

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2347

Submitted by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture on 15 AUG 2012
Re : **House Bill No. 6478**
Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill No. 5702.
Sponsors : Representatives Salvador H. Escudero III and Florencio T. Flores, Jr.

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture to which was referred House Bill No. 5702 introduced by Rep. Florencio T. Flores, Jr., entitled:

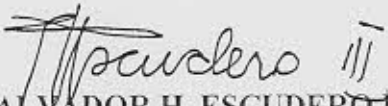
“AN ACT
SEPARATING THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CABULOHAN-PARADISE HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CABANGLASAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, TO BE KNOWN AS CABANGLASAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL”

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 6478,
entitled:

“AN ACT
SEPARATING THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – TOWNSITE ANNEX IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CABANGLASAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CABANGLASAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”

be approved in substitution of House Bill No. 5702 with Representatives Florencio T. Flores, Jr. and Salvador H. Escudero III 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
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6478
(In substitution of House Bill No. 5702)

Introduced by Representatives Florencio T. Flores, Jr. and Salvador H. Escudero III

AN ACT

SEPARATING THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – TOWNSITE ANNEX IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CABANGLASAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CABANGLASAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. *Separation and Conversion into a National High School.* The
2 Cabulohan-Paradise National High School – Townsite Annex in Barangay Poblacion,
3 Municipality of Cabanglasan, Province of Bukidnon is hereby separated from the Cabulohan-
4 Paradise National High School and converted into an independent national high school to be
5 known as Cabanglasan National High School.
6

7 SEC. 2. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.* All personnel, assets, liabilities and
8 records of the Cabulohan-Paradise National High School – Townsite Annex are hereby
9 transferred to and absorbed by the Cabanglasan National High School.
10

11 SEC. 3. *Appropriations.* The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in
12 the Department's program the operationalization of the Cabanglasan National High School,
13 the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the
14 Cabulohan-Paradise National High School – Townsite Annex. Thereafter, the amount
15 necessary for the continued operation of the school shall be included in the annual General
16 Appropriations Act.
17

18 SEC. 4. *Implementation.* The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and
19 regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.
20

21 SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
22 the Official Gazette.
23

24 *Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5702



Introduced by Representative Florencio T. Flores, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks the separation of Cabulohan-Paradise National High School - Cabulohan-Paradise High School Annex (CPNHS - Cabulohan-Paradise High School Annex) from Cabulohan-Paradise National High School and the conversion of the said Annex into an independent national high school recognized as Cabanglasan National High School, a separate and distinct entity in the National Budget.

The CPNHS- Cabulohan-Paradise High School Annex, as an extension of Cabulohan-Paradise National High School, has been in existence and operation for almost eight (8) school years (SYs) now. The present student population is rapidly increasing every year as the school records shows, hence the need for more teachers and full time administrator to closely oversee the school's programs and activities.

Cabulohan-Paradise National High School cannot accommodate all that is necessary through its budget coming from the National Government. Even with the assistance from the Local Government, personnel and finances are still inadequate to accommodate everything. Hence, the separation and conversion of the Cabulohan-Paradise National High School - Cabulohan-Paradise High School Annex is sought.

The separation and conversion of Cabulohan-Paradise National High School - Cabulohan-Paradise High School Annex will ensure convenience, opportunity and conducive environment to the youth of Barangay Poblacion and other nearby barangays to a proper and quality education.

FLORENCIO T. FLORES, JR.

Representative
2nd District, Bukidnon

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Fifteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5702

Introduced by Representative Florencio T. Flores, Jr.

“AN ACT SEPARATING THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CABULOHAN-PARADISE HIGH SCHOOL ANNEX IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CABANGLASAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, TO BE KNOWN AS CABANGLASAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL”

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Separation and Conversion into a National High School.*** The
2 Cabulohan-Paradise National High School – Cabulohan-Paradise High School Annex in
3 Barangay Poblacion, Municipality of Cabanglasan, Province of Bukidnon is hereby
4 separated from the Cabulohan-Paradise National High School to be known as Cabanglasan
5 National High School.

