

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4895_{agb}

Introduced by **HONORABLE LANI MERCADO-REVILLA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The current school calendar in the Philippines begins June of every year and ends March of the following year. This school calendar coincides with the start of the rainy season which usually starts in June.

The Philippines and Brunei are the only countries in the Asia-Pacific region that open their regular classes in June. Malaysia and Singapore open their classes in January, China in February, South Korea in March, Japan and India in April, Thailand in May, Indonesia in July and Hong Kong in September.

For the past few years, the torrential rains and heavy floods have often disrupted classes in all levels resulting to the suspension and irregularity of school days. As much as 25 to 30 days are subtracted from the school calendar, as recorded in the previous years. These cancellations would have not happened if classes start on the later part of the year. Further, according to PAGASA, about 19 to 20 typhoons visit the country every year beginning June up to September.

This bill seeks to change the current school calendar from June to March to September to May. This will not adapt the school calendar to climate change but it will also take into account the long Christmas celebrations in the country so that students will be safer and will be able to attend and absorb more during school days.

It will also minimize the danger to the students, teachers and their parents and relatives who bring and fetch the students and teachers to school especially when classes are abruptly suspended or cancelled because of the rains and floods that threaten the safety of these individuals. Further, it will also lessen the dangers posed to their health by respiratory diseases and other diseases like dengue fever and leptospirosis, and to their safety by various street repairs and excavations and open drains.

In view thereof, approval of this bill is highly recommended.


REP. LANI MERCADO-REVILLA
_{agb} 2nd District, Cavite

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**AN ACT CHANGING THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM JUNE TO MARCH
TO SEPTEMBER TO MAY**

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

SECTION 1. The school calendar from elementary, secondary, and tertiary level is hereby changed from June to March to September to May.

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended and repealed accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,