

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1364

Submitted by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture on 31 AUG 2311
Re : **House Bill No. 5229**
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 4263.
Sponsors : Representatives Salvador H. Escudero III and Cesar V. Sarmiento

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture to which was referred House Bill No. 4263 introduced by Reps. Cesar V. Sarmiento and Salvador H. Escudero III, entitled:

**"AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA,
INCORPORATED AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF
INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN
PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

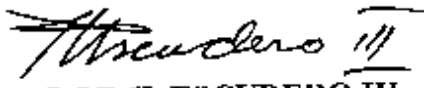
5229

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. _____, entitled:

**"AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA,
INCORPORATED AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF
INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN
PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 4263 with Representatives Cesar V. Sarmiento, Salvador H. Escudero III and Mel Senen S. Sarmiento as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,


SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III
Chairperson
Committee on Basic Education and Culture

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5229
(In substitution of House Bill No. 4263)

Introduced by Representatives Cesar V. Sarmiento, Salvador H. Escudero III
and Mel Senen S. Sarmiento

AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA, INCORPORATED
AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER,
GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. The German European School Manila, Incorporated, herein referred to as
2 the German School, is hereby declared a basic education institution of international character
3 authorized to operate recognized German educational programs that primarily and principally
4 adhere to universally accepted and recognized educational policies.

5 SEC. 2. The members of the German School shall be comprised of the parents or
6 guardians, whether of Philippine or foreign nationality, of the children who have enrolled and
7 attended the German School for at least one (1) school year: *Provided*, That no group of foreign
8 nationality shall comprise more than one-third (1/3) of the school's enrollment: *Provided*,
9 *further*, That the school year shall be determined in accordance with the German School's own
10 calendar of studies and work schedule: *Provided, finally*, That the German School shall be
11 governed by a Board of Trustees, herein referred to as the Board, elected at large from among
12 the corporation's members of good standing.

13 SEC. 3. To enable the German School to continue carrying out its educational program,
14 improve its standard of instruction and meet the special needs of the foreign temporary resident
15 community for quality education, it shall:

16 (a) be authorized to accept provisions and donations of every kind to carry out the
17 purposes of the German School and be entitled to use properties, real or personal,
18 so donated and to construct and own buildings thereon exclusively for educational
19 purposes: *Provided*, That for any reason, the German School ceases to occupy
20 and/or use real properties it may acquire by virtue of this Act, the properties and all
21 improvements thereon of permanent nature shall accrue to the Government of the
22 Republic of the Philippines;

23 (b) have the right to obtain leases on real properties, acquire personal properties,
24 tangible or intangible, or any interests in such properties other real, by purchase,
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1 lease, barter, donation, gift or otherwise, and dispose of, mortgage or encumber
2 them for the benefit of the school concerned;

- 3 -----
- 4 (c) accept applicants for admission, regardless of nationality, in accordance with its
5 own eligibility standards, and rules for admission and grade placement;
- 6 (d) be managed and administered by a superintendent, who shall possess the
7 qualifications prescribed by the Board;
- 8 (e) upon consultation with the Secretary of Education, determine its own basic
9 education curriculum and teach German language and/or any other foreign
10 languages it may deem appropriate and determine the reasonable amount of fees
11 which shall be imposed upon its students to maintain and conform to the German
12 School's standard of education;
- 13 (f) maintain standards of education compatible with those obtaining in similar schools
14 in Germany, the Philippines and other international educational institutions of
15 generally recognized standing;
- 16 (g) employ its own teaching and management personnel selected by the Board either
17 locally or abroad, from the Philippines or other nationalities, such foreign
18 personnel being exempt from laws that impose nationality restrictions on control
19 and administration of educational institutions, except laws that have been or will be
20 enacted for the protection of employees: *Provided*, That such exemption shall not
21 extend to their liability for income taxes;
- 22 (h) promote international friendship, goodwill and understanding among the members
23 of the foreign community and the citizens of the Philippines; and
- 24 (i) not teach anything derogatory to the prestige and well-being of the Philippines and
25 its people, nor those which will subvert its institutions and government.

