

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**FIFTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3218**

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Introduced by: **HON. ANNA YORK P. BONDOC, MD**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

**AN ACT**  
**INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF**  
**LIBRARY HUBS IN ALL REGIONS AND SCHOOLS DIVISIONS OF THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF**

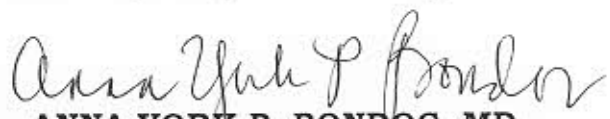
This bill seeks to institutionalize the establishment of a reservoir of reading materials in every schools division called the Library Hub to develop among pupils and students the love for and habit of reading.

The Philippine public education system has established school libraries as an institution to supplement basic books and reading materials to the subject area text books. Sadly, libraries are installed only in secondary schools and are often housed in old and condemned buildings and often contain obsolete books and old newspapers and magazines. The libraries in elementary schools if ever available are small and improvised structures erected through the initiative of the school head and teachers.

Library Hub is a warehouse of reading materials for public school students. It is a center of learning and educational activities of the Schools Division. It aims to provide reading materials mostly in the form of story books which are stored in plastic bins ready for lending and distribution to public schools wanting to use the books as supplementary reading materials. Today, around 150 Library Hubs have been established. These Library Hubs have been effectively providing reading materials to public schools nationwide.

The institutionalization of the Library Hubs shall sustain the current efforts to established Library Hubs where these are most needed to provide a support system to develop in children the ability to read and the love of reading thereby enhancing the quality of students in public schools.

In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this urgent bill is earnestly sought.

  
**ANNA YORK P. BONDOC, MD**  
Representative  
4<sup>th</sup> District, Pampanga

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

**SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** - It shall be the policy of the State to promote continuous learning and development of the youth through education by establishing **library hubs** that will house books and other reading materials which will be available for all schools within the respective division where said library hub is situated.

**SEC. 2. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act the following terms shall mean:

- a) "Hub" - refers to a depot or warehouse of reading materials for public school students; center of learning and educational activities of the Division;
- b) "Library" - refers to a collection of books and similar materials systematically organized and administered for reading, consultation, and study;
- c) "Schools Division" - refers to a division established by the Department of Education (DepEd) in every province or city and which is headed by a schools division superintendent;
- d) "Supplementary Reading Materials" - refers to materials other than textbooks and teacher's manuals which aid in the teaching of and/or learning certain concepts and skills of reinforcement, enrichment and appreciation. Usually, these are storybooks and other reading materials produced by the Department of Health

**SEC. 3. Institutionalization of Library Hubs.** -

At least one Library Hub equipped with adequate and varied quality supplementary reading materials for public elementary and secondary schools shall be established in every schools division nationwide.

The supplementary reading materials shall include but not limited to story books, reference books, magazines, newspapers and other printed materials.

**SEC. 4. Purpose of the Library Hub.** - The Library Hub shall have the following functions:

1. To provide greater access to reading materials to all public school pupils and students through Library
2. To provide quality and appropriate books to public schools nationwide
3. To develop the love for books and habit of reading
4. To support the development of reading and comprehension skills of public school pupils and students
5. To support the development of reading and comprehension skills of public school pupils and students

**SEC. 5. *Implementing Agency.*** The authority to regulate the organization, operation and/or implementation of the library hub project shall be vested upon the Department of Education, through the schools division superintendent.

**SEC. 6. *Appropriations.*** The amount of three hundred million for the structure, materials and initial operation and maintenance of the Hubs shall be charged to the appropriations for the Department of Education. Thereafter, such funds as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Library Hubs shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

**SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** Within Sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, decrees and orders or parts thereof which are contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.