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

> EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.

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Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Technology has revolutionized our way of life in every way imaginable. In fact, it even revolutionized our economies in such a way that the speed of information determines a country's place in what can be called *the knowledge economy*. Technology has made a whole sea of information readily available at our fingertips largely thanks to the Internet. Almost any piece of vital information can be accessed within a few taps or clicks. From obscure trivia to related literature, this has raised a generation of Filipinos that is adept at utilizing technology to better accomplish the tasks presented to them.

Given the monumental impact of technology, it is only natural that we as a society should seek to integrate technology into our school systems. This means incorporating technology so that issues regarding access, quality, and relevance of education can be sufficiently addressed in new, innovative ways.

Thus, the State should endeavor to develop a national educational technology policy. We should be futurists when it comes to education. When everyone else sees a flat line, the futurist sees the curve. Through this piece of legislation, students shall be taught information and communication technology basics, digital citizenship, and digital productivity and creativity. With the ever-evolving needs of the modern economy, the State should take the initiative and set the pace.

ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party List

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5896

Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

AN ACT

CREATING THE SCHOOLS OF THE FUTURE DRIVEN BY INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY - TRANSFORMED EDUCATION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF

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 "Teknolohiya Sa Edukasyon Act."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State gives the highest priority to quality and relevant education and shall take the appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Towards this end, the State shall harness all its resources, including technological knowledge and skills, in order to facilitate the learning process to enhance the performance of both students and teachers alike.

SECTION 3. Objectives. - This Act aims to:

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- a) Allow students to gain access to quality education from premier learning institutions and the vast sea of academic resources available online;
- b) Provide students a more economic but effective alternative to traditional means of formal education;
- c) Provide equal opportunities for access to quality education, irrespective of socio-economic status;
- d) Prepare the present generation of youth to the emerging social shift to knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy spurred by unprecedented technological advancements; and
- e) Enable students and teachers to adopt current technological breakthroughs to enhance and elevate the teaching-learning process in any form of education.

SECTION 4. Creation of the Office of Educational Technology. - There shall be created an Office of Educational Technology under the Department of Education (DepEd), hereon referred to in this Act as the Office, to oversee the implementation and realization of the directives as set forth in this Act. The Office shall develop the

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national educational technology policy and shall establish the vision for how technology can be used to transform teaching and learning and how to make everywhere, all-the-time learning possible for early learners through K-12, higher education, and adult education

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> The Office shall be composed of a Director for Educational Technology, a Deputy Director for Educational Technology; and Three Senior Policy Advisors. The Director for Educational Technology shall have the rank of an Undersecretary and the Deputy Director For Educational Technology shall have the rank of an Assistant Secretary. All of these officers comprising the Office shall be appointed by the President.

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SECTION 5. Functions of the Office of Educational Technology. - The Office shall have the following functions:

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a) Promote equity of access to transformational learning experiences enabled by technology;

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b) Support personalized professional learning for teachers and educators:

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c) Encourage school leaders to develop and enable visionary leadership for teachers on Information and Communication Technology in the classroom and the school:

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d) Ensure that students and learning institutions are connected to broadband internet in their classrooms and have access to high-quality, and affordable digital learning resources at school and at home;

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e) Foster a robust ecosystem of educators and innovators; and

31 32 f) Lead cutting-edge research to provide new types of evidence and to customize and improve learning.

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SECTION 6. Program Structure. - The DepEd through the Office shall create a program for schools to ably use technology in the classrooms to meet the objectives of this Act.

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a) Training of teaching instructors. - To ensure that teachers are equipped with the right competencies and skills, the Office shall formulate and implement teaching and professional development programs to develop computer skills. inculcation of technology in instructional aids, and other programs for the development of necessary aptitudes and competencies that will enable them to effectively and efficiently learners achieve the competencies and learning goals set. As such, teachers shall likewise be regularly taught of education technology courses to properly teach the same to the learners.

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b) Framework. - To seamlessly integrate Information and Communication Technology in Education, the Office shall design a framework explaining the mode and methods of instruction and the assessments given to learners to test their knowledge of the subject matter.

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c) Hybrid Intranet Connectivity. - The Office, in coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and other concerned

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agencies, shall establish stable and reliable intranet networks in public schools.

- d) Security. The Office shall give primary importance to cyber safety and cyber security training by regularly providing students, teachers, and parents with trainings through the district and school's "Responsible Use Policy" to update them of the current trends in this matter.
- e) Information Technology Officers. The Office shall require each school division to have an IT Officer who shall oversee and maintain IT-related issues in the division while schools shall appoint IT coordinators to maintain IT related issues in their institutions.
- f) Integration. To ensure that school divisions and schools are properly integrating the use of technology, the Office shall have Technology Instructional Coaches in the division and in each school.
- g) Personal computer units. Each class shall be provided with laptops or tablet computers in a ratio of 1:1 per student to facilitate the learning process.
- h) Digital Classrooms. There shall be a classroom which shall be equipped with the appropriate tools and devices to allow for digital learning in the classroom.
- Training programs for Students. Public schools shall offer hands-on training programs such as learning of ICT skills, digital citizenship and safety, digital productivity and creativity, which can be expanded with the inclusion of coding, programming, and robotics in the institutions to allow students to acquire the necessary knowledge and skills for them to fully participate and interface with mainstream technology.

SECTION 7. Establishment of the Schools of the Future. - As far as practicable under existing conditions and the availability of mainstream technology, all public schools at the basic education level (K-12) shall incorporate such objectives as stated in Section 3 of this Act. The DepEd shall regularly carry out the programs, projects, and initiatives under this Act.

SECTION 8. Authority of the Secretary to Enter into Cooperative Arrangements. - The Secretary of the Department of Education is hereby granted the authority to enter into cooperative and collaborative arrangements with the other government institutions, local government units, and other public or non-profit private entities for the proper and effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 9. Appropriations. - The DepEd shall immediately include this Act in their respective programs, incorporating a budget for the implementation of this Act, to be included in the Annual Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Department of Education shall formulate and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations and other issuances as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from the approval thereof.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, and proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended or modified accordingly.

11 12 13 SECTION 12. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,