

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2221



Introduced by: **CONGRESSMAN VICTOR J. YU**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Individual's right to education is an internationally accepted component of human rights enshrined in Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 14 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. It is understood to mean the entitlement to free, compulsory and equitable access to education.

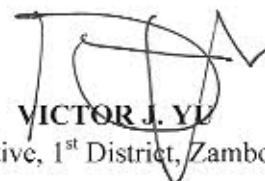
In our country, the Filipinos right to education is embodied in Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution where the state is mandated to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and to make such education accessible to all.

It is for this reason that our government has instituted free elementary and secondary education. However, access to educational systems deprived millions of children including adults of their right to education.

Consider for example in Barangay Paraiso, Mahayag, Zamboanga del Sur where the main source of income is agriculture and majority of the population is living in poverty. The only hope of their children is to earn good education to be assured of better jobs in the future. However, in order to avail of complete secondary education, students will have to travel eight (8) kilometers from their barangay to the nearest secondary school. As a result, a number of elementary graduates have sacrificed their right to education by ceasing to pursue secondary education due to inaccessibility of the schools.

As an initiative, the Parents-Teachers-Community Association (PTCA) and the local officials of the Municipality of Mahayag established an annex school known as Panagaan National High School – Paraiso Annex. However, most of the teachers are borrowed only from the mother school and the rest are paid by the PTCA and the LGU. Thus, it is believed that the separation of Panagaan National High School – Paraiso Annex from Panagaan National High School - Main Campus which is the very purpose of this bill will contribute a lot in providing accessible education to the nearby residents.

It is in this regard that this representation is seeking for the immediate approval of this bill Separating Panagaan National High School – Paraiso Annex in Brgy. Paraiso, Municipality of Mahayag, Province of Zamboanga del Sur from Panagaan National High School - Main Campus, to be known as Paraiso National High School.



VICTOR J. YU

Representative, 1st District, Zamboanga del Sur

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AN ACT

SEPARATING PANAGAAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PARAISO ANNEX, BARANGAY PANAGAAN, MUNICIPALITY OF MAHAYAG, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR FROM PANAGAAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – MAIN, TO BE KNOWN AS PARAISO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. Separation and Conversion into a National High School. The Panagaan National High School – Paraiso Annex in Brgy. Paraiso, Municipality of Mahayag, Province of Zamboanga del Sur is hereby separated from Panagaan National High School, Main Campus located in the Municipality of Mahayag, and is converted into an independent national high school to be known as Paraiso National High School.

SECTION 2. Transfer of Assets and Liabilities. All personnel, records, assets and liabilities of the Panagaan National High School – Paraiso Annex are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Paraiso National High School.

SECTION 3. Appropriations. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program and operationalization of the Paraiso National High School, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of Panagaan National High School – Paraiso Annex. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the school shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

SECTION 5. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.