6
7 **SECTION 2. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.*** All personnel, assets, liabilities and
8 records of Cabulohan-Paradise National High School – Cabulohan-Paradise High School
9 Annex are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Cabanglasan National High School.

10
11 **SECTION 3. *Appropriations.*** The Secretary of Education shall immediately include
12 in the Department’s program the operationalization of the Cabanglasan National High
13 School, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year’s
14 appropriation of the Cabulohan-Paradise National High School – Cabulohan-Paradise High
15 School Annex. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the school
16 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

17
18 **SECTION 4. *Implementation.*** The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and
19 regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

20
21 **SECTION 5. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
22 publication in the Official Gazette.

23
24 *Approved,*

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE

26 March 2012

HON. JOSEPH EMILIO A. ABAYA
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairperson Abaya:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Committee on Appropriations

RECEIVED
MAR 26 2012

By: *[Signature]* Control No.

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture approved on 28 February 2012 the attached House Bill No. 6478 entitled:

AN ACT

SEPARATING THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – CABANGLASAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CABANGLASAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CABANGLASAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

in substitution of House Bill No. 5702 with Representatives Florencio T. Flores, Jr. and Salvador H. Escudero III as authors thereof.

Considering that a proposed funding is provided for in Section 3 of the aforesaid bill, the Committee deemed it appropriate to refer the same to the Committee on Appropriations for comment and approval.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III
Chairperson

For the Chairperson:

[Signature]
MARIA JOSEFINA R. RICAFORT
Committee Secretary



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



HON. JOSEPH EMILIO A. ABAYA

*Congressman, 1st District, Cavite
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations*

July 23, 2012

HON. SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III

*Chairperson
Committee on Basic Education & Culture*

Dear Chairperson Escudero:

This refers to the following house bills/substitute bills on the separation of national high schools which were referred to the Committee on Appropriations:

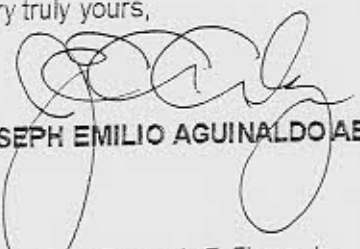
1. **Substitute Bill to House Bill No. 2006 - AN ACT SEPARATING THE CALAPE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - LOGON ANNEX IN BARANGAY LOGON, MUNICIPALITY OF DAANBANTAYAN, PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM THE CALAPE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LOGON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;**
2. **Substitute Bill to House Bill No. 2008 - AN ACT SEPARATING THE CALAPE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - PAYPAY ANNEX IN BARANGAY PAYPAY, MUNICIPALITY OF DAANBANTAYAN, PROVINCE OF CEBU FROM THE CALAPE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PAYPAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;**
3. **Substitute Bill to House Bill No. 2344 - AN ACT SEPARATING THE ESTEBAN MADRONA MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL - BINONGAAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY BINONGAAN, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN AGUSTIN, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON FROM THE ESTEBAN MADRONA MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS BINONGAAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;**
4. **Substitute Bill to House Bill No. 2345 - AN ACT SEPARATING THE MAGDIWANG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - AGUTAY ANNEX IN BARANGAY AGUTAY, MUNICIPALITY OF MAGDIWANG, PROVINCE OF ROMBLON FROM THE MAGDIWANG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS AGUTAY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR;**
5. **House Bill No. 4403 - AN ACT SEPARATING THE TAGASAKA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - LOYOLA ANNEX IN BARANGAY LOYOLA, MUNICIPALITY OF HINATUAN,**

PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR, FROM THE TAGASAKA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE LOYOLA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR; and

6. **Substitute Bill to House Bill No. 5702** - AN ACT SEPARATING THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - CABANGLASAN ANNEX IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CABANGLASAN, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON FROM THE CABULOHAN-PARADISE NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS CABANGLASAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

Please be informed that the Committee recommends the approval of the above mentioned bills without amendment.

