

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3089

Introduced by HON. ANNA YORK P. BONDOC, MD

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Public Schools Security Act will increase jail time and monetary penalties for criminals convicted of theft and destruction of public school property. These additional penalties will serve as a deterrent to those who criminally target our defenseless and vulnerable public schools.

Our public schools are the most vulnerable buildings to theft and vandalism. The schools have no security guards, often have no fence (walang bakod), and are empty at night, weekends and during summer. Thus, equipment inside the schools are easily stolen.

Frequently stolen items from public schools in this modern age include computers, air conditioners, LCD projectors, refrigerators, jetmatic pumps from the water system, and even lowly cable wires for electricity (ninakaw ang kuryente).

Unfortunately, the Department of Education lacks the funds to adequately secure and protect our public schools from vandalism and theft. There is no item for a security guard. The barangay can not provide adequate security.

This bill thus seeks to provide stiffer penalties for theft and destruction to public school property and will hopefully serve as deterrent.

Destruction of public schools also destroys the education, hopes and dreams of the children within the community. Let us protect our schools by punishing criminals who steal and destroy school property.

In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ANNA YORK P. BONDOC, MD
Representative
4th District, Pampanga

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**AN ACT PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES FOR
ROBBERY, THEFT AND DESTRUCTION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL PROPERTY**

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Public School Security Act.”

SEC. 2. Definition. –

a. “School property” refers to all buildings, grounds and other property, real or personal, which belong to a public school, whether the property is acquired through public funds, loans, donations or lease.

b. “Public school” refers to all state-owned schools, colleges and universities.

SEC. 3. Theft or robbery of school property; Penalty. – Any person convicted of the crime of theft or robbery as defined under Chapters One and Three of Title Ten of the Revised Penal Code of any school property shall be punished by the penalty next higher in degree than those respectively specified in the aforementioned articles; Provided, that the additional penalty specified herein shall no longer be made applicable if the imposable penalty is in its maximum period.

SEC. 4. Destruction of school property; Penalty. – A public school building shall be considered a building of public ownership devoted to the use of public in general under Article 320 of the Revised Penal Code. Any person who shall burn a public school building shall be convicted of the crime of Destructive Arson as defined in Article 320 of the Revised Penal Code.

SEC. 5. Special case of malicious mischief; Penalty. – Destruction to school property not covered by the immediately preceding Sections shall be considered a Special Case of Malicious Mischief under Chapter Nine of Title Ten of the Revised Penal Code. Any person who shall cause damage to school property shall be punished with the penalty next higher in degree than those specified in Articles 328 and 329 of the Revised Penal Code.

SEC. 6. Penalty for public officials. – If the person convicted of the crimes referred in this Act is a public official as defined in Republic Act No. 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, the additional penalty of perpetual disqualification from public office shall be imposed. Conviction of a public officer under this Act is without prejudice to criminal prosecution and/or administrative proceedings under

applicable Civil Service laws and regulations, Republic Act No. 6713, and Republic Act No. 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt and Practices Act.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Separability Clause. - If any portion of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.