26
27 SEC. 4. The Secretary of Education, in consultation with the German Embassy and the
28 members of the Board of the German School, shall issue such rules as may be necessary to carry
29 out the provisions of this Act.

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31 SEC. 5. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act is subsequently declared
32 unconstitutional, the validity of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and
33 effect.

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35 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
36 Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

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38 Approved,
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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

4263

Introduced by HON. CESAR V. SARMIENTO
and HON. SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The German-Filipino relations have never been better. Since 1961, when Germany decided to make the Philippines as one of its development partners in Asia, it is now the fourth largest bilateral donor after Japan, the United States and Australia.

Around 876 million euros have already been given as total assistance made by Germany. In addition, the Philippines receives substantial assistance from the World Bank, European Union and the Asian Development Bank, where Germany is the biggest European donor.

German industries have also started to make its mark in the Philippine economy providing investment and employment. To name a few, Lufthansa Technik, Continental, Bosch, Porsche/Audi, Siemens and Schenker, have all set-up business offices and/or plants in the Philippines to infuse the much needed foreign investments.

As a result of the growing German participation in the Philippine economy, a total of around twenty thousand (20,000) German nationals are permanent residents in the Philippines where majority have opted to reside in Metro Manila. In order to meet the demands of the German expatriates, the Deutsche Schule (German School) was set up in 1980 and was recognized by the Department of Education. The school's population immediately grew necessitating the transfer to a bigger campus twice: to University of Life and later to Better Living in Paranaque City along with the French School Manila.

In 2006, the Deutsche Schule changed its name to Deutsche International Schule Manila, Inc. to comply with Philippine laws and regulations. In 2008, it further changed its

name to German European School Manila, Inc. (GESM, for brevity) in preparation of its intent be recognized as an international school.

Presently, GESM has a total of 198 students of different nationalities namely: Germans (69), Filipino-German (41), Filipinos (26), Americans (7), American-Germans (4), Swiss-Filipinos (4), Swiss (5), Dutch and Dutch-Filipino (8), Austrians (4), British (7) among others.

Clearly, the patronage of the European community in the Philippines of the GESM patently shows the need for the same to be established as an international school to enable itself to provide the unique German/European mode and procedure of education that endeared the school to its captive clients.

For this purpose, the bill aims to recognize the German European International School of Manila, Inc., the status as an international school and granting certain prerogatives conducive to its growth like the Southville International School and the Cebu International School.

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



HON. CESAR V. SARMIENTO
Representative, Catanduanes



HON. SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III
Representative, 1st District, Sorsogon

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

4263

Introduced by HON. CESAR V. SARMIENTO
and HON. SALVADOR ESCUDERO III

1 **AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA,**
2 **INCORPORATED AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF**
3 **INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES**
4 **CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**
5

6 Section 1. German European School Manila, Inc., herein referred to as the German
7 School, is hereby declared an educational institution of international character authorized
8 to operate recognized German educational programs that primarily and principally adhere
9 to, specifically, German educational programs and /or course curriculum and/or
10 generally, to universally accepted and recognized educational policies.

11
12 Sec. 2. The members of the German School, shall be comprised of parents or guardians,
13 of the children who have enrolled and attended the School for at least one (1) school
14 year: Provided, That the majority of whom shall be German and/or Filipino citizens and
15 the minority of whom shall be of foreign nationality; Provided, further, that the school
16 year shall be determined in accordance with the German School's own calendar of
17 studies and work schedule: Provided, finally, That the German School shall be governed
18 by a Board of Trustees, herein referred to as the Board, elected at large from among the
19 corporation's German and/or Filipino members of good standing.

