

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

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4763



Introduced by **Representative Frederick F. Abueg**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This House Bill was previously filed in the Sixteenth Congress as House Bill No. 4532. It was first read on June 4, 2014 and was referred to the Committee on Basic Education and Culture.

The proposed bill seeks to provide efficient and effective delivery of services, supervision, and administration of the Department of Education Division of Palawan by dividing the Department of Education Schools Division Office of Palawan into two (2) separate schools division offices to be known as the Division of Palawan South and the Division of Palawan North.

In 1900, the Division of Palawan was attached to the Division of Mindanao and Jolo based in Zamboanga. On October 1, 1901, this Division was renamed Division of Mindanao, Jolo and Calamianes. During that time, Palawan was known as Calamianes. In July 1902, Philippine Act No. 477 separating the Division of Paragua, former name of Palawan, from its mother Division was enacted. The Division of Paragua was composed of the entire mainland of Paragua and other islands within its jurisdiction under the Governor of the province who concomitantly acted as the Division Superintendent. Every pueblo or town then constituted a school district.

The present Division of Palawan is beset with many challenges caused by the province's geographical characteristics. Effective instructional and field supervision is difficult to achieve thus affecting the faculty and students' performance. Records show that the Division's performance for the regional and national achievement tests fall below

the regional and national mean. Moreover, the total number of students in addition to the teaching and non-teaching personnel of the Division of Palawan is equivalent to four (4) divisions in MIMAROPA Region IV-B.

Separating the DepEd Schools Division of Palawan into two (2) Divisions will provide better supervision and administration of schools in the province. The Division of Palawan South shall be comprised of schools in the municipalities of Narra, Quezon, Sofronio Española, Brooke's Point, Bataraza, Rizal and Balabac. The mother Division shall be renamed as the Division of Palawan North and shall be comprised of schools in the municipalities of Roxas, San Vicente, Dumarán, Araceli, Taytay, El Nido, Coron, Culion, Busuanga, Linapacan, Cagayancillo, Cuyo, Magsaysay, Agutaya and Kalayaan.

Schools in the municipality of Aborlan shall be added to the DepEd Schools Division of Puerto Princesa City, considering that said municipality is within the newly-created Third Congressional District of Palawan. This is for easier management of the schools located in the said district and so that services are efficiently delivered in the area.

With the creation of separate Divisions for Palawan South and Palawan North, desired efficiency and effectiveness of DepEd services to the public will be attained. Likewise, instructional supervision to check compliance and implementation of curriculum requirements will be conducted regularly.

In accordance with the State's policy of providing quality education for its citizens, the approval of this bill is earnestly recommended.



FREDERICK F. ABUEG
Deputy Speaker

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AN ACT

**DIVIDING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOLS DIVISION
OFFICE OF PALAWAN INTO TWO SEPARATE DEPED SCHOOLS DIVISION
OFFICES TO BE KNOWN AS DIVISION OF PALAWAN SOUTH AND DIVISION
OF PALAWAN NORTH AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 SECTION 1. There shall be established under the supervision of the Department
2 of Education, two DepEd Schools Division Offices in the Province of Palawan,
3 hereinafter referred to as the Division of Palawan South and the Division of Palawan
4 North. The Division of Palawan South shall have jurisdiction over the school districts
5 within the municipalities of Narra, Quezon, Sofronio Española, Brooke's Point, Bataraza,
6 Rizal and Balabac. The Division of Palawan North shall have jurisdiction over the school
7 districts within the municipalities of Roxas, San Vicente, Dumaran, Araceli, Taytay, El
8 Nido, Coron, Culion, Busuanga, Linapacan, Cagayancillo, Cuyo, Magsaysay, Agutaya
9 and Kalayaan. Schools in the municipality of Aborlan shall be added to the DepEd
10 Schools Division of Puerto Princesa City.

1 SEC. 2. The Schools Division Superintendents for the two separate Divisions
2 must possess the necessary qualifications required by the Department of Education and
3 shall be appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Education.

4 All personnel of the two separate Divisions shall also possess necessary
5 qualifications required by the Department of Education.

6 SEC. 3. All existing records, assets, properties and liabilities pertaining to the
7 separate jurisdictions of the Division of Palawan South and the Division of Palawan
8 North shall be respectively transferred thereto.

9 SEC. 4. The funds necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the
10 two Divisions shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following
11 its enactment into law and thereafter.

12 SEC. 5. The Secretary of the Department of Education shall issue such rules and
13 regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

14 SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations,
15 and issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
16 hereby repealed and amended accordingly.

17 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,