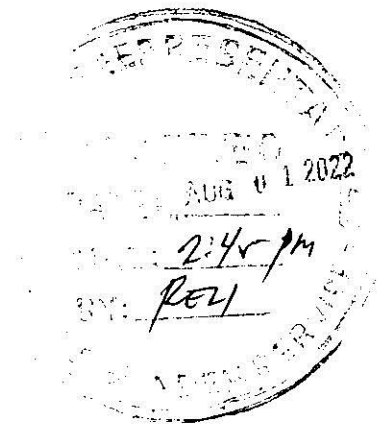


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **2867**



Introduced by **HONORABLE RAMON JOLO B. REVILLA III**
and **HONORABLE LANI MERCADO-REVILLA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide every public school student a tablet of their own to assist them in learning in the new normal, in line with the national government's thrust to provide quality education for all Filipino students.

The pandemic brought about a modification in our educational system. Currently, educational institutions have adopted different modalities in conducting classes. Most of the learning institutions utilize distance learning as an alternative, while transitioning to the return of face-to-face classes. Since distance learning requires a reliable gadget, this has thus made school requirements even more challenging to already financially-distressed students.

According to a study done by International Data Corp. (IDC), tablet computers (tablets) are the device chosen by Philippine LGUs to be acquired for students currently enrolled in public schools. This is primarily because of its relatively lower cost compared to the prices of laptops and desktop computers. Tablets also have the capacity to operate various educational applications and productivity tools.¹ Based on reports, a number of public schools with internet access have also shifted from printed learning modality to online learning to lessen the burden of printing numerous modules for students by the schoolteachers.²

Despite joint efforts of the DepEd, LGUs and the private sector, majority of the public school students do not have gadgets and have difficulties keeping up with the blended learning mode.

¹ <https://business.inquirer.net/332686/tablet-the-device-of-choice-of-lgus-racing-to-ease-remote-learning-dilemma>

² <https://www.idc.com/getdoc.jsp?containerID=prAP48289121>

This bill was originally filed during the 18th Congress as House Bill No. 10405 by Senator Loren Legarda, who was then the Representative from the lone district of Antique.

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



RAMON JOLO B. REVILLA III



LANI MERCADO-REVILLA

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. **2867**

Introduced by **HONORABLE RAMON JOLO B. REVILLA III**
and **HONORABLE LANI MERCADO-REVILLA**

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ‘ONE TABLET, ONE STUDENT’ PROGRAM FOR ALL
STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
COLLEGES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “One Tablet, One Student Act”.

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels. Further, the State shall take appropriate measures to make education accessible to all particularly in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and further, as different modalities for conducting classes are being promoted.

SECTION 3. *One Tablet, One Student Program.* – The One Tablet, One Student program is hereby established to provide each public elementary and secondary student, as well as students enrolled in State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) a tablet computer (“tablet”) each to enable them to effectively participate in online learning.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Agencies.* – The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) are hereby tasked to implement the One Tablet, One Student Program and shall:

1. develop a comprehensive system to determine the eligibility of students who will qualify under the said program;
2. develop an efficient and expeditious distribution system; and,

3. formulate guidelines on usage, maintenance and accountability for the tablets.

SECTION 5. *Appropriations.* – An amount of two hundred billion pesos (P200,000,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury for the initial implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be appropriated in the succeeding General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd and CHED, in coordination with the local government units through the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), shall promulgate all necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation not later than thirty (30) days upon the effectivity of this Act. The DepEd and CHED shall publish such rules and regulations once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in two newspapers of general circulation.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity.* – This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication either in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,