highly recommended.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. G. Mercado', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

ROGER G. MERCADO



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AN ACT
MANDATING ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL LIBRARIES INCLUDING
STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE
NEWSPAPERS AS PART OF THEIR REFERENCE MATERIALS
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF.

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

SECTION 1. All public school libraries, including State colleges and universities, are hereby mandated to provide newspapers as part of their reference materials.

SEC. 2. The Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 3. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the current appropriations of both the Department of

Education and the Commission on Higher Education. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continuous implementation shall be included in their respective budget under the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

Approved,