

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **1800**



Introduced by Honorable GAVINI "Apol" C. PANCHO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

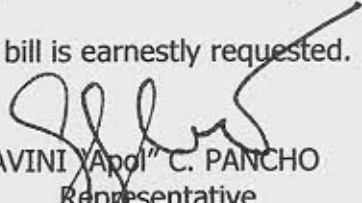
A suitable school site is one that best serves educational activities and enables the optimum utilization of resources. It should be climate change adaptive and a safe place from all kinds of hazards, natural and man-made.

The geographic location of the Philippines makes it vulnerable to a wide variety of natural phenomena such as typhoons/cyclones, floods, earthquakes, and other hazards. According to the 2013 German Watch Climate Risk Index, the Philippines is the 4th most vulnerable country to the damaging effect of climate change. The Climate Change Act of 2009 mandates that the state will enhance adaptive capacity and resilience of communities to climate change.

Flooding is the nation's most common natural disaster. Some floods develop slowly during an extended period of rain or in a warming trend followed by a heavy downpour. Flash floods can occur quickly, without any visible sign of rain. There are problems in the implementation of flood control projects, one of which is due to budget constraint. We have improved and upgraded various national, municipal and barangay roads but the sites or grounds where schools are located were left behind in the path of development. These school grounds are the second home of our nation's young generation.

The bill seeks to institutionalize the upgrading of all public school sites making it adaptive to all kinds of disasters and creating a safe environment for all learners, mentors, officials and staff of every school in the country.

In view thereof, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


GAVINI "Apol" C. PANCHO
Representative
2nd District, Province of Bulacan

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE UPGRADING AND INTEGRATING DISASTER
RISK REDUCTION MEASURES IN ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL SITES,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "SCHOOLS SAFETY ACT OF 2013".

SEC. 2. It is hereby declared a policy of the State to promote the right of every Filipino to education. It recognizes the people's need for a quality, affordable, safe and climate change adaptive educational environment for their intellectual, physical and social nourishment.

SEC. 3. The Department of Education shall, upon consultation with the Department of Budget and Management and the Department of Public Works and Highways, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to ensure the needed upgrading of the school site and be a disaster risk reduction compliant institution for the safety of all public school children and all teaching and non-teaching personnel.

SEC. 4. The appropriation necessary for the implementation of this Act for the year 2013 shall be sourced from the unobligated budget allocations of DepEd, DPWH and DBM under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,