

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4514**



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ISAGANI S. AMATONG
3rd District, Zamboanga del Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sec. 1, Art. XIV, 1987 Constitution provides that: ***"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."***

This bill seeks to anchor on this constitutional policy as an explicit expression of the state to provide quality education accessible to all. The mandate requires government to firm up its stand on education. In fact, this guarantee makes the Department of Education receive the highest budget priority in our government's annual appropriation.

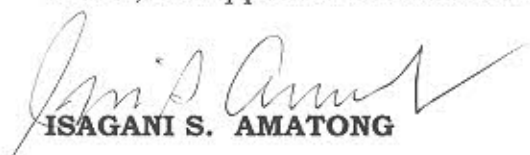
Education is an important mechanism of our people to liberate themselves from the bondage of ignorance, poverty and counter insurgency problems. It remains a good equalizer among people whatever its status in life.

Barangay Pianon is in a remote rural area of the 3rd District of Zamboanga del Norte under the fourth class municipality of Kalawit. The community mainly relies on agriculture as its basic source of income, and its impoverished constituents greatly aspire on education as a leverage to achieve success in life.

Through the initiative of the local leaders, stakeholders and local government unit of Kalawit, the Kalawit National High School-Pianon Annex was established. The students are from far-flung barangays who used to trek bumpy roads daily just to attend classes. Based on DepEd statistics, the enrolment for SY 2016-2017 has reached 288 and steadily growing.

With the introduction of the K-12 program of the DepEd, an anticipated increase in classroom and teacher shortage will be experienced. However, the establishment of an independent National High School in Pianon, Kalawit, Zamboanga del Norte will help resolve the pressing demands of accessible quality education and the classroom-to-teacher-to-student shortage ratio in the area.

Hence, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


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AN ACT

SEPARATING THE KALAWIT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PIANON ANNEX IN BARANGAY PIANON, MUNICIPALITY OF KALAWIT, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE FROM THE KALAWIT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PIANON NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. Separation and Conversion into a National High School - The Kalawit National High School – Pianon Annex in Barangay Pianon, Municipality of Kalawit, Province of Zamboanga del Norte is hereby separated from the Kalawit National High School and converted into an independent national high school to be known as Pianon National High School.

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

SECTION 3. Appropriations - The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Pianon National High School, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the Kalawit National High School – Pianon 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 purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.