

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
1226
House Bill No. _____

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

DATE: 05 JUL 2016

TIME: 7:02 p

BY: [Signature]

REGISTRATION UNIT
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by Honorable REYNALDO V. UMALI

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 2 (1), Article XIV (Education, Science and Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports) of the 1987 Constitution provides:

"SEC. 2. The State shall:

(1) Establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society;"

In today's era of advanced science, more countries rely on the usefulness of information technology in their respective developmental pursuits. Knowledge on information technology has since evolved from a fad to absolute necessity in the real world. Hence, the demands for cyber education have been increasing tremendously. Computers are now considered necessity because they make our everyday work easier, faster and more efficient. As a whole, computers have generally improved the quality of life. Considering the rapid advance of science and technology, there is now imperative need to adapt to these demands by introducing cyber education program in public elementary and secondary schools throughout the country. Cyber education will provide our students with a variety of options to be ready for global competitiveness. Moreover, our youth must be technologically prepared so that their technical talents may be fully harnessed for national development.

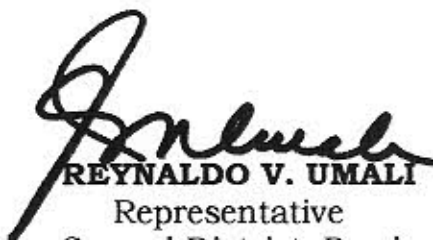
It is widely observed that children who learn the relevant computer language and techniques at an early age gain valuable

command of skills and information needed in modern life. Public school teachers will also be able to upgrade their capabilities and effectively in educating these students.

Hence, there shall be substantial improvement in our public school system as a result of this proposed measure.

It is necessary that the youth who are the future leaders and nation-builders be taught cyber education as early as possible.

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



REYNALDO V. UMALI
Representative

Second District, Province of Oriental Mindoro

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Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
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Introduced by Honorable REYNALDO V. UMALI

**AN ACT INSTITUTING CYBER EDUCATION IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOLS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SEC. 1. **Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Cyber Education Act of 2016."

SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to 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. Towards this end, the State shall establish and maintain the Cyber Education Program in public elementary and secondary schools throughout the country by providing computers, internet access and training to students about computer software's and other applications relative to information and communications technology.

SEC. 3. **Cyber Education Program.** – The Department of Education shall, in coordination with the Commission on Information and Communications Technology, formulate, establish and maintain the Cyber Education Program, hereinafter referred as Cyber Ed, to provide for quality computer education by providing computers and its peripherals, network for internet access and other tools relative to information and communications technology.

For purposes of this Act, Cyber Ed shall include educational or instructional activities carried out through electronic learning (e-learning) technologies, online delivery education and other similar computer applications.

SEC. 4. **Purposes.** – Cyber Ed shall have the following purposes:

- a) Modernize the delivery of basic education to local communities through the use and application of information and communications technology (ICT);
- b) Provide a network for internet access which shall serve as a vehicle for an efficient and cost-effective delivery of educational services to public elementary and secondary schools throughout the country;
- c) Link public schools through nationwide network that provides internet access connectivity;
- d) Provide public schools with relevant lectures and presentations on all subjects in their schools curriculum and other valuable research materials;
- e) Upgrade the knowledge and capabilities of teachers and school administrators relative to information and communications technology (ICT);
- f) Enable communities around the public schools to make use of ICT facilities in order to improve functional electronic literacy among families; and
- g) Make the public educational system globally competitive and at par with those of the rest of the world.

SEC. 5. **Program Director.** – Prior to the implementation of this Act on the academic year immediately after its approval, the Secretary of Education shall appoint a Program Director who shall coordinate all activities necessary for the determination, development, implementation and management of Cyber Ed in the primary and secondary levels. The Program Director shall be a distinguished educator and a recognized expert in the field of information and communications technology and computer education.

SEC. 9. **Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances 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 two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.