

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

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5219



Introduced by Representative Lucy Torres-Gomez

EXPLANATORY NOTE

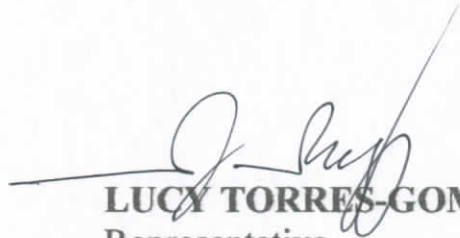
According to the 1987 Philippine Constitution “The State shall give *priority* to education, xxx to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development” (Sec. 17, Art. II). It further provides that “The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education *accessible* to all (Sec. 1, Art. XIV). And it also mandates that “The State shall: (1) Establish, maintain, and support a complete, *adequate*, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society (Sec. 2 [1], Art. XIV, all italics supplied).

The Ormoc City Division is composed of 83 elementary schools and 16 secondary schools. The 83 elementary schools serve a total of 31,286 pupils whereas the 16 secondary schools serve a total of 15,727 students. Given these two (2) ratios of schools and students, clearly there is now an acute lack secondary schools. As a result of this great disproportion, the Ormoc City National High School – the central secondary institution – is suffering from heavy congestion. The situation is no longer conducive to optimal learning. It is failing the adequacy test mentioned in the fundamental charter. The overpopulation is now depriving students of their right to access quality education.

It is for this reason that this measure calls for the establishment of a separate/new national high school in Barangay San Antonio, Ormoc City. The proposed new high school is not within the 1-2 kilometer radius from the nearest secondary school, hence, would be viable. Its feeder schools would include the Macabug Elementary School (with 508 enrollees, including 76 graduating pupils), the Mabini Elementary School (with 175 enrollees, including 24 Junior High School pupils), the Mahayahay

Primary School (with 88 enrollees, including 9 prospective Junior High School pupils), the Quezon Jr. Elementary School (with 218 enrollees, including 30 candidate pupils fo graduation), Canuntog Elementary School (with 288 enrollees, including 37 Grade Six level pupils), and the San Antonio Elementary School (with 333 enrollees, including 60 Grade Six level pupils).

The early approval of this bill therefore is earnestly requested.



LUCY TORRES-GOMEZ
Representative
Fourth District of Leyte

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HOUSE BILL NO. 5219

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY
SAN ANTONIO, CITY OF ORMOC IN THE PROVINCE OF
LEYTE TO BE KNOWN AS SAN ANTONIO NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Education, a national high school in Barangay San Antonio, City of Ormoc in the Province of Leyte to be known as San Antonio National High School.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the San Antonio National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall issue rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. L. ...", written in a cursive style.