20

21 Sec. 3. To enable the German School to continue carrying out its educational program,
22 improve its standard of instruction and meet the special needs of the foreign temporary
23 resident community for quality education, it shall:

24

25 (a) Be able to accept provisions and donations of every kind to carry out the
26 purposes of the German School and be entitled to use properties, real or
27 personal, so donated and to construct and own buildings thereon exclusively for
28 educational purposes : Provided, That for any reason, the German School,
29 ceases to occupy and/or use real properties it may acquire by virtue of this Act,
30 the properties and all improvements thereon of permanent nature shall accrue to
31 the Government of the Republic of the Philippines;

32

33 (b) whenever necessary to carry out its objectives, have the right to obtain leases on
34 real properties, acquire personal properties, tangible or intangible, or any
35 interests in such properties other real, by purchase, lease, barter, donation, gift
36 or otherwise, and dispose of, mortgage or encumber them for the benefit of the
37 school concerned;

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39 (c) accept applicants for admission, regardless of nationality, in accordance with its
40 own eligibility standards, and rules for admission and grade placement:
41 Provided, That no single alien nationality shall consist more than thirty percent
42 (30%) of the entire student population in a given school year, as stated in the

records of the School: Provided, further that the Board of the German School may allow the enrolment of as many German and/or Filipino citizens in a given school year that the total number of German and/or Filipino pupils/students may exceed the thirty (30%) percent limit as stated above;

(d) be managed and administered by a superintendent, who shall be a German citizen and shall possess the qualifications prescribed by the Board;

(e) determine its own curriculum and teach the German language and whatever language or languages it may deem proper and determine; the amount of fees and assessments which may be reasonably imposed upon its pupils and/or students, to maintain or conform to the German School's standard of education;

(f) maintain standards of education compatible with those obtaining in similar schools in Germany, the Philippines and other International educational institutions of generally recognized standing;

(g) employ its own teaching and management personnel selected by the Board either locally or abroad, from Germany and/or the Philippines or other nationalities, such foreign personnel being exempt from laws that imposes nationality restrictions on control and administration of educational institutions, except laws that have been or will be enacted for the protection of employees: Provided, That such exemption shall not extend to their liability for income taxes, unless otherwise provided by a bilateral agreement;

68 (h) promote international friendship, goodwill and understanding among the
69 members of the foreign community and the citizens of the Philippines; and

70
71 (i) not teach anything derogatory to the prestige and well-being of the Philippines
72 and its people, nor those which will subvert its institutions and government.

73

74 Sec. 4. The Secretary of Education, in consultations with the German Embassy and the
75 members of the Board of the German School shall issue such rules as may be necessary
76 to carry out the provisions of this Act.

77

78 Sec. 5. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act is subsequently declared
79 unconstitutional, the validity of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force
80 and effect.

81

82 Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 5229
Substitute Bill of House Bill No. 4263
(As Approved by the Committee)

RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA, INC.

Introduced by: REPS. SARMIENTO (C), ESCUDERO AND SARMIENTO (M.S.)

Committee Referral: COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION & CULTURE (Primary)
Committee Chairperson: REP. SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III

OBJECTIVE:

- To recognize the German European School Manila, Inc. as an international school to enable it to provide a unique German/European mode and procedure of education to Filipino, German and other foreign students

