

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. **3055**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The invention and development of the Internet is the greatest technological advance of the 20th century. Today, the Internet is used by more than 50% of the world population. Its applications are found in every field, be it communication, knowledge, news, shopping, marketing, entertainment, education, etc. There are numerous advantages of the Internet in the field of education, like gaining information, news, historical data, communication, etc.

To uphold the constitutional right of all citizens to a quality education, it is necessary to provide for the Wireless Internet Access Program (the "program"). The program will benefit all public schools, including State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), by providing students and teachers alike with wireless internet services.

Using multimedia and Internet provides an opportunity for students to gain knowledge about a particular subject in depth. Students can now see actual photographs of rare bird species, or see animated graphics of a volcanic eruption to understand the concept in detail. Another benefit of online learning is that students even in far flung areas can gain knowledge on different subjects, complete courses, etc. Moreover, students can contact fellow students or their teachers via the e-mail if they have queries. Sharing of information, discussions on a particular subject, etc., can be easily carried out using the Internet. At the same time, teachers can also contact parents and guardians easily.

Ultimately, the program is seen to have a significant and positive impact on the performance of students at every level, particularly in SUCs, hence the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



VICTOR A. YAP

Representative, 2nd District of Tarlac

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
House Bill No. 3055

Introduced by Representative Victor A. Yap

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE WIRELESS INTERNET ACCESS PROGRAM IN ALL STATE
UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

- 1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the “*Wireless Internet (WI)*
2 *Access Act.*”
- 3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the
4 right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and to take appropriate steps to make such
5 education accessible to all. Towards this end, the State shall establish the Wireless Internet
6 Access Program in all state universities and colleges throughout the country by providing
7 wireless internet connection facilities, training personnel about applications and developing a
8 system for its effective implementation.
- 9 **SEC. 3. Wireless Internet Access Program.** – There shall be established the Wireless
10 Internet Access Program, hereinafter referred to as the Program, in all state universities and
11 colleges (SUCs) throughout the country. The Department of Information and Communications
12 Technology (DICT) shall formulate, establish and maintain the Program to provide wireless
13 internet access to students, faculty members and other non-teaching personnel in the SUCs and
14 to ensure that the connectivity requirements of the SUCs and to ensure that the connectivity
15 requirements of the SUCs are met in an efficient and effective manner.
- 16 **SEC. 4. Objectives.** – The Program shall have the following objectives:
17 a) Provide a network for a reliable wireless internet connection and access to students,
18 faculty members and non-teaching personnel in all SUCs which shall promote easy access to
19 information and services relevant to education;
20 b) Improve learning techniques through cost-efficient and productivity-enhancing
21 methods with the use of the wireless internet;
22 c) Modernize the delivery of information to the students through the use and application
23 of information and communications technology;

- 1 d) Upgrade the capabilities of SUCs relevant to valuable educational materials; and
2 e) Make the SUCs technologically competitive and at par with other educational
3 institutions around the world.

4 **SEC. 5. *Program Director.*** - Prior to the implementation of this Act on the academic
5 year immediately after its approval, all SUCs shall each appoint a Program Director who shall
6 be the lead person in charge of all activities necessary for the determination, implementation
7 and management of the Program in their respective campuses. The Program Director shall be
8 an expert in the field of information and communications technology, particularly, on wireless
9 internet access administration.

10 **SEC. 6. *Duties and Functions.*** - The Program Director shall exercise the following
11 duties and functions:

12 a) Execute and administer the plans and projects for the realization of the objectives set
13 forth in this Act;

14 b) Direct and supervise the operation and internal administration of the program and,
15 for this purpose, delegate some of the powers and duties to appropriate subordinate personnel;

16 c) Select and, in coordination with their respective SUCs and the Department of Budget
17 and Management, fix the number and compensation of personnel necessary to implement the
18 provisions of this Act, subject to civil service laws, rules and regulations;

19 d) Receive donations, grants or any form of aid from local or foreign donors relative to
20 the program, ensure that said donations, grants or aids are used for their intended purpose, make
21 a report and submit the same to the proper SUC authorities;

22 e) Coordinate closely with the DICT regarding the training of necessary personnel,
23 improvement of the program design and other related matters that require the expertise of the
24 DICT; and

25 f) Perform such other duties and functions that are proper or necessary to carry out the
26 purposes of this Act.

27
28 **SEC. 7. *Access.*** - All students, faculty members and non-teaching personnel of all
29 SUCs in the country shall be allowed access to a wireless internet connection within the
30 premises of their respective universities or colleges. For purposes of securing and unauthorized
31 use of the free wireless internet connection, restrictions with regard to its use shall be imposed
32 in the form of passwords and other similar mechanisms, which shall be readily provided to the
33 student, faculty member or non-teaching personnel upon request.

34
35 **SEC. 8. *Places of Access.*** - All SUCs shall ensure that access to the wireless internet
36 connection is available at common areas such as, but not limited to, classrooms, libraries,
37 auditoriums, main lobbies, student lounges, and faculty and administrative offices of each

1 district and separate publicly accessible building within the premises of the university or
2 college.

3 **SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*** – Within ninety (90) days from the
4 approval of this Act, the Secretary of DICT shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations
5 for the effective implementation of this Act.

6 **SEC. 10. *Appropriations*** – The amount necessary for the effective implementation of
7 this Act is hereby charged from the current appropriations for the DICT. Thereafter, such
8 amount as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in
9 the annual General Appropriations Act.

10 **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and
11 regulations and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
12 accordingly.

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

15 Approved,