

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6492



Introduced by Congressman Alfredo D. Vargas III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the available data from the Department of Education show that the incidence of dropout among high school students have continued to rise, albeit slowly, since 2007. In the school year 2011-2012, the dropout rate in the secondary level was pegged at 7.82%.

The reasons behind the gradual rising of the dropout rate in the secondary level are economic in nature. High school dropouts often cite the high cost of education or dire need for employment to financially support their families.

While the government has implemented numerous programs to make education more accessible to the youth, more programs need to be done to ensure that Filipino students complete their basic education.

One program that may address the dropout problem in the country is the opening of night schools in the Philippines. Having evening classes offers a viable option for Filipino high school students to continue their studies while fulfilling their other obligations or helping their families earn a living during daytime.

This bill seeks to establish at least one night high school in every congressional district in the country using existing high school and elementary school facilities. Through this, we are ensuring that our students are given opportunities to pursue their studies while fulfilling their other responsibilities.

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


ALFREDO D. VARGAS III

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AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE OPENING OF NIGHT CLASSES USING EXISTING HIGH SCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACILITIES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. There shall be established night school classes using the existing elementary and high school facilities all over the country. Initially, at least one (1) night high school shall be established in each Congressional District.

Section 2. All public elementary and high schools shall open their school facilities to be used for the establishment of night school classes.

Section 3. The night high school shall offer general secondary education proper based on the Department of Education (DepEd) approved curriculum.

Section 4. The night high school shall be open to all qualified students.

Section 5. The teachers of the night high school shall be paid compensation not less than provided in Republic Act No. 4670, otherwise known as "The Magna Carta for Public School Teachers", and other existing laws, computed on an hourly basis and taking into account such premium compensation rates provided by law for night time service and overtime work.

Section 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The DepEd shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Section 7. *Funding.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

Section 8. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree, executive order, or issuance, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,