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**SENATE**  
**S. No. 1134**

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**Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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**AN ACT**  
**INTEGRATING MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY IN BASIC**  
**EDUCATION CURRICULUM**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The advancements in technology made information readily accessible to many. With one click and quick google search, information is literally at our fingertips. But without proper tools and mindset, one can easily be misled and be miseducated.

Schools in different countries have already adjusted their educational methods in response to the ubiquity of the internet and the corollary deluge of available information to the youth. In Finland, a multi-platform, cross-subject information literacy program was introduced to primary schools where students are trained to detect false information or spot manipulated content. In the USA, several states require media literacy education in elementary and secondary schools.

In the Philippines, the Department of Education through its Education Futures Unit has already started efforts on reframing the curriculum to prioritize essential and cross-cutting knowledge and 21<sup>st</sup> century competencies and to embed multiliteracies in information, health, finance, civics, among others.

This bill recognizes and embraces the digital transformation of our time and proposes the integration of media and information literacy programs into our basic education curriculum. It seeks to equip our young students with the necessary skills to properly navigate the vast universe of social media and digital landscape, which

have become so well-entrenched in our lives. This measure also aims to incorporate in their daily learning routine exercises on content analysis, fact checking, information validation, among others that will be useful as they deal with the overwhelming amount of information online.

In addition, it seeks to re-establish social media, through education, as powerful platforms of intellectual exchange of ideas, source of empowering information and meaningful discourse, rather than channels of hatred, disunity and confusion. Further, the bill intends to develop a generation of creative and critical thinkers, and dynamic participants in our democratic processes.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.

  
**RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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**AN ACT**  
**INTEGRATING MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY IN BASIC EDUCATION**  
**CURRICULUM**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Media and Information*  
2 *Literacy Act*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State recognizes the vital role of the youth  
4 in nation-building and promotes and protects their physical, moral, spiritual,  
5 intellectual, and social well-being. The State also recognizes the role of all educational  
6 institutions in the inculcation of patriotism and nationalism, fostering love of humanity,  
7 respect for human rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical  
8 development of the country, teaching the rights and duties of citizenship,  
9 strengthening ethical and spiritual values, developing moral character and personal  
10 discipline, encouraging critical and creative thinking, broadening scientific and  
11 technological knowledge, and promoting vocational efficiency.

12 Towards this end, the State shall formulate and implement educational policies  
13 that encourage critical and creative thinking, intellectual discipline, and civic  
14 participation and responsibility among the youth.

15 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, "Media and Information  
16 Literacy" shall refer to a set of cognitive and practical skills in finding, accessing,  
17 organizing, evaluating, interpreting, and creating information across mass media and

1 online platforms. Evaluation involves the analysis of the context, value, reliability,  
2 accuracy, and truthfulness of available information, reports, content, data, and  
3 images.

4 *Sec. 4. Integration of Media and Information Literacy in Basic Education*  
5 *Curriculum.* – It is hereby mandated that Media and Information Literacy shall be  
6 integrated into the basic education curriculum implemented by the Department of  
7 Education (DepEd).

8 Media and Information Literacy shall be incorporated as an essential component  
9 into the teaching of core subjects and enrichment activities of the students. The DepEd  
10 shall develop instructional strategies, tools and pedagogies to implement this Act.

11 *Sec. 5. Coverage of Media and Information Literacy Program.* – The Media and  
12 Information Literacy program shall promote active citizenship, respect for others,  
13 socio-cultural diversity, and honesty; train and develop creative and critical thinking;  
14 and encourage responsible use of online platforms. The program would include  
15 activities and exercises about source verification, content validation and analysis, fact-  
16 checking, information appreciation and comprehension, among others.

17 *Sec. 6. Review and assessment.* – The DepEd shall conduct a periodic review  
18 of the integration of the Media and Information Literacy program into the basic  
19 education curriculum to ensure its proper implementation and assess student learning  
20 outcomes for the purpose of determining its efficacy. An annual report shall be  
21 submitted to the Committees on Basic Education of both houses of Congress within  
22 thirty (30) days from the termination of the review and assessment.

23 *Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from  
24 the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall  
25 issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

26 *Sec. 8. Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
27 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise  
28 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

29 *Sec. 9. Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
30 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or  
31 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
32 accordingly.

1           Sec. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
2 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*