Very truly yours,


JOSEPH EMILIO AGUINALDO ABAYA

Cc: Rep. Florencio T. Flores, Jr.
Rep. Florencio C. Garay
Rep. Eleandro Jesus F. Madrona
Rep. Benhur L. Salimbangon

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila
Fifteenth Congress
2nd Regular Session

MINUTES OF THE 21ST REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE HELD ON 28 FEBRUARY 2012, 9:30 A.M., AT CONFERENCE ROOM NOS. 14 & 15, RAMON V. MITRA JR. BLDG., HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, QUEZON CITY

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Salvador H. Escudero III, Chair, Committee on Basic Education and Culture, called the 21st Committee meeting to order at 9:58 a.m. On motion of Rep. Piamonte, duly seconded, the Chair dispensed with the roll call.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

On motion of Rep. Piamonte, duly seconded, the Chair declared as approved the minutes of Committee meeting held on 7 February 2012, as presented.

III. REMARKS OF THE CHAIR

The Chair acknowledged the presence of the Committee's new Member, Rep. Mohammed Hussein P. Pangandaman of the 1st District, Lanao del Sur, who took the place of Rep. Victor Ortega as Member representing the House minority party. The Chair welcomed the new Committee Member stating that it's good for a young Member to take over the place of a senior Member.

IV. DELIBERATION ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4395

The Chair presented for Committee deliberation House Bill No. 4395, introduced by Rep. Leopoldo N. Bataoil, titled: "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF BAYBAYIN, AND DECLARING BAYBAYIN AS THE NATIONAL SCRIPT OF THE PHILIPPINES". The Chair subsequently recognized the bill's principal author to sponsor the bill.

Sponsorship Speech of the Author

Rep. Bataoil, principal author of HB 4395, stated the following:

- ♦ This is a golden opportunity for us to know that there is such a Filipino original script that we must preserve, promote and institutionalize.
- ♦ "A country without a past has the emptiness of a barren continent; and a city without old buildings is like a man without a memory." (Graeme Shankland)
- ♦ In one of Jose Rizal's writings, "To My Fellow Children" (1869), he said: "This language of ours is like the rest, it once had a syllabic form and its own letters that vanished as though whirlwind had set upon a boat on a lake a long gone."
- ♦ Before the Spanish conquest, the Filipino men and women were known for their advanced knowledge and skill in our indigenous written language, the "baybayin". We were not Indios as the Spaniards claimed us to be having had a sophisticated written language that was used to conduct commerce and trade with Malaysia, Indonesia and even the Middle Eastern countries.
- ♦ Our ancestors were proud of their race, have a cultural and national identity that were at par with other advanced countries.
- ♦ As early as the 15th century, we had been known for our written language, the baybayin as highlighted by Francisco Alcina in his historical document:
- ♦ Dr. Bonifacio Comandante, Jr., a multi-awarded marine scientist and anthropologist, claimed that the Angono-Binangonan Petroglyphs is one of the best ancient evidence of

baybayin, the advance writing system in the Philippines which dates back to pre-Spanish colonization period.

- Jose Rizal used the *baybayin* script in his book, *Noli Me Tangere*, and other writings and proudly declared in "Sucesos de las Islas Filipinas" circa 1609 that the Philippines had an established barangay government system, a flourishing inter-island and regional barter trade and a writing system well known and practiced in the land, contrary to the vulgar name "Indios" that the Spanish friars and conquistadores had called our people then.
- Don Pedro Paterno and Don Trinidad Pardo De Tavera wrote two volumes of dictionary (circa 1884-1887) now found at the National Library detailing the script, strokes and pervasive use of *baybayin* in the Philippines prior to the introduction of the Latin-Roman scripts that we are using popularly today. The *baybayin* scripts were culled from our giant shells, the Taklobo, that is why we are called the "Pearl of the Orient".
- Recently, foreign anthropologists and sociologists have become interested with our *baybayin* script claiming that the *baybayin* script is in danger of becoming extinct. If we are doing our best to preserve our endangered species, how much more should we do all means to preserve our endangered national treasure, the *baybayin* script?
- Scholars showed that culture had something to do with the Asian miracle, and the rise of the east. We must not allow our country to be left again by the rising tide of development across Asia.
- A new wave of nationalism must rise for the development of our nation. It is time that we reclaim a national heritage that is threatened by globalization, and the rapidly changing times. It is time that we establish our national identity. The declaration of *baybayin* as our national script would be a unifying element for us Filipinos. We owe it to our children and the generations to come to establish an identity uniquely Filipino.
- The author earnestly sought for the passage of House Bill 4395.

