HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1665

Introduced by Hon. Joseph "Ace" H. Durano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

GLOBALIZATION is the trend of the day. But it has wrought havoc to developing countries whose working force has not been equipped with skills that could make them compete with those of other countries.

Thus, the need to establish schools that equip students with special scientific and technical skills which are very much needed in the world market. These schools shall give emphasis on sciences and mathematics to prepare students for science and technology careers.

Establishment and support for these schools will ensure that our country's schools will be producing a working force that are equipped with skills competitive to those in developed countries. Thus, the bill to create the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center is not only necessary but timely to be passed.

Approval of this bill is therefore urgently requested.

JOSEPH "ACE" H. DURANO

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY GUINSAY, CITY OF DANAO, PROVINCE OF CEBU, TO BE KNOWN AS THE RAMON D. DURANO FOUNDATION FOR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTER AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established a Science High School to be known as the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center.

SECTION 2. The purpose of the said high school shall be to offer free, on a scholarship basis, a secondary course with special emphasis on the sciences and mathematics to prepare its students for science & technology careers.

SECTION 3. The head of this high school shall be known as the Director of the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center. He shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, subject to the approval of the Board. His compensation shall be fixed by the same Board. He shall not be removed from office except for cause. His functions, powers and duties in addition to those specifically provided for in this Bill, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of the principal of the public high school.

SECTION 4. The Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center shall have the general powers set out in Section Thirty-six of Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, otherwise known as the Corporation Code of the Philippines, approved on May 1, 1980, and the

exercise of its corporate power is hereby vested exclusively in the Board of Trustees and in the Director of the High insofar as authorized by said board.

The Board of Trustees shall be composed of the Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, who shall be *ex officio* chairman of the Board; the Secretary of Education, who shall be *ex officio* vice-chairman; and the following members: the President of the University of the Philippines, the Director of the Philippines Science High School, the Director of the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center, the President of the Faculty Association, the President of the Student Council of the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center, all as *ex-officio* members.

At such time that there shall have been organized a Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center Alumni Association, the President of the Alumni Association shall also be an *ex-officio* member of the Board of Trustees.

The Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary of Science & Technology and the Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary of Education, designated by their respective department secretaries shall, in the absence of the heads of their respective departments, acts as ex-*officio* chairman and ex-*officio* vice-chairman of the Board of Trustees, respectively. The other ex-officio members in their absence shall designate representatives to sit on the Board of Trustees in their behalf.

SECTION 5. The Board of Trustees shall exercise for the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center all the powers and prerogatives of the board of directors of a private corporation;

It shall also have the following powers and duties:

(a) To fix the site of the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center in Guinsay, Danao City, Cebu;

(b) To receive and appropriate to the ends specified by law such sums as may be provided by law for the support of the high school;

(c) To approve appointments made and contracts entered into by the Director in connection with the employment of professors, instructors, lecturers and other employees of the high school, subject to the provisions of Section Eleven of this Bill; to fix their compensation and other conditions of employment; and to remove them for cause after an investigation and hearing shall have been had;

(d) To approve the curricula , course of study, and rules of discipline drawn up by the Executive Council as hereafter provided;

(e) To provide fellowships for faculty members and approve the grant of scholarships, stipends and such other allowances to deserving students;

(f) To approve the issuance of certificates or diplomas to successful candidates for graduation;

(g) To provide its own rules of procedures and to prescribe for the administration of the high school such general rules and regulations, not contrary to law, as are consistent with the purpose of the high school as defined in Section Two of this bill;

(h) To receive in trust, legacies, gifts, and donations of real and personal property of all kinds and to administer the same in accordance with the directions and instructions of the donor, and, in default thereof, in such manner as the Board of Trustees may in its discretion determine for the benefit of the high school or for aid to any of its students; and

(i) To establish the criteria for the selection and admission of students which shall include, among other criteria, competitive examinations among graduates of elementary schools in Region VII-Central Visayas only.

SECTION 6. A quorum of the Board of Trustees shall consist of a majority of all members holding office at the time the meeting of the Board is called. All processes against the Board of Trustees shall be served on the Director or Secretary thereof;

SECTION 7. On or before the 15th day of July of each year, the Board of Trustees shall submit to the Office of the President of the Philippines, through the Secretary of Education, and

to both Houses of Congress, an annual report setting forth the progress, condition and needs of the high school;

SECTION 8. There shall be an Executive Council consisting of the Director, the heads of departments, and such other ranking faculty members or officials of the high school as may be determined by the Director;

The council shall have the power to screen and select the students to be admitted to the high school; to select students who shall be recipients of scholarships, stipends and other allowances; and to develop the curricula, course of study, and rules of discipline, all subject to the approval of the Board. The council shall have the exclusive power to recommend students eligible for graduation. Through the Director, it shall have the disciplinary power over the students.

The council shall implement and execute the policies laid down by the Board of Trustees and exercise such other functions, powers and duties as the Board may prescribe.

SECTION 9. There shall be a Registrar of the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center, who shall also act as Secretary of the Board, to be appointed by the Director with the approval of the Board of Trustees. He/she shall keep such records as may be prescribed by the Board.

SECTION 10. There shall be a treasurer of the Ramon D. Durano Foundation for Science & Technology Education Center, who shall be appointed by the Director with the approval of the Board of Trustees. All accounts and expenses shall be audited by the Commission on Audit or its duly authorized representatives;

SECTION 11. Faculty members of the High School shall be exempt as such from any civil service examination or regulation as a requisite to appointment. They shall be selected in accordance with such criteria as may be established by the Board of Trustees which shall include, if necessary and practicable, screening and competitive examination.

Said faculty members, as well as the school's administrative staff, shall be exempt from the provisions of laws, rules and regulations on wage and position classification;

SECTION 12. All legacies, gifts and donations for the benefit of the high school or for its support and maintenance or for aid to any of its students shall be tax-exempt and shall be an allowable deduction from the gross income of the donors. The high school shall be exempt from the payment of all kinds of taxes, fees, assessments and other charges of the national government, its branches, subdivisions and agencies;

SECTION 13. All incomes and donations to the science and technology high school created under this Bill shall constitute a special fund to be known as the Science and Technology High School Fund. This fund shall be expended by the Board of Trustees exclusively for the purpose of this Bill.

SECTION 14. The heads of bureaus or offices of the national government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon request of the Director of the high school, such apparatus, supplies and other properties as may be needed by the high school, and to detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgement of the head of the bureau or office, they can be spared without serious detriment to the public service.

The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as are required under such detail, and the time employed shall be counted as part of their regular official hours, all laws, rules and regulation s limiting the detail of government employees notwithstanding;

Any officer or employee of the government engaged as lecturer in the high school may receive a compensation in addition to his salary at the rate to be fixed by the Board: Provided, That his duties as such lecturer are performed outside of his regular office hours;

SECTION 15. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Bill shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 16. This bill shall take effect upon its approval.

Adopted