

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

First Regular Session
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 477



Introduced by Congressman JOSE G. SOLIS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to establish a greater latitude to the constitutional mandate that directs the State to provide and promote adequate education for all Filipinos.

As provided for in Article XIV likewise expressly directs, in Section 2 paragraph (1) that the Philippine Constitution which State "... shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society." This is further elaborated in Paragraph (2) which calls on the State to "establish and maintain a system of free education in the elementary and high school levels."

It is also noteworthy to focus on Article II, Section 13 which unequivocally declares that 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.

Pursuant to the above-cited provisions, and in recognition of the needs of his constituency in several barangays in Bulan, Sorsogon, the above Representative has deemed it his duty to work for the establishment of a high school in the said area. This school is to be located in an 8,000 square meter lot in Barangay Gate of the said municipality, which was generously donated by a civic-minded resident.

It is to be stressed here that the proposed school will serve the needs not only of barangay Gate but also of seven (7) adjacent barangays located within a radius of 1.5 km. to 3 km. from the proposed site.

Further emphasis is given to the fact while there are five (5) public high schools and four (4) private high schools in the municipality, the average distance of these schools from the proposed site is more than twelve (12) kilometers. One high school is 3.5 kilometers away but the distance of all the

eight (8) other high schools from barangay Gate and the seven (7) other barangays that will be served by the proposed school ranges from 10 to 20 kilometers.

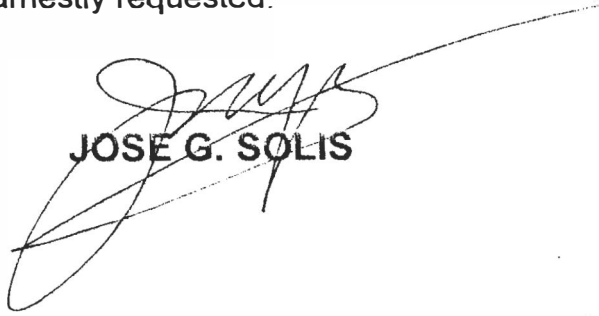
The sheer distance alone of the existing high schools in the municipality has meant substantial transportation expenses of the families in these barangays, many of whom are poor and struggling.

This is one big burden that has greatly contributed to the number of dropouts and out of school youths in these areas. This situation has deprived these youths of the opportunity for higher education and has likewise hindered the economic development of the concerned barangays.

The author of this bill has adhered to the Revised Criteria For The Processing of Bills On The Organization of New Schools which was adopted by the House Committee on Basic Education under the Memorandum dated September 03, 1998.

In conformity with the guidelines established therein, the author is hereby submitting the needed documents for consideration of the said Committee.

In view of the urgent need of the people in the area proposed to be served by the said school, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



JOSE G. SOLIS

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City

First Regular Session
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

House Bill No. 477

Introduced by Congressman JOSE G. SOLIS

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE GATE HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY GATE, BULAN,
SORSOGON AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a secondary school in Barangay Gate, Municipality of Bulan, Province of Sorsogon, hereinafter to be known as GATE HIGH SCHOOL which shall be placed under the supervision of the Regional Office of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

SECTION 2. The DECS, through its appropriate Regional Offices and in consultation with Division Superintendent of Schools of the Province of Sorsogon, shall determine the number of teaching staff and of administrative and support personnel.

SECTION 3. The school shall be established and organized immediately upon approval of this Act and shall start operation at the start of the School Year immediately following its approval. In this regard, the Secretary of Education is hereby directed to take necessary steps for its implementation.

The Secretary, through the DECS Regional Director, is further directed to inform the Municipal Officials of Bulan, as well as the Representative of Second Legislative District of Sorsogon, of the status of the completion of the schools's organization within sixty (60) days of the approval of this act.

SECTION 4. For the first year of its operation, the school shall be financed through a support fund from the Municipal Government of Bulan and the Provincial Government of Sorsogon, and from such other sources as may be secured by the school authorities and municipal officials.

Thereafter, such expenses as may be needed for the operation of the school from year to year, shall be included in the annual budget of the DECS, and the Secretary of Education is hereby directed to ensure that such funding is included in the General Appropriation Act of the National government.

SECTION 5. The school is hereby authorized to accept gifts and donations, in cash or in other forms, from any individual, association, organization or public or private corporations which shall be used exclusively for the benefit, operation, and maintenance of the school, provided that such gifts and donations shall be subject to audit by the appropriate government agencies.

SECTION 6. Any provisions of any law, Presidential Decree, Letter of Instruction or Executive Order which is contrary to the provisions of this Act is hereby deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. If any provision of this Act is found to be invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall continue to be in force and in effect.

SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved.