

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **642**

Introduced by:

Hon. Christopher S. Co and Rodel M. Batocabe



EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a high school for public administration and good governance, to be known as the Jesse M. Robredo Philippine High School for Public Administration and Governance (PHSPAG).

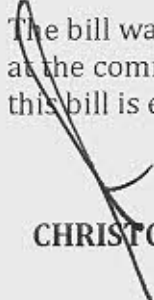
Throughout the political history of the Philippines, there is a continuing public outcry for good and honest public servants in government, and not only in the elective positions, but also in appointive and career positions. However, our country's school system has not offered full programs and services that cater to such needs. Though many Filipino children demonstrate an ability and interest in serving the people through government service, their capabilities remained untapped until college, when they are given the option to choose a course for their chosen field.

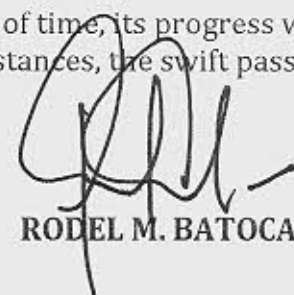
Through this bill, the State will be able to create a pool of young leaders and train them at an early age on excellent public service. It shall also expose them to the sad realities of graft and corruption so they may defeat it with transparency and accountability. The School shall recreate the image and impression on government service as a place where one can have a viable, successful and fulfilling career.

Most importantly, the High School and its graduates will give life and continue the legacy of one of greatest Filipino public servants in government service, Secretary Jesse M. Robredo.

Entrance to the school shall be highly competitive; at any given time, only a small population of the top passers of the entrance exam will be accepted to ensure high quality of instruction. Students accepted into the PHSPAG shall be given full scholarship and living assistance in campus.

The bill was filed in the 15th Congress but for lack of time, its progress was halted at the committee level. In light of all these circumstances, the swift passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


CHRISTOPHER S. CO


RODEL M. BATOCABE

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. _____ **642**

Introduced by:

Hon. Christopher S. Co and Rodel M. Batocabe

AN ACT
CREATING THE PHILIPPINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND
GOOD GOVERNANCE

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

SECTION 1. *Creation.* There is hereby established a regular government agency to be known as the Jesse M. Robredo Philippine High School for Public Administration and Governance.

SEC. 2. *Mandate.* The High School is hereby mandated to implement a general secondary level program, combined with a special curriculum oriented to public administration and governance and geared to the early recognition and development of talent and skills in public administration and leadership, thus providing a continuing source of young political leaders.

SEC. 3. *Advisory Council.* The High School shall have an Advisory Council, composed of the following members:

- (a) President of the University of the Philippines who shall be the Chairman, ex-officio;
- (b) Undersecretary of the Department of Education shall be the Vice-Chairman, ex-officio;
- (c) Dean of the National College of Public Administration and Governance of the University of the Philippines, ex-officio;
- (d) Director of the Bureau of Secondary Education of the Department of Education, ex-officio;

- (e) Director of the Philippine High School for Public Administration and Governance, ex-officio;
- (f) A representative from a civil society organization engaged in the monitoring of public administration and governance to be appointed by the Chairman, upon recommendation of the Governing Board.

The Advisory Council shall meet at least once a month. A quorum of the Advisory Council shall consist of the majority of all its members holding office at the time the meeting is called and present thereat. Each member of the Advisory Council shall receive an honorarium in accordance with pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

SEC. 4. Powers and Functions. To accomplish the mandate of the High School, the Advisory Council shall advise the Director on the following:

- (a) Fixing of the site of the school;
- (b) Receipt for, and appropriations for the ends specified by law, of such sums as may be provided by law for the support of the High School;
- (c) Approval of appointments made and contracts entered into by the Director in connection with the employment of teachers, lecturers and other employees of the High School, fixing of their compensations and other conditions of employment, with concurrence by the Secretary of Budget and Management; and their removal for cause after due notice and hearing;
- (d) Providing fellowships for faculty members and approval of the grant of scholarships, stipends and other allowances to deserving students;
- (e) Determining the criteria for the selection and admission of students which shall include, among others, national competitive examinations;
- (f) Approval of the issuance of certificates or diplomas to successful candidates for graduation;
- (g) Receipt of in trust legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions, or other transfers of ownership and/or possession of real and personal properties of all kinds and administration of the same for the benefit of the High School or for aid to any of its students.
- (h) Approval of the annual work program and budget for endorsement to the Department of Budget and Management;

(i) Such other tasks as may be assigned to it by the Secretary of Education, which are necessary for the efficient and effective accomplishment of the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Authority to Solicit Donations, Grants and the Like.* Upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council, the Director may, without need of authority, approval or intervention by any government agency of any kind whatsoever, solicit, negotiate with, and receive from any public or private, domestic or foreign sources such legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions or other transfers of ownership and/or possession of real or personal properties of all kinds in favor and for the benefit of the High School, subject to ratification by the Secretary of Education; Provided, That the Director shall, upon recommendation by the Advisory Council and in accordance with pertinent accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations, prescribe the measures necessary for the proper use, maintenance and safekeeping of said donations, grants, endowments, contributions or transfers and the compliance of the terms and conditions thereon, if any.

SEC. 6. *Director.* The day-to-day operations of the High School shall be under the supervision and control of the Director in accordance with Section 4 hereof. He shall be appointed by the Secretary of Education, upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council. His functions, powers and duties, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of the principal of any high school in the Philippine educational system.

SEC. 7. *Civil Service Coverage.* Personnel of the High School shall be classified into:

- (a) Career service personnel, namely, those of the finance, administrative and personnel staff of the High School and its general education faculty.
- (b) Non-career service personnel, namely, visiting professors and instructors.

Career and non-career service personnel shall be subject to civil service rules and regulations on wage and position classifications. They shall be entitled to retirement benefits enjoyed by all government personnel, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations. Provisions for retirement shall be included

in the annual budget of the High School: Provided, That services of incumbents whose appointments have not been processed through the Civil Service Commission shall be considered as creditable services for purposes of claiming retirement or separation benefits as long as the necessary requirements are met.

SEC. 8. *Attachment.* The High School is hereby attached to the Department of Education, in consultation with the University of the Philippines, for policy and program implementation with special emphasis on subjects pertaining to public administration and governance, with the end in view of preparing its students for a career in the government service.

SEC. 9. *Public Administration and Governance High School Fund.* All legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions and other similar transfers of real and personal properties of all kinds received by the High School shall constitute the Public Administration and Governance High School Fund, which shall be expended or used by, or with the authority from, the Director upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council, to attain the purposes of this Act, in accordance with pertinent laws, rules and regulations. Signatories to this Fund shall be the Director and the officer of the High School responsible for its finances, regular reports on the status of the fund shall be submitted to the Advisory Council.

SEC. 10. *Position Structure and Staffing Pattern.* The position structure and staffing pattern of the High School shall be approved and prescribed by the Secretary of Education, upon the recommendation of the Director of the High School and with the concurrence of the Secretary of Budget and Management, within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act and the authorized positions created thereunder shall be filled with regular appointments by the High School or by the President of the Philippines, as the case may be.

SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Secretary of Education shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the efficient and effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 12. *Separability.* Any portion or provision of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect or nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect in the entirety.

SEC. 13. *Repeal.* All laws, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are likewise hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect upon approval, subject to its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.