

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **362**

INTRODUCED BY HON. MARCELINO "MARCY" R. TEODORO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Changing times call for an innovative step. With the transformation of our society from a simple to a highly complicated and technological one through the use of computers and other hi-tech gadgets, it is just proper to equip oneself with the necessary arm to succeed.

And it is best to start young. Whereas before, intelligence and emotional quotient (IQ and EQ) would be sufficient for the holistic development of a child, we could no longer limit ourselves to these factors considering the times. In addition, what children need to develop is a high TQ or technological quotient. This, according to an expert, means that children should not only be taught how to operate the computer but more importantly, learn how to use technology purposely.

While computer technology may have its setbacks, when utilized correctly and purposefully, said technology can be an effective tool in enhancing the students' learning with the end view of having better educated and globally competitive labor force.

Hence, the inclusion of computer education as a separate subject at the grade school and high school level in all public and private educational institutions nationwide is no longer considered an option but rather a necessity long been deferred.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING COMPULSORY COMPUTER EDUCATION IN ELEMENTARY
AND HIGHSCHOOL LEVELS THROUGH THE INCLUSION OF APPROPRIATE
COMPUTER SUBJECTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S
ELEMENTARY AND HIGHSCHOOL CURRICULUM AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

Section 1. Short Title – This Act shall be known as the "Computer Education Act of 2007."

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy – It is a declared policy of the State to establish, maintain and support a complete, adequate and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society. For these reasons, it is hereby declared as State policy to include basic and advance computer subjects as part of the curriculum for elementary and secondary education, respectively.

Sec. 3. Compulsory Computer Education in the Elementary and High School Level. - There shall be a separate subject on basic computer for grade school pupils, and advance computer for high school students to be included in the curriculum of both public and private schools nationwide.

Sec. 4. Determination and Development of Subject Content – Prior to the formal implementation of this Act on the academic year immediately after its approval, the Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary shall appoint a Head Subject Specialist who shall be the lead person in coordinating all activities necessary for the determination, development and implementation of the subject in the primary and secondary level. The Head Subject Specialist must be a recognized expert in the field of computer education and information technology and a distinguished educator as well.

The Head Subject Specialist shall conduct a multi-sectoral consultation with the stakeholders from public and private high schools, concerned government agencies, and the public at large for the purpose of determining the appropriate content and scope of the computer subject to be included in the curriculum.

Provided, that such subject shall be attuned to the current national policy on computer literacy, information technology and global competitiveness.

Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Secretary of the Department of Education shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the immediate and proper implementation of this Act.

Sec. 6. Computer Allocation – Required computers for release shall be proportionally distributed per legislative district based on their share of student enrolment relative to the total population.

Sec. 7. Funding – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of the 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.

Sec. 8. 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. 9. 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. 10. Effectivity – This Act shall take effect 15 days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,