

AN ACT MANDATING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE NEUTRAL DESKS TO STUDENTS

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11394, August 22, 2019

Read online (full-text search, related cases, audio case brief): <https://batas.org/library/cc0e9c463608/>

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Mandatory Provision of Neutral Desks in Educational Institutions Act".

SEC. 2. The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the equal development of students, including those who are left-handed. Towards this end, the State shall require educational institutions to provide appropriate armchairs to address the needs of the left-handed student population.

SEC. 3. It shall be obligatory for all educational institutions, both public and private, that make use of armchairs in the classroom to provide neutral desks to all students.

Neutral desks shall mean a table or an armchair that is suitable for both right-handed and left-handed students.

These institutions shall provide neutral desks equivalent to ten percent (10%) of the student population within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act. Henceforth, said institutions are mandated to provide neutral desks to all students.

SEC. 4. Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority shall formulate the rules and regulations including the administrative penalties for noncompliance of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

(SGD.) VICENTE C. SOTTO III

President of the Senate

(SGD.) GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

Speaker of the House of Representatives

This Act which originated in the House of Representatives was passed by the House of Representatives on December 10, 2018, amended by the Senate of the Philippines on May 29, 2019, which amendments were concurred in by the House of Representatives on June 3, 2019.

(SGD.) MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA
Secretary of the Senate

(SGD.) DANTE ROBERTO P. MALING
Acting Secretary General House of Representatives

Approved: AUG 22 2019

(SGD.) RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President of the Philippines

ABOUT BATAS.ORG

Study smarter at BATAS.org

The Philippine bar review and law-school companion built around how your brain actually remembers.

The complete Philippine law library - free for everyone.

More than 100,000 Supreme Court decisions, Republic Acts, and executive issuances - full-text searchable, browsable by category and year, and always free. No paywall, no login. This PDF came from it.

Audio case-brief lectures.

Any decision becomes a podcast-style lecture - facts, issues, ruling, and doctrine - with read-along highlighting and a hands-free presentation mode. Study while commuting, working out, or resting your eyes.

Bar review built on the science of memory.

Complete, sequenced courses for all eight bar subjects, narrated like podcasts and reinforced with retrieval practice and spaced review - the study techniques with the strongest evidence behind them.

The full law-school curriculum.

One subscription unlocks the entire J.D. curriculum - every subject, every lesson, with your progress tracked down to the paragraph so you can pick up exactly where you left off, on any device.

Mock exams that tell you where you stand.

Timed multiple-choice exams graded instantly, with per-subject score breakdowns and focus suggestions that point you at your weakest topics first.

A study planner that keeps you on pace.

Set your schedule and BATAS tells you every day whether you are on track for bar day - and exactly which lesson to take next.

Start free at <https://batas.org>

The law library is free forever - and your first lesson is one click away.

The text of this document is an official public record and remains in the public domain. Formatting, presentation, and compilation © 2026 batas.org.

Downloaded free from the batas.org Law Library. Share it freely - the library is free for every law student, bar reviewee, and practitioner.