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Recognizes the German European School Manila, Inc. a basic education institution of international character authorized to operate recognized German educational programs that primarily and principally adhere to universally accepted and recognized educational policies
- Provides for the school membership comprising of the parents or guardians, whether of Philippine or foreign nationality, of the children who have enrolled and attended the German European School Manila, Inc. for at least one school year
- Provides for the following rights, privileges, duties and obligations:
 - (a) accepts provisions and donations of every kind to carry out the purposes of the German School and be entitled to use properties, real or personal, so donated and to construct and own buildings thereon exclusively for educational purposes;
 - (b) obtains lease on real properties, acquire personal properties, tangible or intangible, or any interests in such properties other real, by purchase, lease, barter, donation, gift or otherwise, and dispose of, mortgage or encumber them for the benefit of the school concerned;
 - (c) accepts applicants for admission, regardless of nationality, in accordance with its own eligibility standards, and rules for admission and grade placement;
 - (d) be managed and administered by a superintendent who shall possess the qualifications prescribed by the Board;
 - (e) upon consultation with the Secretary of Education, determines its own basic education curriculum and teach German language and/or any other foreign languages it may deem appropriate and determine the reasonable amount of fees which shall be imposed upon its students to maintain and conform to the German School's standard of education;
 - (f) maintains standards of education compatible with those obtaining in similar schools in Germany, the Philippines and other international educational institutions of generally recognized standing;
 - (g) employs its own teaching and management personnel selected by the Board either locally or abroad, from the Philippines or other nationalities
 - (h) promotes international friendship, goodwill and understanding among the members of the foreign community and the citizens of the Philippines; and
 - (i) not teach anything derogatory to the prestige and well-being of the Philippines and its people, nor those which will subvert its institutions and government

RELATED LAWS:

- 1987 Philippine Constitution
- Batas Pambansa Blg. 232, "Education Act of 1982"
- DepEd 2010 Revised Manual of Regulations for Private Schools in Basic Education



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

HON. CESAR V. SARMIENTO

Lone District, Catanduanes
August 22, 2011

THE HONORABLE
SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO
Chairperson, Committee on Basic Education
House of Representatives -
Constitutional Hills, Quezon City

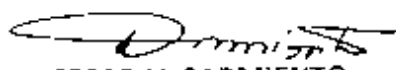
THRU: MA. JOSEFINA R. RICAFORT
Committee Secretary

Dear Chairman Escudero:

I am hereby transmitting the copy of the substitute bill of House Bill No. 4263, entitled: "AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA, INCORPORATED AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES CONDUCIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," without revision.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


CESAR V. SARMIENTO

Vice Chairman : National Defense & Security • Transportation
Member : Appropriations • Agriculture & Food • Games & Amusements • Higher & Technical Education • Information & Communications Technology • Special Committee on Bicol Recovery & Economic Development

Office : 5th Wing 41, House of Representatives, Constitution Hills, 1126 Quezon City
Contact : (02) 531-6283 / (02) 531-5001 / 531-7252



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE
3rd Floor Ramon V. Mitra Jr. Building, Batasan Hills, Quezon City
Telefax 951-4333; 931-5001 loc. 7146; E-mail: basceduculture@yahoo.com

10 August 2011

HON. CESAR V. SARMIENTO
Representative
Lone District, Catanduanes
S-411, House of Representatives
Quezon City

Dear Representative Sarmiento:

We would like to refer, for Your Honor's comment and recommendation, the attached substitute bill of House Bill No. 4263, entitled:

AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA,
INCORPORATED AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF
INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN
PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


MA. JOSEFINA R. RICAFORT
Committee Secretary

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

3rd Floor, Ramon V. Mitra, Jr. Building, Batasan Complex, Quezon City

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE
HELD ON MAY 17, 2011, 9:30 A.M., AT CONFERENCE ROOM NOS. 14 & 15, RAMON V. MITRA,
JR. BUILDING, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, QUEZON CITY**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairman, Rep. Salvador H. Escudero III, called the meeting to order at 9:48 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

On motion of Rep. Pryde Henry Teves, duly seconded by Rep. Marcelino Teodoro, the calling of the roll was dispensed with.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of Rep. Deogracias Ramos, Jr. and there being no objection, the minutes of the meeting held on March 15, 2011 was hereby approved.

IV. INITIAL DELIBERATION ON THE FOLLOWING NATIONAL BILLS:

House Bill No. 1509 - An Act Strengthening the Role of Schools District Supervisors as Head of the Schools District, authored by Rep. Marcelo Teodoro

Upon recognition by the Chair, Rep. Teodoro informed the Body that during the 14th Congress, a similar bill was filed and approved by the House and later transmitted to the Senate. However, due to lack of material time because of the onset of the national election, Senate was not able to approve the Committee Report for House Bill No. 5947, hence the re-filing of the same proposal in the 15th Congress.

