

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5376



Introduced by REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The **Canadian American School (CAS)** in Manila is a modest attempt at building a truly "global village" or "global civil society" through an educational institution primarily based on the philosophy of interconnectedness. Such philosophy endeavors to immerse and inculcate in our young people, even as toddlers, of all nationalities and varying cultures, disciplines, and religions, to recognize and embrace the interconnectedness that binds us all.

As the world is gradually transforming itself literally into a global village, a more responsive kind of education is needed to adequately prepare our children for this challenging and multi-faceted environment. This is what **Canadian American School (CAS)** precisely aims to accomplish through its core pedagogic package of skilled mentoring, mindfulness training, foreign language immersion, multicultural values awareness and inclusiveness, and controlled exposure to technology. Critical thinking replaces rote memory, and education becomes a lived, natural hands-on, fun experience; core values are caught, not so much taught. Students become responsible global citizens, who will not only protect but also sustain our world and our future.

For said reasons, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roman T. Romulo".

HON. ROMAN T. ROMULO

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AN ACT
RECOGNIZING CANADIAN AMERICAN EDUCATION FOUNDATION, INC.
AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER,
GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES NECESSARY FOR ITS GROWTH
AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Canadian American Education Foundation, Inc., hereinafter referred to as the "School", is hereby declared an educational institution of international character authorized to operate educational programs that primarily and principally adhere to universally accepted and recognized educational policies.

SEC. 2. The School establishes its reason for existence as an international school on the basis of educational philosophies that are socially responsible, forward thinking, and democratically disseminated drawing inspiration from three main guiding principles, namely:

- a. Brain and Intelligence Research;
- b. Change and Social Policy Development; and
- c. Language and Culture Studies

The resultant unique international curriculum of the School thus integrates the latest scientific findings on brain and intelligence research as well as critical pedagogy pertaining to diversity and inclusive education; language study at the age when a child learns multiple languages naturally and intuitively; exposure to and proper use of technology; culturally responsive teaching through the use of multicultural, interactive, and manipulable learning materials.

SEC. 3. In particular, the School shall be authorized to establish, maintain and operate a progressive educational institution of high academic excellence in the humanities through its institutional structure denominated as the "CANADIAN AMERICAN SCHOOL," with some special feature or

emphasis on environmental awareness, socialization and introduction into certain laudable, typically Canadian-American values, conventions, and traditions that characterize such countries and social groups, with the view to an early acculturation or assimilation of such customs, mores and morals; and thereby offering a unique headstart and competitive advantage particularly for students intending to migrate, reside or pursue further studies in said countries.

SEC.4. The members of the School shall be comprised of the founding incorporators, subsequently elected members and elected parents or guardians, whether of Philippine or foreign nationality, of the children who have enrolled and attended the School for at least five (5) school years; *Provided*, That there shall be two classes of membership: Regular Members, with voting rights; and Associate Members, who by their qualifications and interest can contribute to the development of the school; That the school year shall be determined in accordance with the School's own calendar of studies and work schedule: *Provided, further*, That the School shall be governed by a Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, elected at large from among the School's Regular and Associate members of good standing.

SEC.5. To enable the School to continue carrying out its educational program, improve its standard of instruction and meet the special needs of the foreign temporary resident community for quality education, it shall:

- (a) accept applicants for admission, regardless of nationality, in accordance with its own eligibility standards, and rules for admission and grade placement: *Provided*, That no single alien nationality shall consist more than thirty percent (30%) of the entire student population in a given school year, as stated in the records of the School;
- (b) be managed and administered by a superintendent, who shall possess the qualifications prescribed by the Board;
- (c) upon consultation with the Secretary of Education, determine its own curriculum and teach whatever language or languages it may deem proper and determine the amount of fees and assessments which may be reasonably imposed upon its students, to maintain or conform to the School's standard of education;
- (d) maintain standards of education compatible with those obtained in similar schools of generally recognized standing;
- (e) employ its own teaching and management personnel selected by the Board either locally or abroad, from the Philippines or other countries, such foreign personnel being exempt from laws that impose 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;

- (f) apply for, receive, and accept as a qualified donee institution, as recognized by the appropriate government institution, such donations, endowments, grants, legacies and other gratuities from such education, environmental, charitable, religious and/or philanthropic institutions, located either in the Philippines or abroad.

SEC.6. The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC.7. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act is subsequently declared unconstitutional, the validity of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,