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**SENATE**

S. No. 672

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**Introduced by SENATOR JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE TELEVISION BROADCASTING EDUCATION PROGRAM  
AS AN ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM FOR BASIC EDUCATION**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Following the restrictions posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, the Department of Education (DepEd) implemented the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) which outlined various learning modalities – face-to-face classes for very low risk areas with no history of infection; homeschooling which is facilitated by qualified parents, guardians or tutors; distance learning which includes the use of self-learning modules (SLMs), engagement using online platforms or videoconference, and television or radio-based instruction; and blended learning which combines any of the aforesaid modalities.

From these modalities, blended learning using SLMs and television or radio, can be considered as the most accessible, given the additional budgetary expenses needed with regard to use of gadgets and the internet, and the health risks still present during the public health emergency.

The agency launched the DepEd TV on August 2020. Since then, the program was able to reach eighteen (18) million school-aged viewers, mainly kids from two (2) to twelve (12) years old<sup>1</sup>. The DepEd TV has been airing in at least a dozen TV, radio,

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<sup>1</sup> "DepEd TV reached 18 million school-aged viewership." <https://www.deped.gov.ph/2021/12/29/deped-tv-reached-18-million-school-aged-viewership/>

and cable operators throughout the country, and is also available on official DepEd online platforms on Facebook and YouTube.

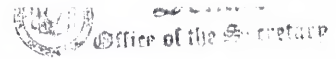
This measure seeks to institutionalize television broadcast education program as a practical and effective way to educate the students in the era of the New Normal and during times of outbreaks and calamities.

This bill was introduced by Senator Emmanuel D. Pacquiao in the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress, and was primarily referred to the Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture.

In pursuit of quality education for all, the immediate approval of this measure is highly recommended.

  
**JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

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



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*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 “*Television Alternative*  
2 *Learning System Act*”.

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared the policy of the State to protect  
4 and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take  
5 appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The State shall also  
6 encourage non-formal, informal, and indigenous learning systems, as well as self-  
7 learning, independent, and out-of-school study programs particularly those that  
8 respond to community needs.

9 Toward this end, the State shall ensure the continuous delivery of “quality  
10 education for all” through the alternative learning system of television broadcasting  
11 education, even in times of crises, isolation, insurgencies, unrest, pandemics, and  
12 other calamities.

13 Sec. 3. *Applicability.* – This Act shall cover all public schools offering  
14 elementary, junior and senior high school education.

15 This Act shall be applicable at all times especially during crisis such as  
16 insurgencies, unrests, pandemics, and other natural or man-made calamities that  
17 would hinder the physical presence and safety of students in schools.

1            *Sec. 4. Television (TV) Broadcasting Education Program.* – The Television (TV)  
2 Broadcast Education Program is an alternative method of education where students  
3 can experience learning and attend classes either through aerial broadcasting of a live,  
4 real time class session or broadcasting of video lessons, specially produced content  
5 and instructional materials aligned with the basic education curriculum.

6            Off-school students watching real time TV broadcast sessions should have the  
7 ability for interaction with the in-school class by means of available communication  
8 technologies like voice calls, text messages, chats and other media.

9            Whenever possible, a modified off-school, in-school scheme should be adopted.  
10 At least twenty percent (20%) in-school classroom physical presence should be  
11 required to encourage interaction amongst students and teachers for the development  
12 of social and communication skill.

13            The free TV broadcast education program airtime shall be the same as the  
14 prescribed hours needed under the regular classroom type mode of the Department  
15 of Education (DepEd) curriculum to assure quality education.

16            To gain education progression credits, enrollment in person should be made in  
17 a school proximate to the students' residences.

18            In cases where being physically present in school would extremely be difficult,  
19 students enrolled in regular classroom schooling can use the TV broadcast as an  
20 alternative learning system (ALS) upon DepEd approval.

21            *Sec. 5. Partnership with Television Broadcasting Networks and Government*  
22 *Agencies.* – The DepEd shall partner with TV networks, national or regional, capable  
23 of covering aerial broadcasting to all areas of the country.

24            DepEd should adopt teaching and instructional policies that adhere and  
25 complement the peculiarity of every region in respect to its customs, cultures, arts  
26 and laws.

27            Government agencies, including government-owned and controlled  
28 corporations, and the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) are mandated  
29 to provide the necessary assistance such as, but not limited to, the acquisition of  
30 dedicated frequencies, air time, or channels, provision of creative and technical  
31 requirements relative to the production of educational programs, and all other  
32 requirements needed for the implementation of this Act.



1           Sec. 6. *Continuous Airing of Educational Programs.* – The DepEd shall endeavor  
2 to implement continuous televised airing of educational programs and specially  
3 produced content even during semestral or annual academic breaks and during off-  
4 peak or outside school hours to make such instructional materials available for viewing  
5 for all students and any interested learner.

6           Video lessons and relevant audiovisual content shall also be uploaded and made  
7 available on official online platforms of the DepEd.

8           Sec. 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this  
9 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10          Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DepEd shall issue the  
11 implementing rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within thirty  
12 (30) days from the effectivity of this Act.

13          Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
14 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise  
15 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

16          Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
17 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or  
18 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
19 accordingly.

20          Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
21 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*