

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

H. B. No. 486

Introduced by HONORABLE JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

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.


JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA
Representative
Lone District, Province of Aurora

Introduced by Honorable JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" M. ANGARA

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:

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 5. *Funding.* – The amount, as determined by the DepEd , necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be incorporated in the DepEd appropriations for the following year after the enactment of this act.

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 *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees and orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Rules and Regulations.* - The DepEd, in coordination with appropriate government agency, shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days upon the approval of this act.

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

Approved,