



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



Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5820**

Introduced by Honorable Evelina G. Escudero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a National High School in Barangay San Antonio (Sapa), Municipality of Pilar, Sorsogon.

In the Philippines, basic education is a right, not a privilege. Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution clearly provides for this:

"The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all."

During the past decade, the world has evolved into a knowledge-driven, integrated society that countries all over the world have instituted various mechanisms to cope with the changes, including a well-skilled, well-informed citizenry. The Philippines, for example, had recently committed itself to help the country respond to this new wave of development by reforming its system of education. Republic Act (RA) No. 10533, also known as the "*Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013*," provides that the State "*shall create a functional basic education system that will develop productive and responsible citizens equipped with the essential competencies, skills and values for both life-long learning and employment.*"

To implement RA 10533, the country needs more schools to accommodate all the students. There is still a massive shortage in classrooms and school facilities

which hampers the implementation of the government's efforts to promote functional literacy. In rural areas like the Municipality of Pilar, there are only eight public high schools serving 49 barangays, most of which are situated in the town proper or "poblacions." This poses a problem to the growing number of graduating elementary students in Barangay San Antonio (Sapa) who will proceed to high school in the years to come. The existing public high schools are far from San Antonio and sending the children to these schools would mean additional expenses for the residents in the form of transportation and food allowance. Establishing the San Antonio National High School will not only benefit the residents of the barangay but children from nearby areas as well.

Nation-building rests solely on the capabilities of our youth. Suffice it to say, the country needs well-educated masses.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



EVELINA G. ESCUDERO



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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN ANTONIO (SAPA), MUNICIPALITY OF PILAR, PROVINCE OF SORSOGON, TO BE KNOWN AS SAN ANTONIO 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. There is hereby established under the supervision of the Department of Education, a national high school in Barangay San Antonio (Sapa), Municipality of Pilar, Province of Sorsogon to be known as San Antonio National High School.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the San Antonio National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

Approved,