



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

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SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 117

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE OF INTERNET CONNECTIVITY IN SCHOOLS NATIONWIDE

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) recognizes the importance of information and communications technology (ICT) for teaching, research, studying, communications, and other service purposes;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10844, otherwise known as the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) Act of 2015, states that it is the policy of the State to promote the use of ICT for the enhancement of key public services, such as education;

WHEREAS, the Department of Science and Technology - Information and Communications Technology Office (DOST-ICTO), the predecessor of the DICT, launched in 2015 a digital empowerment program aiming to provide free Internet access to 1,462 Class 1-6 municipalities and 44 key cities nationwide;¹

WHEREAS, DepEd Order No. 50, s. 2009 created the DepEd Internet Connectivity Program (DICP) that directs all public high school officials to subscribe to Internet connectivity services. This project aims to provide Internet connections to all students in the country;²

WHEREAS, a recent audit by the DepEd revealed that only 20.19% of government elementary schools and 53.95% of government secondary schools have Internet connection;

WHEREAS, Internet connectivity in public schools will give Filipino students access to world-class learning materials, provide additional learning opportunities to our students, and make our graduates more competitive in various fields, including the ICT sector;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved to direct

¹ <http://dict.gov.ph/public-and-private-sectors-show-support-for-dost-ict-offices-free-wi-fi-project>
² http://www.deped.gov.ph/orders?f%5B0%5D=field_classification%3A167

the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the state of Internet connectivity in schools nationwide.

Adopted,

Bam Aquino