

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 920

Introduced by Honorable Czarina D. Umali

EXPLANATORY NOTE

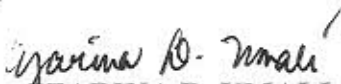
The framers of our constitution took cognizance of and enshrined in our fundamental law a policy that gives priority to science and technology. Section 10, Article XIV states that "science and technology are essential for national development and progress. It shall likewise support indigenous, appropriate and self reliant scientific and technological capabilities and their application to the country's productive system and national life."

This mandate notwithstanding government is unable to give life to this policy direction as progress and development in the field of technology in our country continue to rely mainly on private sector initiatives. In education, for instance, we see the mushrooming of various technical and information technology (IT) schools established by private entities to address the growing demand for technologically trained workforce.

The downside, however, is that these private technical schools present the only available option to students desiring to obtain technical and IT-related education. The fees required for technical and IT education, however are beyond the reach of most of our countrymen.

It is expedient, therefore, that the government provide our high school graduates with a better and affordable option in the matter of technical education. With the establishment of technical and information technology schools in all regions in the country that will offer free and/or affordable technical education to high school graduates, we will be ensuring a continuous generation of highly trained graduates at par with the best in the world.

In view thereof, support and approval of the proposed measure is earnestly sought.


Hon. CZARINA D. UMALI
Representative
3rd Dist. Nueva Ecija

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY SHOOOLS IN ALL THE REGIONS OF THE PHILIPPINES
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established in all the Regions of the Philippines, information technology schools under the supervision of the Department of Science and Technology, in collaboration and coordination with the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, which shall offer free technical with information technology courses to high school graduates.

SECTION 2. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall be the lead agency in formulating the courses to be offered and the curriculum for each course.

SECTION 3. Graduates of public secondary schools in the respective regions shall be given priority admission.

SECTION 4. The Department of Science and Technology shall immediately issues the necessary rules and regulations so as to make the schools operational in the school year following the approval of this Act.

SECTION 5. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Science and Technology under the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the schools shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.