Rep. Teodoro also clarified that the bill does not propose for additional remuneration for Schools District Supervisors (District Supervisors, for brevity) rather, it proposes to strengthen the role of District Supervisors as Head of Schools District. The bill likewise proposes that the position of District Supervisor be considered as a separate level in the organizational structure of the Department of Education (DepEd) and not as a staff of another unit. The bill also intends to expand the duties and responsibilities of the District Supervisors, such as:

- To provide professional and instructional advice and support to the school heads and teachers/facilitators of schools and learning centers in the district or cluster;
- To support the implementation of the curriculum and other academic-related programs prescribed by the DepEd;
- To provide technical assistance to school heads to support compliance to various administrative responsibilities;
- To monitor the formulation of school improvement plans and consolidate funding requirements of programs and projects to be presented to the municipal school board; and
- To undertake advocacy work directed at encouraging Local Government Units and Non-Government Organizations to implement Alternative Learning System and Alternative Delivery Mode, Adopt-A-School, Library Hub and other programs that seek participation and support.

After delivering his preliminary remarks, the author then moved for the approval of H.B. No. 1509.

Before taking action on the bill of Rep. Teodoro, Chairman Escudero recognized Ms. Aurora Divino, President of the Philippine Schools District Supervisors Association. The latter was then asked to respond to the queries posed by the Chair. Ms. Divino stated that the District Supervisors were designated to monitor the activities of the schools in the districts where they are assigned. As far as learning instruction is concerned, she said that the District Supervisors have the ability to check on all the areas of learning because most of them came from the positions of Principal I to IV. With regards to the management of the school, she said the District Supervisors assist the school heads by providing technical assistance and professional advice in executing programs and projects of the school. Further, they also serve as principal in regions where there is no principal and the schools have only six or seven teachers.

Ms. Divino replied in the negative when asked whether there is an increase in the compensation of District Supervisor in case the bill will be approved. According to her, both the District Supervisor and Principal IV have salary grade of 22 and received the equal compensation.

When asked on how the District Supervisor was selected, Ms. Divino replied that there exists a screening committee in the division office, headed by the School Superintendent, which evaluate the examinations and interviews given by the committee. The length of service is also considered. Priority is first given to those holding the position of principal III and if nobody qualified from this rank, the vacant position will be open to those holding the position of principal II and down the line.

At this juncture, the Chairman recommended that the Committee obtained the endorsement of DepEd for House bill No. 1509. After which the Committee will consider the approval of the bill.

There being no objection, the recommendation was carried.

H.B. No. 3479 - An Act Allowing Graduates in Science, Mathematics, Statistics and Engineering Courses to teach Science and Mathematics in the Elementary and Secondary Levels, authored by Rep. Angelo Palmones.

At the onset, Rep. Angelo Palmones stated that based on separate surveys and studies conducted by him and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), it appeared students have lesser appreciation of science and mathematics (math, for brevity) subjects. This has been attributed to existing problems especially in the teaching profession. This statement was validated in the study conducted by Dr. Bernido, which was supported by the DOST and the South East Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO), which reveal that the migration of science and math teachers to other countries were due to the competitive salary offered by said countries.

Rep. Palmones stressed that the critical need to build up the workforce with strong math and science skills and competencies compel him to introduce this legislation by tapping graduates of Science, Math, Statistics and Engineering courses to teach science and math especially in public schools as an alternative and immediate solution. This approach, he said will improve and strengthen the delivery of science and math education at all levels and keep the country competitive in the global arena.

Rep. Palmones then moved for the approval of his bill.

At this juncture, Rep. Dalog remarked that the problem is how to bring the subjects of math and science to the understanding of the students. He then asked whether there is a need to require graduates in science, math, statistics and engineering to take subjects in education to enable them to communicate the subjects to their students.

