

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5381**



Introduced by Representative Kenneth T. Gatchalian

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution provides that “the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.”

In line with this mandate, the proposed measure seeks the establishment of a National Public School Database. This system will streamline the enrollment process and provide school heads and teachers with timely and accurate information, thereby improving efficiency in school administration.

The database will likewise serve as a safeguard for learner records. At present, over 22.5 million learners are enrolled in public schools for School Year 2024–2025. Relying solely on physical documents exposes these records to the risks of damage or loss due to poor storage, natural disasters, or other unforeseen events. A centralized and secure digital system will ensure the preservation and accessibility of these vital records.

Moreover, maintaining a national public school database will enable systematic monitoring of learner performance, which is essential for school assessment, planning, and the setting of operational targets.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


KENNETH T. GATCHALIAN

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE AUTOMATION OF A NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL
DATABASE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Public School*
2 *Database Act*”.

3 **SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to establish and
4 maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the
5 goals of national development. Toward this end, the government shall ensure the
6 promotion of efficient access to both elementary and secondary education for the
7 public.

8 **SEC. 3.** *Coverage.* – This Act shall apply to public schools in both primary
9 and secondary levels of the educational system.

10 **SEC. 4.** *National Public School Database.* – The Department of Education
11 (DepEd) is hereby mandated to develop, operate, and maintain a National Public
12 School Database that contains learner information, including but not limited to the
13 following:

14 (a) School grades;

- (b) Personal data;
- (c) Good moral record; and
- (d) Improvement tracking.

SEC. 5. *Database Access.* – School administrators shall be given access to the National Public School Database containing learner records and other learner-specific data, such as exam scores, grade levels, attendance, and immunization records, for the following purposes:

- (a) Recording biographical data for all learners;
- (b) Handling admissions and discharges; and
- (c) Transferring to other schools.

SEC. 6. *Database Information Program.* – The DepEd shall formulate a Database Information Program to train educational professionals in the development and maintenance of the information in the National Public School Database.

Database Information Program. – The DepEd shall formulate a Database Information Program to train educational professionals in the development and maintenance of the information in the National Public School Database.

SEC. 7. *Illegal Use of the Database.* – No person shall use, access, or utilize the National Public School Database except for the purposes under Sec. 5 of this Act.

The DepEd shall ensure the security and confidentiality of the information contained in the National Public School Database and that processing of information and access to the same is in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10173 or the “Data Privacy Act of 2012”.

SEC. 8. *Penalties.* – A penalty of imprisonment ranging from six (6) months to one (1) year or a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000) but not more than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000) or both, at the discretion of the court, shall be imposed on persons who knowingly and unlawfully alter, falsify or misuse learner information in the National Public School Database.

1 **SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days
2 from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd shall issue the rules and regulations
3 implementing its provisions. The Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) issued
4 pursuant to this section shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in a
5 newspaper of general circulation.

6 **SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part of this Act is
7 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts not affected
8 shall remain in force and effect.

9 **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, executive orders, presidential
10 decrees, administrative orders, rules and regulations, issuances, or parts thereof
11 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
12 amended accordingly.

13 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** – Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the IRR, this
14 Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or
15 in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,