

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6634



Introduced by Hon. Anthony Peter "Onyx" D. Crisologo

AN ACT
MANDATING ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PRIMARY AND SEC-
ONDARY SCHOOLS TO INCLUDE MEDIA AND INFORMATION
EDUCATION, INCLUDING THE RESPONSIBLE USE OF THE IN-
TERNET IN THEIR CURRICULUM, FOR OTHER PURPOSES, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As the youth of today continue to live in a time when information transmission is quick and easy, the growing need to have a clear framework and structure on elaborate Media Education and Responsible use of the Internet is brought to the fore.

To nurture the minds of the future generation, it is important to keep the integrity of the ecosystem of information by inculcating critical thinking to our youth at the onset of their education. Teaching all of our students the significance of thorough analysis of various publication materials on media and the internet will help them assess the truthfulness of the information given to them.

More importantly, training them to be mindful about the things that they share on the internet, and arming them with enough knowledge to defend themselves from all types of abuse and anything that might compromise their privacy will contribute to the continuing efforts of the government to protect them.

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

ANTHONY PETER "ONYX" D. CRISOLOGO

Representative
First District, Quezon City

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*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 “*Media and
Information Education Act.*”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy - It is hereby declared the policy
of the state to broaden the understanding of its people of all forms of media
and upheave the capacity of its citizenry to identify reliable information
from various media platforms.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms:

(a) **Media** - Pertains to the wide array of modern communica-
tions such as: television, cinema, video, radio, photography, advertising,
newspapers and magazines, recorded music and the internet.¹

(b) **Media and Information Education** - Systematic instruc-
tion to the right of every citizen to understand how media operates in so-
cieties, to learn critical analysis and reflection of information presented
in different forms of media, to information, and to practice of freedom of
expression in different media platforms.²

¹ Frau-Meigs, Divina, ‘Media Education’, UNESCO, Paris, L’exprimeur-Paris, 2006, <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000149278> (accessed 16 March 2020)

² Federov, Alexander, ‘Media Literacy Education’, Information For All, Moscow, 2015, <https://www.ifan.ru/library/book564.pdf> (accessed 16 March 2020)

(c) **Internet** - An electronic communications network that connects computer networks and organizational computer facilities around the world³

(d) **Social Media** - Forms of electronic communication through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content.”⁴ E.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and other social media websites that create online communities.

SECTION 4. Coverage - All students from grade level one (1) to grade level twelve (12), from both public and private schools.

SECTION 5. Curriculum Development - The Department of Education in close coordination with the Department of Information and Communications Technology, and after thorough consultation with media experts and practitioners, shall develop a module for the inclusion of Media and Information Education and guidelines on the responsible use of the internet on the curriculum of primary and secondary schools.

The module shall include the following topics but should not be limited to:

- a. History and Development of Media
- b. Types and Forms of Media
- c. Critical Information Analysis
- d. Responsible Information Dissemination
- e. Understanding Technology and Social Media Security Systems
- f. Data Privacy Act and Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012

SECTION 6. Curriculum Review - The Department of Education shall review all existing curricula that already include media information education and responsible use of the internet and amend, if necessary, to align them with the provisions stated in this Act. Further, all curricula shall cohere to the provisions stated in Section 4 and shall be reviewed every 2 years to ensure its relevance.

SECTION 7. Appropriations- The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

³ Merriam-Webster Dictionary, 1974 ed., New York, U.S.A., 1974, s.v. “Internet,” <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/Internet> (accessed 23 March 2020)

⁴Merriam-Webster Dictionary, 11th ed., Springfield Massachusetts, U.S.A., 2004, s.v. “Social Media,” <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/social%20media> (accessed 23 March 2020)

SECTION 8. Separability Clause - If any of the sections or provisions of this Act is held invalid, all other provisions not affected shall remain valid.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof contrary to inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a news paper of general circulation.

Approved,