

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

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill. No. 181



Introduced by Hon. Gilbert C. Remulla

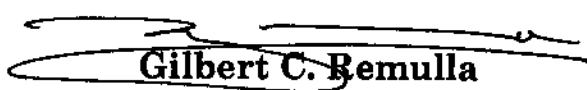
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Advances in technology have out phased numerous ways in acquiring knowledge. In developed societies, the computer plays a vital role in the movement of information. Information, when harnessed, brings about flowing exchange if ideas and innovations that oils the wheel of development.

Computer education and information technology is not the wave of the future; it is the wave of today sweeping every corner of the globe. Industry and commerce in the Philippines without computers and information technology would result in further underdevelopment. We are now in the position to prepare the present and the next generation for the acquisition of this information. We cannot be mere spectators as technological upheavals happen before our very eyes. We should thus be participants in the changes moving technology and society.

It is high time that we equip our students with the necessary skills in the operation of computers. Computer education should be available to all public school students. Knowledge gained in computer education will level the playing field and raise our country's competitiveness with our ASEAN neighbors.

In this light, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


Gilbert C. Remulla

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AN ACT
REQUIRING COMPUTER EDUCATION IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS
AND FOR OTHER 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 "Computer Education Act."

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 computer education among public high school students.

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

Sec. 4. *Curriculum* - The Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall include computer education as part of the curriculum of secondary public education.

Sec. 5. *Training* - The National Computer Center shall train qualified Department of Education, Culture and Sports personnel in every public high school.

Sec. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* - The Department of Education, Culture and Sports in coordination with the National Computer Center shall formulate the necessary guidelines and promulgate rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 7. *Allocations for Computers* - The total capital outlay of computers shall be proportionally distributed per legislative district in accordance with their share of student enrollment relative to the total population.

Sec. 8. *Appropriation* - Such sum as may be necessary for the 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 operations shall be included in the regular appropriations of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports and the National Computer Center.

Sec. 9. *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. 10. *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. 11. *Effectivity* - This act shall take effect 15 days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,