

**Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Quezon City**

**Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session**

House Bill No. 4511



Introduced by Hon. CARLOS ROMAN L. UYBARRETA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The German-Filipino relations have never been better. Since 1961, when Germany decided to make the Philippines as one of its development partners in Asia, it is now the fourth largest bilateral donor after Japan, the United States and Australia.

Around 876 million euros have already been given as total assistance made by Germany. In addition, the Philippines receives substantial assistance from the World Bank, European Union and the Asian Development Bank, where Germany is the biggest European donor.

German industries have also started to make its mark in the Philippine economy providing investment and employment. To name a few, Lufthansa Technik, Continental, Bosch, Porsche/Audi, Siemens and Schenker, have all set-up business offices and/or plants in the Philippines to infuse the much needed foreign investments.

As a result of the growing German participation in the Philippine economy, a total of around twenty thousand (20,000) German nationals are permanent residents in the Philippines where majority have opted to reside in Metro Manila. Furthermore, in order to meet the demands of the German expatriates, the Deutsche Schule (German School) was set up in 1980 and recognized by the Department of Education. The school's population immediately grew necessitating the transfer to a bigger campus twice: to University of Life and later to Better Living in Paranaque City along with the French School Manila.

In 2006, the Deutsche Schule changed its name to Deutsche International Schule Manila, Inc. to comply with Philippine laws and regulations. In 2008, it further changed its name to German European School Manila, Inc. (GESM, for brevity) in preparation of its intent be recognized as an international school.

Presently, GESM has a total of 198 students of different nationalities namely: Germans (69), Filipino-German (41), Filipinos (26), Americans (7), American-Germans (4), Swiss-Filipinos (4), Swiss (5), Dutch and Dutch-Filipino (8), Austrians (4), British (7) among others.

Clearly, the patronage of the European community in the Philippines of the GESM patently shows the need for the same to be established as an international school to enable itself to provide the unique German/European mode and procedure of education that endeared the school to its captive clients.

For this purpose, the bill aims to recognize the German European School Manila, Inc the status as an international school and granting certain prerogatives conducive to its growth.

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



CARLOS ROMAN L. UYBARRETA
Representative, 1-CARE Party List

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15 **AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA,**
16 **INCORPORATED AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF**
17 **INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN**
18 **PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND FOR**
19 **OTHER PURPOSES**
20

21 Sec. 1. German European School Manila, Inc., herein referred to as
22 the German School, is hereby declared an educational institution of
23 international character authorized to operate recognized German
24 educational programs that primarily and principally adhere to,
25 specifically, German educational programs and /or course curriculum
26 and/or generally, to universally accepted and recognized educational
27 policies.
28

29 Sec. 2. The members of the German School, shall be comprised of
30 parents or guardians, of the children who have enrolled and attended
31 the School for at least one (1) school year: Provided, That the majority of
32 whom shall be German and/or Filipino citizens and the minority of
33 whom shall be of foreign nationality; Provided, further, that the school
34 year shall be determined in accordance with the German School's own
35 calendar of studies and work schedule: Provided, finally, That the
36 German School shall be governed by a Board of Trustees, herein referred
37 to as the Board, elected at large from among the corporation's German
38 and/or Filipino members of good standing.
39

40 Sec. 3. To enable the German School to continue carrying out its
41 educational program, improve its standard of instruction and meet the
42 special needs of the foreign temporary resident community for quality
43 education, it shall:
44

- 45 (a) Be able to accept provisions and donations of every kind to carry
46 out the purposes of the German School and be entitled to use
47 properties, real or personal, so donated and to construct and own
48 buildings thereon exclusively for educational purposes: Provided,
49 That for any reason, the German School, ceases to occupy and/or
50 use real properties it may acquire by virtue of this Act, the
51 properties and all improvements thereon of permanent nature
52 shall accrue to the Government of the Republic of the Philippines;
53
54 (b) Whenever necessary to carry out its objectives, have the right to
55 obtain leases on real properties, acquire personal properties,
56 tangible or intangible, or any interests in such properties, by

57 purchase, lease, barter, donation, gift or otherwise, and dispose
58 of, mortgage or encumber them for the benefit of the school
59 concerned;
60

61 (c) Accept applicants for admission, regardless of nationality, in
62 accordance with its own eligibility standards, and rules for
63 admission and grade placement: Provided, That no single alien
64 nationality shall consist more than thirty percent (30%) of the
65 entire student population in a given school year, as stated in the
66 records of the School: Provided, further, that the Board of the
67 German School may allow the enrolment of as many German
68 and/or Filipino citizens in a given school year that the total
69 number of German and/or Filipino pupils/students may exceed
70 the thirty (30%) percent limit as stated above;
71

72 (d) Be managed and administered by a superintendent, who shall be
73 a German citizen and shall possess the qualifications prescribed
74 by the Board;
75

76 (e) Determine its own curriculum and teach the German language
77 and whatever language or languages it may deem proper and
78 determine; the amount of fees and assessments which may be
79 reasonably imposed upon its pupils and/or students, to
80 maintain or conform to the German School's standard of
81 education;
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83 (f) Maintain standards of education compatible with those obtaining
84 in similar schools in Germany, the Philippines and other
85 International educational institutions of generally recognized
86 standing;
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88 (g) Employ its own teaching and management personnel selected by
89 the Board either locally or abroad, from Germany and/or the
90 Philippines or other nationalities, such foreign personnel being
91 exempt from laws that imposes nationality restrictions on control
92 and administration of educational institutions, except laws that
93 have been or will be enacted for the protection of employees:
94 Provided, That such exemption shall not extend to their liability
95 for income taxes, unless otherwise provided by a bilateral
96 agreement;
97

98 (h) Promote international friendship, goodwill and understanding
99 among the members of the foreign community and the citizens of
100 the Philippines; and
101

102 (i) Not teach anything derogatory to the prestige and well-being of
103 the Philippines and its people, nor those which will subvert its
104 institutions and government.
105

106 Sec. 4. The Secretary of Education, in consultations with the
107 German Embassy and the members of the Board of the German School
108 shall issue such rules as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of
109 this Act.
110

111 Sec. 5. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Act is
112 subsequently declared unconstitutional, the validity of the remaining
113 provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.
114

115 Sec. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.