

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1456



Introduced by **Honorable Carmelo F. Lazatin**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Although the Philippines has a high adult literacy rate of 94.7 percent for female and 92.5 percent for male, the country's education system is declining continuously.

In fact, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizations (UNESCO) report ranked the Philippines 74th in terms of education development, falling behind Vietnam, 65th; Indonesia, 58th and Mongolia, 61st.

Newspaper reports also cited that the Philippines showed poor performance in Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study. In fact, in 2003, the country ranked 41 in Science and 42 in Math out of 45 countries.

On top of the poor education system, many Filipino children are forced to drop out from schools because of their families' lack of sufficient means to provide for their basic needs. Instead of going to school, these children engage in labor unfit for their age to supplement their meager income.

With this kind of situation, the country is faced with another alarming problem – the inability to produce able and quality manpower needed to develop its economy and our inability to supply the demand of the world market with competitive workers.

Measures not just to uplift the quality of education in our country and to produce highly competitive graduates must be adapted to ensure the survival of the economy.

For the past years, national Science High Schools numbering to 15 in the

entire country have been producing competitive graduates especially in the field of Science and Math.

The creation of Science high schools in each province and highly urbanized city, which will be subsidized by both the national government through the Department of Education and the local government units concerned will ensure that these country will be producing a more competitive and productive individual of the society while efficiently addressing issues concerning education, family, brain drain, economy, among others, which is primarily rooted on poverty.

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


CARMELO F. LAZATIN
First District Pampanga

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1456

Introduced by **Honorable Carmelo F. Lazatin**

**AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL PROVINCES AND HIGHLY-URBANIZED CITIES TO
ESTABLISH A SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL.**

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – This Act shall be known and cited as the "Science High School Establishment Act."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the declared policy of the State to uplift the quality of education and to equip the youth with knowledge to make them competitive and productive citizens.

SECTION. 3. *Statement of Goals and Objectives.* - It is the goal and objective of this Act to:

- Promote and strengthen the quality of education;
- To produce globally-competitive individuals;

SECTION 5. *Establishment of Science High Schools.* – All provinces and highly-urbanized cities are hereby mandated to establish a Science high schools within their jurisdiction. Provincial and city officials together with the Department of Education shall work for the establishment of the school.

SECTION 6. *Funding Source* – In order to finance the establishment and the continuous operation of the Science high school, the provincial and city government and district representatives shall allocate a substantial amount enough to ensure the sustainability of the program.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provisions or part hereof, is

invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule of regulation contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,