Rep. Teves opined that the rationale of the bill is noble. However he said the bill will be unfair to other graduates if graduates of Science, Math, Statistics and Engineering, as specified in Section 5 of the bill, will be allowed to teach science and math in the elementary and secondary education even if they have not passed the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) or while they are still in the process of completing their 18 units in education.

Meanwhile, Rep. Hagan shared his observation that even if graduates of Engineering or Statistics will be allowed to teach science and math subjects after complying with the required 18 units, they cannot be prevented to take the board examination and pursue their original career.

Upon recognition by the Chair, Ms. Divino explained that it is still a DepEd policy to require Engineering or Commerce graduates to have at least 18 units in education before they are allowed in the teaching profession.

When asked for the position of the Integrated Chemist of the Philippines (ICP), its President, Mr. Fabian Dayrit, stated that the ICP fully support the proposed bill and is agreeable on the required 18 units of education.

Meanwhile, Rep. Tinio averred that the proposed bill is in conflict with two (2) existing laws, the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers and the Teachers Professionalization Act.

At this juncture, the author manifested that he accedes to an earlier proposal that graduates of Engineering and Commerce be allowed to teach math and science to students in elementary and secondary education as long as they have 18 units in educations.

Both Rep. Teves and Rep. Teodoro were of the opinion, however, that the practice of teaching math and science shall only be limited to high school students considering that the curriculum of the elementary is different from that of the high school. The methods and strategies of teaching were also different in these two levels of education.

The Chair informed the body that he will get in touch with the DepEd Secretary and the Chairman of the Philippine Regulation Commission (PRC) to determine whether the provisions of the proposed bill have no conflict with existing laws. Further, he said that the Committee will schedule another meeting before the House adjourned on June 10, 2011.

H.B. No. 4263 – An Act Recognizing the German European School Manila, Inc. as an Educational Institution of International Character, Granting Certain Prerogatives Conducive to its Growth as Such, authored by Reps. Cesar Sarmiento and Salvador Escudero III.

Rep. Cesar Sarmiento, one of the authors of the bill, cited the following pertinent portions of the Explanatory Note of the bill as his sponsorial remarks:

- Since 1961, when Germany decided to make the Philippines as one of its development partners in Asia, it is now the fourth largest bilateral donor after Japan, the United States and Australia;
- Around 876 million euros have already been given by Germany as total assistance. In addition, the Philippines receives substantial assistance from the World Bank, European Union and the Asian Development Bank, where Germany is the biggest European donor;
- German industries have also started to make its mark in the Philippine economy by providing investment and employment. To name a few, Lufthansa Technik, Continental Bosch, Porsche Audi, Siemens and Schenker have all set-up business offices and/or plants in the Philippines to infuse the much needed foreign investments.
- As a result of the growing German participation in the Philippine economy, a total of around twenty thousand (20,000) German nationals are permanent residents in the Philippines, majority of whom opted

- to reside in Metro Manila. In order to meet the demands of the German expatriates, the Deutsche Schule (German School) was set up in 1980 and was recognized by the Department of Education. The school's population immediately grew necessitating the transfer to a bigger campus twice, to University of Life and later to Better Living in Paranaque City along with the French School in Manila.
- In 2006, the Deutsche Schule changed its name to Deutsche International Schule Manila, Inc. to comply with the Philippine laws and regulations. In 2008, it further changed its name to German European School Manila, Inc. (GESM, for brevity) in preparation of its intent to be recognized as an international school.
 - Presently, GESM has a total of 198 students of different nationalities namely; Germans (69), Filipino-Germans (41), Filipinos (26), Americans (7), American-Germans (4), Swiss-Filipinos (4), Swiss (5), Dutch and Dutch-Filipinos (8), Austrians (4), British (7), among others.
 - Clearly, the patronage of the European community in the Philippines of the GESM patently shows the need for the same to be established as an international school to enable itself to provide the unique German-European mode and procedure of education that endeared the school to its captive clients.
 - For this purpose, the bill aims to recognize the German European International School of Manila, Inc., the status of an international school and granting certain prerogatives conducive to its growth like the Southville International School which was recognized under R.A. 9293 and the Cebu International School which was recognized under R.A. 9190.