Issues/Arguments/Positions Presented

- Mr. Jose Jaime R. Enage, founding Chairman of "Baybayin Buhayin, Inc." and "Taklobo Baybayin, Inc.", said that the advocates of *baybayin* wanted to preserve the *baybayin* script and pushed for its inclusion in the school curriculum. He stressed the need to promote our own language as he cited Dr. Jose Rizal in his book *El Filibusterismo*, to wit: "While the people preserve its language, it preserves the marks of liberty." Mr. Enage presented some documentary evidences, among others, to support the existence and use of the *baybayin* script, namely:
 - 1) the first dictionary written by the Spaniards in 1593;
 - 2) the researches done by Dr. Jose Rizal, including those that were written in his books *Noli Me Tangere* and *El Filibusterismo*;
 - 3) the new generation peso bills specifically the new P20, P50, P100, P200, P500 and P1,000 peso bills bearing *baybayin* inscription;
 - 4) a 900 A.D. *baybayin* script on Laguna Copperplate discovered in 1989 in Lumban, Laguna;
 - 5) a 1000 A.D. Calatagan Jar, now preserved in the National Museum;
 - 6) a 1300 A.D. Silver Plate Inscription of *baybayin* of Butuan, now preserved in the National Museum;
 - 7) the Pintados of Panay, Negros in 1572, now preserved in the National Library;
 - 8) the *baybayin* of Zambales in 1601;
 - 9) the *baybayin* of Tondo o Tagala in 1610;
 - 10) the *baybayin* of Mindoro;
 - 11) the logo of the Armed forces of the Philippines; and
 - 12) the different logos of the cultural agencies of the Philippines.
- Rep. M.S. Sarmiento stated that the Philippines has a very diverse cultural background and for so many years, our cultural workers had been doing so many research in trying to come up with a national identity for the Filipinos, and came out that we don't have one. Some are even saying that one of the weaknesses of this country is our being

regionalistic considering our different regional dialects in which Rep. Sarmiento felt can be converted as our strength given the appropriate solution.

