

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 507

Introduced by Hon. Arthur “Dodo” Y. Pingoy, Jr., M.D.

Explanatory Note

The Lambontong Campus National High School was established more than four years ago as an extension school of the Lamian National High School to cater to the demands of the residents of Barangay Lambontong in Surallah, South Cotabato.

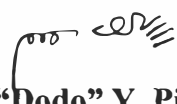
Prior to its establishment, its student populace was forced to negotiate a daily twelve-kilometer trek for their secondary education at the main campus and through a route where their safety is always rendered precarious. Apart from being a heavy toll on the students’ physical health, such distance also entailed more expenses from their parents who were already burdened by their continued impoverishment.

With the acquisition of a parcel of land for the school’s site through the initiative of the chief executive of the Municipality of Surallah and the construction of the needed buildings through the efforts of the barangay officials, the operations of the extension high school were improved. Recently, a new building was added whose funding was sourced from congressional funds of this representation.

By the year 2003-2004, however, the school’s enrollment rate doubled thereby needing to augment the number of classrooms and its teaching staff. Also, out of the seven teachers serving in this extension school, six of them are paid through the monthly contribution of the students’ parents. Verily, the employment of added teachers can no longer be subsidized by the students’ parents at this juncture. Thus, in order to sustain the continued operations of Lambontong Campus National High School and to keep up with the demands of a burgeoning population not only within the barangay but also in the adjacent areas, there is a need to convert it into an independent national high school and grant it with its own budgetary support separate from its mother school.

May it be stressed that the availment of free public education in the elementary and high school levels in the country must never entail a heavy burden on the parents and more importantly, must not also require a daily grueling ordeal on the part of the students. Education is an essential right and imperious need of the young and must suffer neither delay nor reason for it not to be availed.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


Arthur “Dodo” Y. Pingoy, Jr., M.D.

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**AN ACT SEPARATING THE LAMBONTONG CAMPUS HIGH SCHOOL IN
BARANGAY LAMBONTONG, MUNICIPALITY OF SURALLAH, PROVINCE OF
SOUTH COTABATO FROM THE LAMIAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL,
CONVERTING THE SAME INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
TO BE KNOWN AS THE LAMBONTONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Separation and Conversion into a National High School.* – The Lambontong Campus High School in Barangay Lambontong, Municipality of Surallah, Province of South Cotabato is hereby separated from the Lamian National High School and converted into an independent national high school to be known as the Lambontong National High School.

SECTION 2. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.* – All personnel, assets, liabilities and records of the Lambontong Campus High School are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Lambontong National High School.

SECTION 3. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department’s program the operationalization of the Lambontong National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. *Implementation.* – The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,