



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4522

Introduced by Honorable Rey B. Aquino

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to require all public schools to formulate and submit a Site Development Plan to the Department of Education for the rational use of public school sites/land nationwide.

The constitution provides that the State must accord the highest priority to education. The P103.6 B fund allotted to the Department of Education in the 2005 General Appropriations Act includes P1 billion for school building programs, an amount that is desperately needed in these times of increasing enrollment and overcrowded schools. Given the high cost of constructing and rehabilitating school buildings, said amount must be prudently allocated to those public schools who need assistance the most.

The student population is expected to increase by 1.68 percent this year, with projections of over 17 million public elementary and high school students enrolling. The national classroom - student ratio for public schools is a staggering 1.65, due largely to the free education program and the unregulated tuition increases in private schools. To attain the ideal classroom - student ratio, a total of 57,000 new classrooms must be constructed, excluding those that have to be rehabilitated.

This bill aims to provide for the integration of all the necessary information for the effective planning and construction of new buildings as well as for the monitoring and maintenance of existing school buildings. The Site Development Plan will definitely help the Department of Education determine which public schools need immediate development. More importantly it will create an awareness of how the real estate of a public school may best be utilized by the administration, faculty, students, parents, barangay community and local government.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



DR. REY B. AQUINO



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AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS
TO FORMULATE AND SUBMIT A SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE RATIONAL
USE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL SITES NATIONWIDE.

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

SECTION 1. All public elementary and high schools are hereby required to formulate and submit a Site Development Plan to the Department of Education within six (6) months from the approval of this Act, designed to improve and utilize optimally the resources within each public school nationwide: *Provided, That* such development plan shall be updated periodically as the need therefor arises.

SEC. 2. The Site Development Plan shall contain, but not be limited to the following:

- a) Detailed geographical description and survey of the site or land being occupied by the public school, including ownership;
- b) Accurate inventory of all existing school buildings, with proper indications as to its location, size, capacity and condition;
- c) Study on the yearly school building requirements based on projected increases in enrollment and other appropriate indicators; and
- d) Estimated cost of construction, replacement, rehabilitation and repair of all existing facilities.

SEC. 3. The Department of Education shall evaluate, determine and supervise the construction and rehabilitation of priority school building projects in coordination with the Department of Public Works and Highways based on the Site Development Plan herein required.

SEC. 4. For the drawing up of the said plan, the school administrator or principal may seek assistance and cooperation from other government agencies and officers as may be deemed necessary. For this purpose, all other departments, government agencies and instrumentalities are hereby instructed to extend all possible assistance to the school administrator or

principal and to lend the necessary cooperation as may be requested in the preparation of such a plan.

SEC. 5. The Department of Education shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act, particularly sanctions for failure to submit the Site Development Plan within the prescribed period of time.

SEC. 6. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or any parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,