

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3184



Introduced by REP. EMILIO BERNARDINO L. YULO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

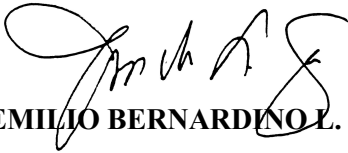
The landscape of education in the Philippines has undergone a significant transformation in recent years. The shift brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic underscored the vital role of technology in sustaining learning. The innovative approaches adopted by schools during this crisis have demonstrated how information and communication technology (ICT) can enhance connectivity, accessibility, and continuity in education, even in the most challenging circumstances.

In the digital age, ICT has become a key driver of national development and economic competitiveness. While the Philippines has made strides with the establishment of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), which was created to provide equitable access to ICT infrastructure and promote the growth of ICT-enabled industries, much work remains to be done. There is a pressing need to integrate ICT more effectively into the public education system, particularly at the primary and secondary levels.

This bill seeks to strengthen the integration of ICT in all public elementary and high schools nationwide. It proposes the provision of computer laboratories equipped with modern hardware, stable wireless internet access, and digital tools that facilitate easy access to information. The measure also aims to train educators in using ICT to complement traditional teaching methods, transition from outdated textbooks to updated digital learning materials, and implement an online shared curriculum. This will ensure that students in rural and underserved areas receive the same quality of education as those in urban centers.

Through institutionalizing these reforms, this legislation will bridge the digital divide in education and empower the next generation with the technological skills necessary to thrive in a competitive and information-driven world.

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


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**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the "ICT in Education Act
of 2025".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy and Objectives.* It shall be the policy of the State to
provide quality education that is accessible to all citizens. Furthermore, the State shall
also establish and maintain an education system that is relevant to the needs of society.

This Act shall attain the following objectives:

- A. Provide public elementary schools and high schools with computer facilities including a stable wireless network and equipment necessary for easy access to information;
- B. Train educators to supplement traditional classroom learning with Information and Communication Technology (ICT);
- C. Replace out-dated textbooks with up-to-date electronic books; and
- D. Have an online shared curriculum among public elementary schools and high schools to ensure that students even in rural areas will be given the same quality of education.

SEC. 3. *ICT in Public Primary and Secondary Schools.* The Department of Education (DepEd) shall use appropriate and effective ICT in public elementary schools and high schools to broaden access to basic education, improve the quality of learning, enhance the quality of teaching, and strengthen educational planning and management.

SEC. 4. *Physical and Technological Infrastructure.* Within a period of six (6) years, all public elementary schools and high schools shall establish at least one (1) Computer Center with a stable internet connection that will ensure internet access to students. The schools shall avail of the services of existing commercial internet providers and shall establish and maintain a computer facility system which should have, at the minimum, the following equipment:

- A. Desktop Personal Computer (PC);
- B. Wireless Broadband Router;
- C. Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS);
- D. Computer Printer; and
- E. Multimedia Projector

The number of computer units for the Computer Center of each public elementary school and high school will be based on the standards and guidelines provided for by the DepEd in consultation with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and with each respective public elementary schools and high schools.

SEC. 5. *Training for Educators and Maintenance of ICT.* The Regional Offices of the DepEd and the DICT shall carry out training for educators in public elementary schools and high schools to integrate ICT in classroom learning, to instill in educators the professional and educational benefits of investment in ICT, and to allow educators to have mastery of sourcing appropriate resources for school education.

The aforementioned agencies shall monitor the use and upkeep of ICT introduced in public elementary schools and high schools.

SEC. 6. *Utilization of ICT in Classroom Learning.* Educators in public elementary schools and high schools shall make full use of ICT as presentation tools to complement traditional teaching methods. Presentation tools may include, but shall not be limited to, multimedia projectors, television and guided internet surfing where the educator and the students will be able to view internet sites simultaneously.

SEC. 7. *Computerization of Administrative Systems.* The DepEd with the technical assistance of the DICT shall develop an ICT-based administrative system that will enhance organizational communication; facilitate the gathering, analysis, dissemination, and maintenance of educational statistics, and streamline office procedures.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* The amount necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be included in the regular appropriations of the DepEd and the DICT.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The DepEd and the DICT shall, within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or the Official Gazette.

Approved,

