



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

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5033

Introduced by Representative Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a separate schools division office in Canlaon City, Province of Negros Oriental.

Section 2 (1), Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that *“the State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.”*

Consistent with the aforesaid mandate of the 1987 Constitution, this bill recognizes the role of local government units in bringing quality education by decentralizing governance to the field while serving as a channel between local communities and state education departments by establishing a separate schools division office in Canlaon City.

Since basic quality education is essential to nation-building, it is imperative upon the government to make it accessible to all. Together with the State's mandate of providing quality education to its citizens, is the responsibility to efficiently supervise the operations of all public and private schools, to ensure compliance of quality standards for education programs, and to promote the welfare and development of teachers and non-teaching personnel in schools.

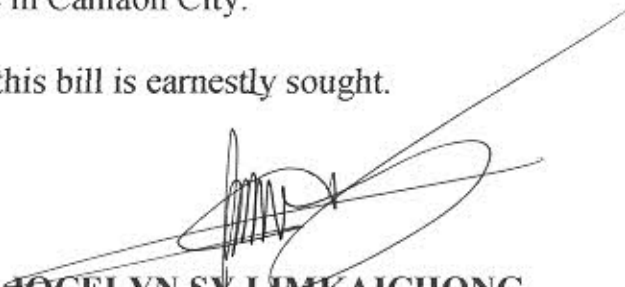
Inasmuch as the policies and principles for governance of basic education need to be translated into programs and services at the local level, governance of

education must be made available locally or in the field offices. By doing so, it will be empowered with the necessary authority to implement these programs and projects to meet the needs and aspirations of an individual and society.

This proposed bill responds to the request of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Canlaon City, Negros Oriental, through Resolution No. 110, Series of 2016 dated November 3, 2016, duly adopted and approved, which seeks to establish a schools division office in Canlaon City. The move of the City of Canlaon to apply for a separate schools division office will bring more beneficial effects not only in the management and operations of the schools in the division, but most especially it will open the door of opportunity to qualified residents such as professional teachers of the locality to avail of more teaching positions and be given top priority.

Canlaon City is 166 kilometers away from Dumaguete City where the division office of the Department of Education is situated. It is almost five (5) hours away from Canlaon City by bus. Indeed, there is a dire need for the establishment and creation of a separate schools division office in Canlaon City.

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



JOCELYN SY LIMKAICHONG



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE IN THE
CITY OF CANLAON, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

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

SECTION 1. A separate Schools Division Office of the Department of Education is hereby established in Canlaon City. The Schools Division Office shall be headed by a division superintendent who must possess the necessary qualifications required by the Department of Education. The division superintendent shall have authority, accountability and responsibility as vested by law.

The staff complement of the Schools Division Office in Canlaon City must also possess the necessary qualifications required by the Department of Education.

The salaries of the supervisors, principals, teachers and other operational expenses of the primary, intermediate, high schools and other public schools in the city shall be borne by the National Government: *Provided*, That the powers and duties of the local government as contained in the Local Government Code in support of the schools shall not be abridged, curtailed or diminished.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Schools Division Office in Canlaon City, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Section 86 of Republic Act No. 3445 is hereby repealed. All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,