

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

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First Regular Session

H. B. No. 508

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Introduced by HONORABLE JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Among the main problems confronting the educational system in the country today, aside from lack of adequate funds and low teacher salaries, are staffing problems in remote school sites, educational inequities in terms of access and quality of education and inadequate in-service training of teachers.

These problems are found in other parts of the world and they have found that adopting emerging educational technologies in the education market place are effective in addressing these problems. Thus, Heller (1990) talks about the application of telecommunications technology to distance learning, which is live video teleconferencing in the business environment. Another innovative delivery approach is the use of mobile automated learning labs or MALLS found in pilot areas of the U.S.A. Brooks and Per1 (1990), on the other hand, underscore the increasing ability of interactive training systems and the development of multi-medidhyper media equipment that combines sound, pictures and full-motion video into computer software systems.

There is no doubt that the effective adoption of these technologies will also revolutionize Philippine education as in the developed countries of the world. However, our country has limited resources in developing indigenous leading-edge educational technologies. We also need to be judicious in adopting these technologies, i.e., when they become more affordable. This will take place either because the costs would have dropped significantly or because of the recognition that benefits have expanded exponentially or both. However, we should take care that we do not end up with obsolete, hand-me-down educational technologies just because they are expensive or donated to us.

This bill seeks the establishment of a Center for Leading Edge Educational Technologies (CLEET), which will bring together the academic, technological and economic forces that can advance the educational promise of affordable technologies. It will be dedicated to the development of the appropriate educational materials for use in these emerging technologies. To be able to do this, we need to train people to be CLEET experts and acquire a critical mass of equipment and software, centrally located in a hightechnology facility.

The CLEET will be a partnership of the government and the private sector. Its thrust would be education and information technology combined, but its operations should have a heavier emphasis on the information technology aspects.

The Board of Trustees will include, among others, the Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd); Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) ; the Chairman of the Technological Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA); representatives of other government agencies and the academe. The CLEETs day-to-day operations will be managed by a director, who is also a member of the Board of Trustees. An Advisory Committee will assess the state of the country's education and education technology.

The CLEET will be created to focus the collective resources of government and the private sector into a national force for innovation in education. Its initial capital endowment comes from the national government. Eventually, its funds will come from both the government and the private sector. Every year, the DepEd, CHED and TESDA will allocate a portion of their annual budget to the Center's support.

Private sector support for the CLEET can be enlisted through membership by companies or organizations for a specific period of time. Their contribution to the CLEET can come in the form of fund, personnel and equipment, particularly at the initial stage. Program expenses can be raised from gifts, grants, endowments and funds raised from donors and the company member ships .

The CLEET will train educators, trainers and practitioners from across the nation to influence the directions of educational technology. The premise is that educational priorities should lead, rather than react to the development of affordable educational technologies. The goal is to assemble a high- technology facility for accessing leading-edge hardware, software and materials and a core of leadership to determine these priorities and to bring technology to bear on them as appropriate. First priorities will be areas of manpower developments and the educational curricula that are of broad importance and that are amenable to the educational promise of technology.

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



**JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA**  
Representative  
Lone District, Province of Aurora

H.B. No. 508

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Introduced by Honorable JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

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AN ACT  
CREATING THE CENTER FOR LEADING-EDGE EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES,  
PROVIDING FOR ITS ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE, POWERS AND  
FUNCTIONS,  
AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREOF,  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

**SECTION 1. Title.** This Act shall be known as the *"Charter of the Center for Leading-Edge Educational Technologies."*

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy and Objectives.** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to rationalize and integrate a comprehensive approach in bringing together the academic, technological and economic forces which will initiate, promote, sponsor, assist, pursue, support and conduct programs, projects and studies geared towards training, research, development of the educational promise of affordable technologies and other related sciences of fields of endeavor.

**SEC. 3. Center For leading-Edge Educational Technologies; Creation and Principal Place of Business (CLEET).** To implement the State policy and pursue the objectives of this Act, there is hereby created a non-stock, non-profit, non-sectoral and non-political body corporate to be known as the Center for Leading-Edge Educational Technologies or CLEET, hereinafter referred to as the Center, which shall be organized and operated in the public interest, and to be jointly funded by both the government and the private sector.

The Center shall have its principal place of business in Metro Manila, Philippines: Provided, however, That the Center may, from time to time, establish and maintain branches in or outside of the Philippines whenever such action is necessary or requisite in the furtherance of its purposes and objectives.

