

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2737

Introduced by **HON. OSCAR G. MALAPITAN**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that "The State shall protect and promote the rights of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all." Likewise, Section 10, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that "Science and technology are essential for national development and progress. The State shall give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization; and to science and technology education, training and services. It shall support indigenous, appropriate, and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, and their application to the country's productive systems and national life."

The preservation of democratic institution depends upon an educated citizenship who are aware of their basic rights and obligations. But more than this, it demands an intelligent group of people who are highly equipped mentally and morally to furnish the needed leadership, people capable of independent thinking and of critical judgment.

Education is not only the cornerstone of a democratic and intelligent electorate; it is a condition precedent for the progress of a nation and the benchmark of the quality of its people. It is more than coincidence that the most educated people are also most prosperous. Without exception, all the industrialized countries in the world have very high standards of education. A society cannot rise above the level of its educational system and the intellectual caliber of its citizens.

The Philippines, like any other developing country, has limited resources to adequately support all its development programs, pressed as it is by the competing priorities. There is, therefore, a need to exploit and allocate this resources wisely and judiciously. Assuredly, our nation's growth, stability and strength will depend in a large measure on how we can harness our human and natural resources through the effective utilization of science and technology.

In the same light, science, technology and mathematics have to play a major role in keeping the Philippines at par with other developing countries in so far as global competitiveness is concerned. The nationalization of the present Caloocan City Science High School will provide a major breakthrough in the upliftment and pursuit of academic excellence among the deserving high school students of Caloocan City. The present Caloocan City Science High School was established by virtue of approved Ordinance No. 0257 S. 1998, as amended, but due to budgetary constraints,



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the school facilities namely, the classrooms, the laboratory rooms, the laboratory equipment, the library and other necessary facilities are inadequate to serve the academic needs of the students enrolled thereat. The nationalization of the said high school will provide the appropriate funding, through the Department of Education, culture and Sports (DECS), to construct an ideal size of a school building sufficient to accommodate the students, and likewise, it will create an environment conducive to a rigid type academic learning nurtured by the required moral uprightness and academic excellence.

The 4-Storey building will rise on the present site of the Caloocan High School Annex in a parcel of land owned by the Caloocan City Government and presently accommodating the Caloocan City High School located at the heart of the City. Moreover, the construction of this school building and other facility will only entail a reasonable cost because the area is already enclosed and the structural columns have been previously constructed.

In light of the foregoing, the undersigned author exhorts this august body for the immediate approval of this bill.



OSCAR G. MALAPITAN

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE CALOOCAN CITY SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL
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 in Caloocan City, Metro Manila, a high school to be known as the "Caloocan City Science High School", under the direct administrative supervision of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

Section 2. The purpose of the said high school shall be to offer on a full scholarship basis a secondary course with special emphasis on science, technology and math subjects with the end in view of preparing its students to develop critical thinking and broaden scientific and mathematical knowledge, skills and aptitude adequate for global competitiveness.

Section 3. The High School shall be headed by a Director whose appointment shall be in accordance with prescribed civil service laws, rules and regulations. His compensation shall be fixed by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the revised compensation and position classification system. He shall not be removed from his position except for cause. His functions, powers and duties, in addition to those specifically provided for in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the Office of the Principal of a public high school.

Section 4. The Caloocan City Science High School Board of Trustees shall be composed of a) The Regional Director, Department of Education, Culture and Sports, National Capital Region as Ex-Officio Chairman; b) the Director of the Caloocan City Science High School as Vice Chairman; c) The Under Secretary for Regional Operations, Department of Science and Technology as Ex-Officio Member; d) The Regional Director for the National Capital Region, National Economic Development Authority as Ex-Officio Member; e) A Representative from the Caloocan City Chamber of Commerce and Industry as Member;

All the members who are not receiving regular compensation from the government shall receive a per diem per session of the Board at a rate in accordance with existing accounting and auditing rules and regulations.



Section 5. The Board of Trustees shall exercise for the Caloocan City Science High School all the powers and prerogatives of the Board of Directors of a Corporation. It shall have the following powers and duties:

- a) To receive and appropriate to the ends specified by law sums as may be provided by law for the support of the high school;
- b) To approve appointments made and contracts entered into by the Director in connection with the employment of faculty members, lecturers, and other employees of the high school, subject to the provisions of Section 12 of this Act; to determine academic ranks; to fix compensation and other conditions of employment; and to remove them for cause in accordance with due process;
- c) To approve the curricula, course of study, and rules of discipline drawn up by the Executive Council as hereinafter provided;
- d) To provide fellowships for faculty members and approve the grant of scholarship, stipends and such allowances to deserving students;
- e) To approve the issuance of certificates or diplomas to successful candidates for graduation;
- f) To provide its own rules of procedure and to prescribed 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 2 of this Act;
- g) 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
- h) To establish the criteria for the selection and admission of students which shall include, among others, competitive examinations.

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

Section 7. The Board of Trustees may fix per diems, allowances and honoraria for members of the Board for each meeting subject to the usual government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

Section 8. On or before the beginning of each school year, the Board of Trustees shall file with the Department of Education, Culture and Sports a detailed report setting forth the progress, condition, and needs of the high school.

Section 9. There shall be an Executive Council consisting of the Director, the heads of department, 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 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 10. There shall be a Register of the Caloocan City Science High School, who shall act as Secretary of the Board to be appointed by the Director with the approval of the Board of Trustees. He shall keep such records as may be prescribed by the Board.

Section 11. There shall be a Treasurer of the Caloocan City Science High School who shall be appointed by the Director with the approval of the Board of Trustees. All accounts and expenses shall be subject to the usual government auditing.

Section 12. The faculty members of the high school and others holding academic positions shall be selected in accordance with such criteria as may be established by the Board of Trustees consistent with law which shall include, if necessary and practicable, screening and competitive examination.

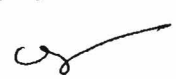
Said faculty members shall be exempt from the provisions of laws, rules and regulations on wage and position classification. The members of the school's administrative staff may be paid at rates higher than those of the equivalent positions covered by laws on wage and position classification.

Section 13. All legacies, gifts and donations for the benefit of the high school or 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. For purposes of income tax, the high school shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes, assessments and other charges of the Government, its branches and subdivisions.

Section 14. All incomes and donations to the high school created under this Act shall constitute a special fund to be known as the Caloocan City Science High School Fund. This fund shall be expended by the Board of Trustees exclusively for the purpose of this Act.

Section 15. The head of bureaus or offices of the National Government and regional offices in NCR are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon request by the Director of the high school, such apparatus, supplies and other properties as may be needed by the high school, and to detail employees to duty therein when, in the judgment 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 regulations limiting the detail of government employees notwithstanding.



Any officer or employee of the Government whose services are required by the high school may receive an honorarium in addition to his salary at the rate to be fixed by the Board subject to applicable laws and regulations on the matter.

Section 16 . The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

Section 17. The Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act within sixty (60) days after effectivity of this Act.

Section 18. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.

