

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4183



Introduced by **MAGDALO Party-List Representative**
HON. MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III


EXPLANATORY NOTE

Computers play a vital role in education and in the movement and flow of information. Information, when harnessed, brings about exchange of ideas and innovation, trade and commerce, and ultimately, development.

Computer education is no longer just a luxury which only first world countries can afford. In fact, it is now a necessity which would define the ability of a nation to join developed countries in this information age or choose to be forever banished in the dustbin of underdevelopment. It is, therefore, imperative to equip our students at least with basic skills in computer operation.

Hence, the proposal of this bill for mandatory computer education for all high school students. It is hoped that with critical training, together with knowledge and expertise gained from the use of computers and with our language skills, our workers and professionals would be able to maintain their competitive edge in the global marketplace and serve as the catalyst which would ultimately propel our country to first world status.

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


MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III
Representative
Magdalo Para sa Pilipino Party-List

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AN ACT
REQUIRING MANDATORY COMPUTER EDUCATION IN ALL PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOLS AND FOR OTHER RELATED PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This act shall be known as the "*Mandatory Computer*
2 *Education Act*".

3
4 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It shall be the policy of the State to foster and
5 promote education utilizing advancements in science and technology that will ensure
6 adequate computer education among all high school students.

7
8 **SEC. 3. *Mandatory Computer Education.*** – All public and private high schools shall
9 establish and maintain a computer facility system that will provide and ensure the access of
10 all students to computers. For the purpose of this Act, "*computer education*" shall refer to the
11 basic training in computer operations as wen as in the use of basic computer programs such
12 as word processing, database encoding and spreadsheets programs.

13
14 **SEC. 4. *Curriculum.*** - The Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with
15 the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) shall develop the
16 appropriate computer education modules which shall be included as part of the regular
17 curriculum of secondary public and private schools all over the country.

18
19 **SEC. 5. *Training.*** – If and when necessary, the DICT shall train qualified DepEd
20 personnel in every public and private high school to enable them to serve as instructors
21 and/or facilitators for computer education classes.

22
23 **SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.***- The DepEd, in coordination with the
24 DICT, shall formulate the necessary guidelines and promulgate rules and regulations
25 implementing the provisions of this Act.
26

1 **SEC. 7. *Allocations for Computers.*** - The DepEd, in consultation with the DICT,
2 shall determine the total capital outlay necessary to provide computers for all public high
3 schools in the country (which still do not have computers) over a period of three (3) years.
4 The same shall be proportionally distributed per legislative district in accordance with their
5 share of student enrollment relative to the total population.
6

7 **SEC. 8. *Computers for Private High Schools.***— The DepEd shall henceforth make it a
8 mandatory requirement for all persons and/or entities applying for registration and/or
9 accreditation to establish private high schools to set-up the appropriate computer laboratory
10 and/or computer system which will adequately meet the computer education needs of their
11 students. Likewise, the DepEd shall ensure that all existing Private High Schools will set-up
12 their own computer system and/or computer laboratory within a period of three (3) years
13 from the issuance of the implementing rules and regulations of this Act as a precondition for
14 their continued operation.
15

16 **SEC. 9. *Appropriation.*** - Such sum as may be necessary for the immediate
17 implementation of the provisions of this act is hereby authorized to be appropriated out of
18 any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated. Thereafter, funds for its
19 implementation shall be included in the regular appropriations of the DepEd and the DICT.
20

21 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, executive orders or parts thereof
22 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
23 accordingly.
24

25 **SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
26 unconstitutional, other provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.
27

28 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity.***— This Act shall take effect 15 days after its complete publication
29 in at least two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,