- ♦ Rep. Bataoil stated the need to legislate his proposal to provide widespread awareness to the Filipino people especially the young by suggesting that signages should have its *baybayin* counterpart written below to identify us as Filipinos.
- ♦ Rep. M.S. Sarmiento clarified that he is not against the proposal as he was saying that we should be able to address likewise the sensitivities of whatever cultural background a certain Filipino has in his or her locality. He stressed the need to preserve our own *baybayin* if there is in our area and we should likewise include the possibility of preserving the scripts of the other regions in the country.
- ♦ Atty. Tonisito Umali, Assistant Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd), stated that, in line with Section 4 of the bill, the DepEd agreed to include the *baybayin* script in the school curriculum as a topic in *Pilipino* or *Aralin Panlipunan* subjects. As regards its declaration as a national script, the DepEd recommended the need to coordinate with the Komisyon ng Wikang Filipino (KWF), the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP), and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) to further study the proposal.
- ♦ Rep. Gullas shared the concern of Rep. Sarmiento on the conclusion that there are different versions of *baybayin* as we go along from Luzon, Visayas and Mindano. He said that even in the Province of Cebu, the Cebuano spoken in Central Cebu is entirely different from the Cebuano spoken in Southern Cebu as well as in Northern Cebu. All of these differences equate to the fact that perhaps to declare a certain *baybayin* as the national script, we must first arrive at some kind of compromise synopsis of all of these as we can see there is one in Negros, one in Mindanao and even in Luzon, and they are different. He suggested that perhaps the best minds of the Committee may sit down and study the bill extensively to reconcile these different *baybayin* scripts throughout the country and finally come up with an acceptable solution.
- ♦ Rep. Tinio stated that based on the presentation of Mr. Enage, he found the table written by Pedro Paterno detailing the comparison of the *baybayin* scripts in the various places in the country to be useful in determining their differences. He observed regional variations of the *baybayin* scripts but his understanding of the bill is that the declaration of *baybayin* as a national script referred to by Rep. Bataoil covers all the *baybayin* scripts of the country so that when you are in Luzon, you shall use the *baybayin* in Luzon while those in the Visayas and Mindanao shall use their own *baybayin* scripts.
- ♦ Rep. Pangandaman pointed out some concerns on cultural sensitivity citing diverse cultures and traditions in the localities specifically on religion considering that Muslims for example pray in Arabic. He proposed that, if enacted, we should concentrate only on the school curriculum aspect of the measure.
- ♦ Rep. Piamonte stated that as he read through the pamphlet, the Dominican missionaries arrived in Manila so naturally they have to use the language as spoken by the people in Luzon. But add the missionaries who arrived in some other parts of the Philippines where we also have different *baybayin* scripts; they could have used the same. He inquired if the proponent of the bill can categorically say that the *baybayin* used by the Dominicans is really the oldest *baybayin*.
- ♦ Mr. Enage responded that a 3000 B.C. rock engraving considered as national heritage or UNESCO declared evidence found in Rizal province was included in the World Inventory Rock Art. He likewise presented evidences on the 900 A.D. Laguna Copperplate in Lumban, Laguna and another one, a 1000 A.D. Calatagan Jar found in Calatagan, Batangas and a Manunggol Jar found in Palawan.
- ♦ On Rep. Pangandaman's concern regarding the readiness of the DepEd teachers to teach the *baybayin* script, Mr. Enage responded that according to the linguistics society, if a language has no user or at least less than one million users, that language is dead. Mr. Enage pushed for the teaching of *baybayin* to teachers in school as the advocates of *baybayin* need at least one million users for this language to resurrect.

Action Taken by the Committee

The Committee agreed to defer House Bill No. 4395 for further Committee deliberation.

V. DELIBERATION ON HOUSE BILL NO. 4778

The Chair presented for committee consideration House Bill No. 4778, introduced by Rep. Alfredo B. Benitez, titled: "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE CITY SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE IN THE CITY OF TALISAY, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 8489, ENTITLED "AN ACT CONVERTING THE MUNICIPALITY OF TALISAY, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, INTO A COMPONENT CITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE CITY OF TALISAY". The Chair subsequently recognized the Rep. M.S. Sarmiento to sponsor the bill in behalf of the principal author.

Rep. Sarmiento stressed the need to approve House Bill No. 4778 considering that the City of Talisay has been functioning as a city for quite a while already and it is imperative for a city to have its own schools division office so that its current Mayor will be able to perform and be able to support the DepEd more in his locality.

Rep. Piamonte inquired if there's a policy that establishes a city schools division every time a component city is established and makes the schools under the jurisdiction of that component city separate from the province's schools division. He explained that the schools division office of the province takes care of a relatively large number of schools and students whereas its counterpart, the city schools division, caters only to a small area and a relatively small number of schools and students. He proposed to rationalize the creation of a balanced schools division office to equitably share the responsibilities to whoever is assigned to certain areas.

Rep. Gullas agreed to the idea of Rep. Piamonte. Rep. Gullas, however, believed that the Committee can still approve the bill presented without prejudice later on having a bill that rationalizes the establishment of schools division nationwide.

Action Taken by the Committee

On motion of Rep. M.S. Sarmiento, duly seconded, there being no objection, the Committee approved House Bill No. 4778.

