

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 338

Introduced by HONORABLE LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill is a refilling of House Bill No. 231 which was approved by the 14th Congress of the House of Representatives on 02 September 2008 and was transmitted to and received by the Senate on 16 September 2008.

This bill seeks to establish an information and communications technology high school in the capital town of Pili, Province of Camarines Sur, to be known as the Computer Science High School of Bicolandia.

This high school is a pioneering concept designed to introduce a unique cyber-oriented curriculum at the secondary level following the trend in other countries where new types of high schools with futuristics at their very core are being established. While the basic high school requirements shall be maintained, its curriculum will be tweaked such that its lessons are based on futurism, with emphasis on use and application of new knowledge and skills such as that in the field of information and communications technology. Its students would therefore learn in a new career environment before going off to college.

If this school is approved and promoted as a pilot educational institution at the secondary level, the Department of Education shall enrich pre-college education as never before done and may even pave the way for other types of futuristic high schools that have other specialized orientations, which starts from freshman year through senior year, thus inculcating in its students a more advanced foundation in new knowledge and skills, such as that in the field of information and communications technology.

The said high school will be a model school in addition to the proposed specialized high schools for the Province of Camarines Sur, that are focused on arts and culture, sports, science, and agro-industrial applications. They are intended to provide students in the secondary level access to practical and useful knowledge and skills that will not only

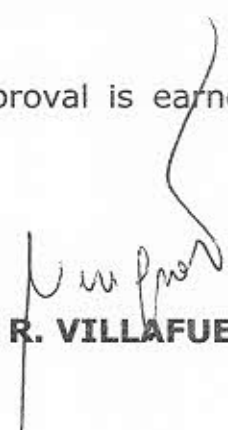
help them create an early career path even while they are still at the secondary school level and thereby become economically productive citizens at an early age, but also develop the knowledge and culture base of the nation to be globally competitive in manpower skills.

Section 24, Article II (Declaration of Principles and State Policies) of the 1987 Constitution states that, "The State shall recognize the vital role of communication and information in nation-building." In today's high-tech business as well as social environment, knowledge and skills in the said field is a definite advantage, and can be used to build a career upon.

Therefore, in order to accelerate the availability of this special knowledge and skills to the youth, it is necessary to integrate the same with the regular secondary courses, thereby attaining two objectives at the least possible time and at relatively lesser cost to the government and its educational institutions. Students will be provided both basic secondary education and, at the same time, training in information and communication technology upon which they could build further education and eventually, a potentially lucrative career.

The establishment therefore of an information and communications technology high school will implement the constitutionally mandated policy that the State shall recognize the vital role of information and communication technology as and instrument for nation-building and will complement national programs and priorities in the development of the computer science industry, as well as economic development, through manpower skills education.

Considering the merits of this Bill, its early approval is earnestly requested.



LUIS R. VILLAFUERTE

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING AN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL IN THE CAPITAL TOWN OF PILI,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
COMPUTER SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL OF BICOLANDIA AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Establishment of an Information and**
2 **Communications Technology High School.** - There is hereby
3 established, under the supervision of the Department of Education, an
4 information and communications technology high school in the capital
5 town of Pili, Province of Camarines Sur to be known as the Computer
6 Science High School of Bicolandia.

7 **SEC. 2. Appropriations.** - The Secretary of Education shall
8 immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization
9 of the Computer Science High School of Bicolandia, the funding of which
10 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

11 **SEC. 3. Implementation.** - The Secretary of Education shall issue
12 such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes
13 of this Act.

- 1 **SEC. 4. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
2 after its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

Approved,