

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**



23 APR 26 P12 :33

**SENATE
S.B. No. 2098**

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by: **Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE TEACHING OF DIGITAL LITERACY AS A PART OF
THE CURRICULUM OF GRADE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Explanatory Note

In today's digitalized world, technology has encompassed the lives of the majority of society. Today, in order to be successful, it is integral to be able to navigate the online sphere and be able to utilize the different tools and technologies available. With that said, while technology, and in particular social media, has drastically improved the lives of Filipinos there is also a need to address the lack of digital literacy skills of numerous online users in the country.

With the proliferation of misinformation, scams, and other harmful effects of social media and the Internet, there is a need for young Filipinos to be able to explore the online sphere responsibly and sensibly. As such, this proposed measure aims to require the teaching of digital literacy in all grade schools and high schools.

In light of this, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



Raffy T. Tulfo
Senator

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

23 APR 26 P12 :33

SENATE
S.B. No. 2098

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by: **Senator Raffy T. Tulfo**

**AN ACT REQUIRING THE TEACHING OF DIGITAL LITERACY AS A PART OF
THE CURRICULUM OF GRADE SCHOOLS AND HIGH SCHOOLS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

*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 "*Digital Literacy in*
2 *Schools Act*".

3
4 **Sec 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State
5 to ensure the general well-being of the public in both online and offline environments.
6 To this end, the State shall add a subject on digital literacy into the curriculum of all
7 grade schools and high schools in order to ensure students are digitally responsible
8 and increase online safety.

9
10 **Sec 3. Digital Literacy.** – For purposes of this Act, digital literacy is the ability
11 to use technology to find information, evaluate sources, create content, and
12 communicate with others effectively. Digital Literacy may include the ability to use
13 computers and mobile devices including the apps and tools therein, access accurate
14 and reliable information online, and effectively communicate online through social
15 media. Furthermore, digital literacy can also help in understanding the rights,
16 responsibilities, and ethical considerations related to using digital technologies,
17 including issues such as online privacy, cyberbullying, digital footprint, copyright, and
18 digital security, and adhering to appropriate codes of conduct and legal requirements.

19

1 **Sec 4. Digital Literacy Education in Schools.** – The Department of
2 Education (DepEd) shall develop a Digital Literacy Curriculum conducive to grade
3 school and high school students which shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- 4 1. Basic computer skills;
- 5 2. Choosing and evaluating reliable sources or information online;
- 6 3. Development of digital communication skills;
- 7 4. Analyzing advertisements online;
- 8 5. Analyzing the different digital communities;
- 9 6. Understanding the importance of privacy and security online;
- 10 7. Understanding social media and its pros and cons;
- 11 8. Understanding and evaluating online searches;
- 12 9. Navigation of mobile apps and tools;
- 13 10. Cybersecurity and data privacy awareness; and
- 14 11. Producing digital content and information.

15
16 **Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Department of
17 Education (DepEd) shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) to
18 implement the provisions of this Act.

19
20 **Sec. 6. Appropriations.** – The funds needed for the implementation of this
21 Act shall be sourced from the budget of the Department of Education (DepEd).

22
23 **Sec. 7. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
24 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
25 provisions hereof.

26
27 **Sec. 8. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
28 regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of
29 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

1 **Sec. 9. 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,