

SENATE OF PAKISTAN



REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

ON

BILL TITLED THE RIGHT TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR FAWZIA ARSHAD

REPORT 01. OF 2023

PRESENTED BY:

SENATOR IRFAN-UL-HAQ SIDDIQUI

CHAIRMAN COMMITTEE

SENATE SECRETARIAT

REPORT ON THE BILL TITLED THE RIGHT TO FREE AND COMPULSORY EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2022, INTRODUCED BY SENATOR FAWZIA ARSHAD IN THE SENATE SITTING HELD ON 3RD OCTOBER, 2022

I, Senator Irfan-ul-Haq Siddiqui, Chairman Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training have the honour to present, on behalf of the Committee, this report on the Bill titled "The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2022", introduced by Senator Fawzia Arshad in the Senate sitting held on 3rd October, 2022. The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training for consideration and report.

2. The composition of the Committee is as under:

I.	Senator Irfan-ul-Haq Siddiqui	Chairman
II.	Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani	Member
III.	Senator Ejaz Ahmad Chaudhary	Member
IV.	Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member
V.	Senator Falak Naz	Member
VI.	Senator Jam Mahtab Hussain Dahar	Member
VII.	Senator Engr. Rukhsana Zuberi	Member
VIII.	Senator Khalida Sikandar Mandhro	Member
IX.	Senator Rana Maqbool Ahmad	Member
X.	Senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan	Member
XI.	Senator Molvi Faiz Muhammad	Member
XII.	Senator Ahmed Khan	Member
XIII.	Minister for Federal Education & Professional Training	Ex-Officio Member

3. The Committee took up the Bill in its meetings held on 16th December, 2022 and the final consideration of the Bill was held on 20th January, 2023 attended by the following:

I.	Senator Irfan-ul-Haq Siddiqui	Chairman
II.	Senator Prof. Dr. Mehr Taj Roghani	Member
III.	Senator Fawzia Arshad	Member / Mover



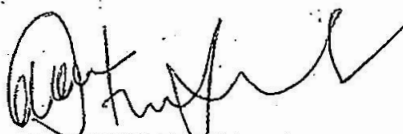
IV.	Senator Mushtaq Ahmad Khan	Member
V.	Senator Jam Mahtab Hussain Dahar	Member
VI.	Senator Khalida Sikandar Mandhro	Member
VII.	Senator Molvi Faiz Muhammad	Member

4. During the course of discussions, the Committee deliberated upon the Bill in detail and sought the views of the Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training, Mover Senator Fawzia Arshad and National Curriculum Council. The summary of the proceedings of the meetings on the subject matter is provided below.

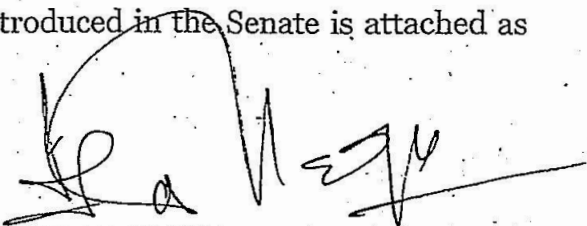
5. The Mover Senator Fawzia Arshad informed the Committee that the proposed Bill seeks to prescribe computer sciences, coding, and programming as a fundamental right of elementary to high school students for enabling them to understand and learn new technology. She said that the Bill will be a binding force on the Education Department to implement the policy of offering these faculties to students.

6. The Director, National Curriculum Council (NCC), briefed the Committee that the NCC does not oppose the Bill in principle, however, she added that such subjects are already being taught as mandatory subjects at appropriate levels. She further added that policy dialogues have been planned across the country to get suggestions from the stakeholders from both public and private sectors in terms of curriculum reforms.

7. The Bill was then put to vote, whereupon, all Members present in the meeting voted in favor of the Bill. Subsequently, the Committee recommends that the Bill titled "The Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill, 2022", as introduced in the Senate, may be passed by the House. The Bill as introduced in the Senate is attached as Annexure A.



ADNAN IBNE ASAD
Secretary Committee



SENATOR IRFAN UL HAQ SIDDIQUI
Chairman Committee

[TO BE INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE] ✓

A
BILL

further to amend the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012

WHEREAS it is expedient further to amend the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012 (XXIV of 2012) for the purposes hereinafter appearing;

It is hereby enacted as follows:-

1. Short title and commencement. - (1) This Act may be called the Right to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Act, 2022.

(2) It shall come into force at once.

2. Amendment of section 3, Act XXIV of 2012. - In the Right to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2012 (XXIV of 2012), in section 3, in sub-section (3),-

- (i) in paragraph (l), the word "and" occurring at the end shall be omitted;
- (ii) in paragraph (m), for the full stop "." at the end, a semi colon and word "; and" shall be substituted; and
- (iii) after paragraph (m), amended as aforesaid, the following new paragraph shall be inserted, namely:-

"(n) ensure compulsory courses related to computer sciences, coding and programming for all Elementary to High school students."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Education has benefited from the inclusion of technology and computers by making it easier for students to keep up while helping teachers by improving the way lessons can be planned and taught. Computers play a vital role in the modern business world, and many of even the most basic jobs involve technology and computers. Teaching students how to use computers helps them prepare for any number of possible careers, and classes based on computer education can get even more specific. This amendment aims at prescribing computer sciences, coding and programming as fundamental right of elementary to high school students, to enable them understand and learn the skills of new technology in this era of convergence and subsequently getting excellent jobs in the future and succeed in their lives.

SENATOR FAWZIA ARSHAD
MEMBER-IN-CHARGE