

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2971



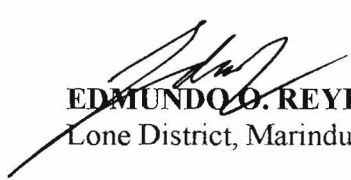
INTRODUCED BY **EDMUNDO O. REYES, JR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Department of Education (DepEd) has reported that there are about 8,011 untitled public school lands and 6, 257 unregistered public school sites throughout the country. This means that these schools are mere "squatters" on lands that government still has no legal ownership of. Most of these school sites are owned by local government units or are leased from private individuals. There are also lands which were donated by virtue of "verbal agreement" between the DepEd and landowner. However, these "verbal agreements" do not have any bearing after the death of the landowner as heirs eventually claim ownership over the land, which results to court litigation.

The passage of this bill will provide for the summary titling of all lands being utilized as public school sites by the DepEd and the proper, legal registration can be effected through the Registry of Deeds in favor of the DepEd. This will enable school authorities to have direct control and supervision of the land being occupied by the public school.

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


EDMUNDO O. REYES, JR.
Lone District, Marinduque

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SPECIAL REGISTRATION OF ALL LANDS BEING
OCCUPIED AS SCHOOL SITES UNDER THE NAME OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as "Department of Education
2 Special Land Registration Act"

3
4 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*- All lands being used by the Department of
5 Education (DepEd) as school sites and were acquired either by purchase, donation or
6 exchange but their titles has not been perfected, shall be registered under the name of the
7 Department of Education.

8
9 SEC. 3. *Implementation.*- The Land Registration Authority, in coordination with
10 the Department of Education, shall register all lands occupied by the latter; Provided
11 however, that the registration of lands being used as public school sites by mere tolerance
12 of the landowners will require written manifestation from them of their intention to
13 donate or to sell the property to DepEd.

14
15 In the case of refusal of the landowners to sell the land, the property shall be
16 subjected to expropriation proceedings and its value shall be determined by the
17 appropriate court; Provided further, that if the government failed to gain favorable
18 judgment, no eviction should be made within five (5) years thereafter..

19
20 SEC. 4. *Implementing Agency.*- The DepEd shall designate or create a mechanism
21 that shall undertake inventory and registration of land for the Department of Education.
22

1 SEC. 5. *Fiinding*. - The amount, as determined by the Department of Education
2 (DepEd), necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be incorporated in the
3 DepEd appropriations for the following year after the enactment of this act.
4

5 SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause*.- All laws, decrees and orders inconsistent with the
6 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
7

8 SEC. 7. *Rules and Regulations*. - The Department of Education, in coordination
9 with appropriate government agency, shall formulate the implementing rules and
10 regulation within ninety (90) days upon the approval of this act.
11

12 SEC. 8. *Effectivity Cluse*.- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
13 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
14

15 *Approved,*