**SEC. 4. Corporate Powers.** Aside from the general powers, rights, privileges and attributes allowed or permitted by law, the Center shall have the Following powers and functions:

- (1) To design and develop training programs using leading-edge educational technologies for knowledge transfer and skills training;
- (2) To develop training programs using appropriate strategies and media to identified target audiences;
- (3) To prepare and implement an accreditation and equivalency program using leading-edge educational technologies for students from the informal and non-formal sectors to enter the mainstream of formal education or the world of work in business and industry;

- (4) To initiate and conduct seminars, publications, reports, workshops, educational campaigns, conferences, conventions, fora and symposia on matters, subjects and topics pertaining to or involving leading-edge educational technologies significant to practitioners, teachers, students, and private and public entities;
- (5) To collect, compile, collate, evaluate, analyze and study activities, data and materials pertaining to or involving leading-edge educational technologies and to this end, to publish or disseminate information through researches, studies, workshops, conferences, symposia or fora and other activities of the Center;
- (6) To review general and specific/ disciplinary hardware/courseware tools from educational perspectives;
- (7) To develop functional requirements for new educational/training tools;
- (8) To study the implications of technology for the areas of the curriculum;
- (9) To legitimize the role of instructional technology in the educational community;
- (10) To develop prototype tools, software and educational materials in response to identified needs;
- (11) To facilitate collection and serve as clearing house of literature on leading-edge educational technologies;
- (12) To aid, assist or coordinate with any individual, corporation, association, organization or entity, public or private, in the achievement, pursuit and conduct of any or all of the foregoing activities and objectives;
- (13) To acquire, secure or obtain by purchase, lease, barter or any other legal means of acquisition such real and personal properties as may be necessary and proper to maintain its offices or facilities, or to carry out the programs or projects initiated, sponsored or assisted by the Center;
- (14) To raise and maintain a fund with which to compensate its operating management and staff and to finance the programs, projects or undertakings which the Center have initiated, promoted or conducted;
- (15) To receive and accept funds, real or personal properties in the form of donations and/or grants in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the Center;
- (16) To invest the funds of the Center in such securities of investments as may be deemed advisable in the furtherance of the objectives and the purpose of the Center, and in connection thereto, to enter into any all kinds of contracts, arrangements and undertaking, not contrary to or prohibited by law , with any person, corporation, or entity;
- (17) To borrow money or funds or obtain and/or arranged such credit or credit accommodation as may be required or necessary for its operations, programs, and projects and in connection thereto to secure the same by the pledge, mortgage or other lawful arrangements and;
- (18) To perform and engage in any and all acts, matters and things which may be necessary, proper and convenient for the accomplishment or achievement of the objectives and purposes of the Center.

**SEC. 5. Board of Trustees.** The Center shall be governed and its activities shall be directed, controlled and managed by a Board of Trustees which shall be composed of thirteen (13) members. The members of the Board of Trustees, whom are to serve until their successors are elected and qualified as provided by the by-laws of the Center, shall be as follows:

- (1) Secretary, Department of Education (DepED), Chairman of the Board;

- (2) Secretary, Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- (3) Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);
- (4) Chairman, Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
- (5) Chairman, Technical Education And Skills Development Authority (TESDA);
- (6) President, National Public Broadcasting System;
- (7) President, National Inter-University Forum on Education;
- (8) Representative, Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
- (9) Representative, Employers Confederation of the Philippines;
- (10) Representative, Information Technology and Coordinating Council;
- (11) The Director of the Center, as provided for in Section 6 hereof.

In addition, the President of the Philippines shall appoint two (2) representatives from the academe, who have gained reputations in the education community or academic circles as outstanding educators.

**SEC. 6. Director.** There shall be a Director of the Center to be appointed by the President of the Philippines for a term of four (4) years, and who, aside from being a member of the Board of Trustees, shall be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the Center.

**SEC. 7. Advisory Board.** There shall be created an Advisory Board whose function is to assess the current state of the country's education and education technology, and recommend policies and measures that will enhance technology adoption and technology transfer.

The members of the Advisory Board shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, and they shall come from both the academic community and the other field of science and technology. They shall meet at least once every three months, and such other time as may be requested by the President or as they may deem necessary.

**SEC. 8. Appropriations.** The Department of Education (DepED), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall, every year, allocate a portion of their annual budget for the support of the Center.

**SEC. 9. Tax Exemptions.** The provisions of existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding, all gifts, grants, endowments, funds, and such other donations, personal or real, from donors and company memberships shall be exempt from the donor's or transfer tax.

**SEC. 10. Applicable Law.** The provisions of Batas Pambansa Bilang Animnapu't Walo (B.P. Blg. 68), as amended, otherwise known as the Corporation Code of the Philippines, not otherwise in conflict with this Act, shall apply in suppletory manner.

**SEC. 11. Repealing Clause.** Any provision of other laws inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SEC. 12. Separability Clause.** If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, any part or provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 13. Effectivity** - This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,