Thereafter, he moved for approval of H.B. No. 4263.

At this juncture, Rep. Mel Senen Sarmiento signified his intention to be made co-author of the bill.

In response to the queries of the Chair, Rep. Sarmiento (C) stated that the 60-40% share in the ownership of the school as required in the Constitution does not apply because the German European International School of Manila, Inc. caters to temporary foreigners residing in the Philippines. As to the membership of the Board of Trustees of the school, he said that they are mostly of German nationality.

On motion of Rep. Teves, duly seconded by Rep. Dalog, the bill was approved subject to amendments.

V. DELIBERATION OF LOCAL SCHOOL BILLS

On the Establishment of National High School

On the omnibus motion of Rep. Teodoro, duly seconded, the Body approved the following bills on the establishment of national high schools, subject to amendments:

1. H.B. No. 539 - Cantao-An National High School, by Rep. Gullas, E.;
2. H.B. No. 1359 - Bibilik National High School, by Rep. Enerio-Cerilles, A.;
3. H.B. No. 2319 - Moliton National High school, by Rep. Labadlabad, R.;
4. H.B. No. 2320 - Sitog National High School; by Rep. Labadiabad, R.;
5. H.B. No. 2952 - Lorenzo Latawan National High School; by Rep. Garcia-Albano, M.;
6. H.B. No. 2955 - Jesus De La Peña National High School, by Rep. Teodoro, M.;
7. H.B. No. 3733 - Mayantoc National Technical-Vocational High School, by Rep. Cojuangco, E.;
8. H.B. No. 3791 - Juban National High School, by Rep. Ramos, D.;
9. H.B. No. 3798 - San Antonio National High School, by Rep. Ramos, D; and
10. H.B. No. 3987 - Apolinario Mabini National High School, by Rep. Mandanas, H.

The Chair reminded the authors that all documentary requirements must first be complied with before the committee report on the approved bills will be transmitted to the Committee on Appropriations.

On the Conversion/Separation of the National High Schools

On the omnibus motion of Rep. Flores, duly seconded, the Body approved the following bills, subject to amendments:

1. H.B. No. 2346 – Buenavista National High School, by Rep. Madrona, EJ;
2. H.B. No. 2347 – Carmen National High School, by Rep. Madrona, EJ;
3. H.B. No. 3564 – Tambacan National High School, by Rep. Belmonte, V.
4. H.B. No. 36711 – Governor Rafael Lazatin Technical Vocational and Skills Training High School, by Rep. Lazatin, C.; and
5. H.B. No. 4006 – Kalasungay National High School, by Rep. Flores, F.

VL OTHER MATTERS

Rep. Dalog queried whether there is a legal basis for the DepEd to carry out the construction and repair of school buildings. He said that the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) used to be the one in-charge of this function. He also maintained that DepEd's mandate is education and should not be concentrating in the construction and repair of school buildings.

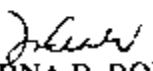
Rep. Dalog claimed that in his province, the DPWH is implementing the construction of school buildings with a cost of P1.88 million while DepEd also has a project for the construction of school buildings with a cost of P30 million.

The Chair opined that there is no law which gives the DepEd the mandate to construct school buildings. He then directed the Committee Secretary to invite in the next meeting the DepEd Secretary and/or the official in the agency who is in-charge of the construction of school buildings to enlighten the Committee regarding the issues raised by Rep. Dalog and other related issues.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There having no other matters to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Prepared by:


MYRNA D. DOLOR
Supervising Legislative Staff Officer II

Noted by:


MA. JOSEFINA R. RICAFORT
Committee Secretary

Approved:

ORIGINAL SIGNED
HON. SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III
Chairperson