

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 7928



Introduced by **HON. ERIC L. OLIVAREZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

With the dawn of computer technology, information communication technology has impacted a great number of our people, both positively and negatively; and has transformed not only how we do business but also on how we transmit knowledge and facilitate learning for the new generation.

Two decades ago, computer technology and use of computers in education is alien in our classrooms, and teachers mostly use blackboard and paper materials for teaching aids. Even though the effectivity of the traditional teaching aids are beyond question as shown by numerous studies and long experience, however new technologies such as computer technology and the Internet open new possibilities in teaching strategies and methodologies.

Studies show that the use of computers in school education improves performance of pupils or students and also provides access to more information for learners and also for the teachers. It improves learners' retention of subject matter through the use audio-visual presentation. Students learn faster and it improves students' creativity. It widens access to more information through stored data and in the Internet.

Computers also provide effective classrooms. Teachers can create more effective and creative teaching materials and teaching aids that will help improve the learning experience of pupils and/or students. With the increasing number of students per classroom and student - teacher ratio, computer use can help teachers cope up without sacrificing the expected learning outcomes.

With limited classrooms, schools can opt to offer education online through the use of computer, internet and mobile smart phones. Since government are now mandated to provide free wifi access in government and public areas and with the high percentage of smart phone use in the country, specifically in the urban centers such as Metro Manila, teachers and students can

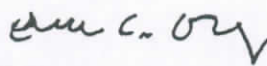
use the Internet as virtual classroom or discussion board and webinar. These may serve as an alternative classroom or an extension of classroom discussions.

Computer helps in research work of students and teachers. Students and teachers can use e-books and the Internet in their research work as sources of information and materials. It facilitates easier and more convenient exchange of information and materials through the Internet and cloud computing and other portable data storage.

Computer boosts education to the global platform. The Internet is the gateway and highway of students and teachers to the global platform. A student can participate or listen to a seminar or forum happening across the globe or can watch and listen to a lecture done a year ago with almost the same outcome as to a student attending the said seminar. Significant intellectual outputs by students and/or teachers can be critiqued by their peers from different countries and societies thereby improving the intellectual production.

Computer and computer technology has impacted our lives and society, and is used not only as a personal tool but moreover as a business tool. We are one of the biggest provider of business processing and it has become a major contributor to our economy and labor market. With the use of computer and computer technology in education, we are preparing our young people to become more adept in computer and computer technology by educating them through the use of computer. It is learning by doing.

With the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is being sought.



ERIC L. OLIVAREZ

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**AN ACT REQUIRING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF COMPUTER LABORATORY IN
ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSE**

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Computer and Internet Literacy for Public School Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to give priority to promote the use of computer technology and literacy in basic education, especially in public schools.

The State recognizes the value of computer technology and access to the Internet in enhancing and facilitating learning and education of pupils and students in basic education. In line with this, the State shall promote computer education and literacy, and provide access to computers and the Internet by learners and teachers in basic education.

SEC. 3. *Objectives.* – This Act aims to:

- a. Improve computer literacy and the use of computer technology in education in the country;
- b. Provide access to computer use and the Internet in basic education, both in elementary and high school;
- c. Teach the students the effective use and operation of computers and the Internet;
- d. To train teachers the use of computer and the Internet so that they will be more effective in teaching; and,
- e. Improve computer education in basic education as a preparation for higher learning in computer science and technology, and other emerging sciences and technologies.

SEC. 4. Every public elementary and high school in the country shall have at least one room that shall be used as a computer laboratory and which in turn shall be used in providing computer and internet literacy instruction to pupils and/or students.

SEC. 5. The Department of Education (DepEd) is mandated to include in the curriculum of all public elementary schools computer and internet literacy so that all graduating elementary pupils shall have received basic computer and internet literacy instruction.

SEC. 6. *Implementation.* – The Department of Education (DepEd), in collaboration with the Department of Information and Technology (DICT) shall formulate the pertinent rules and regulations necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to cover the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current year's appropriation of the DepEd and DICT. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,