VI. DELIBERATION ON LOCAL SCHOOL BILLS

The Chair presented for committee consideration the following local school bills:

A. On the Establishment of National High Schools/Elementary School

- 1) HB 1373, titled, *Ma. Clara Lobregat Memorial National High School*, by Rep. Cerilles
- 2) HB 1376, titled, *Tultolan National High School*, by Rep. Cerilles
- 3) HB 1596, titled, *Cabuan Primary School*, by Rep. Gullas
- 4) HB 2499, titled, *Teneguiban National High School*, by Rep. Alvarez
- 5) HB 2506, titled, *Limnangcong National High School*, by Rep. Alvarez
- 6) HB 5006, titled, *Mayana National High School*, by Rep. Gullas
- 7) HB 5425, titled, *Tumana National Elementary School*, by Rep. Quimbo
- 8) HB 5448, titled, *Cañang National High School*, by Rep. Pablo Garcia
- 9) HB 5449, titled, *Marcelo Luna National High School*, by Rep. Pablo Garcia
- 10) HB 5695, titled, *Pundasan National High School*, by Rep. Unabia

B. On the Conversion/Separation of National High Schools

- 1) HB 3572, titled, *Santiago National High School*, by Rep. V. Belmonte
- 2) HB 3619, titled, *Dolores National Technical Vocational and Skills Training High School*, by Rep. Lazatin
- 3) HB 3620, titled, *Madapdap Resettlement Technical Vocational and Skills Training High School*, by Rep. Lazatin
- 4) HB 4929, titled, *Japer Memorial National High School*, by Rep. Aumentado
- 5) HB 5549, titled, *Tinuyop Annex and Palandok Extension*, by Rep. Canonigo
- 6) HB 5623, titled, *Kinawe National High School*, by Rep. Paras
- 7) HB 5652, titled, *Basalem National High School*, by Rep. Yambac
- 8) HB 5698, titled, *Malaguip Integrated School*, by Rep. Marcos
- 9) HB 5702, titled, *Cabanglasan National High School*, by Rep. Flores
- 10) HB 5738, titled, *Casoon National High School*, by Rep. Zamora-Apsay

Issues/Arguments/Positions Presented

- ♦ Rep. Piamonte proposed to amend House Bill No. 1596 by replacing the word "PRIMARY" with the word "ELEMENTARY" in the contents of the bill including its title, pointing out that a primary school covers only Grade 1 to Grade 4 whereas an elementary school covers Grade 1 to Grade 6. Rep. Gullas, principal author of HB 1596, accepted the amendment.
- ♦ Rep. Piamonte asked the DepEd to submit, for Committee's guidance, the status of the schools whether or not they have complied with the requirements set for legislation. ASec. Umali responded that DepEd usually submits the requirements to the Committee on Appropriations. ASec. Umali promised to also submit the same to the Committee as requested.

Action Taken by the Committee

- ♦ On omnibus motion of Rep. Gullas, duly seconded, there being no objection, the Committee approved the above-listed eight (8) bills on the establishment of national high schools and two (2) bills on the establishment of elementary schools, subject to style and amendments and subject also to the submission by the respective authors of the required documents to support the legislation of the aforesaid bills.
- ♦ On a subsequent omnibus motion of Rep. Aumentado, duly seconded, there being no objection, the Committee approved ten (10) bills on the conversion and separation of national high schools, subject to style and amendments and subject also to the submission by the respective authors of the required documents to support the legislation of the aforesaid bills.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

On motion, duly seconded, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:28 a.m.

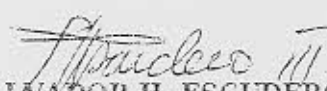
I hereby certify to the correctness of the foregoing minutes.


NEMESIO O. MALATAMBAN III
Supervising Legislative Staff Officer II

Noted by:


MA. JOSEFINA R. RICAFORT
Committee Secretary

Approved by:


SALVADOR H. ESCUDERO III
Committee Chairperson