

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. **8118**



Introduced by Representatives **John Marvin "Yul Servo" Nieto, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Eric M. Martinez, Federico II "Ricky" S. Sandoval, and Dale "Along" R. Malapitan**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

As a manifestation of support to this timely piece of legislation, this representation respectfully refiles this bill, which has constantly been receiving support from the past and present (Rep. Harlin Neil J. Abayon III's HB 7874) Congress.

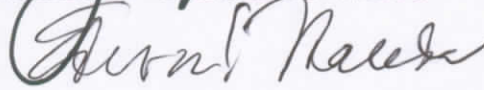
Public schools nationwide should be equipped with all the necessary precautionary measures that will ensure and safeguard the health and safety of every student. This bill aims to establish the School Health and Safety Office (SHSO) in each public school that will be handled and supervised by qualified and certified personnel.

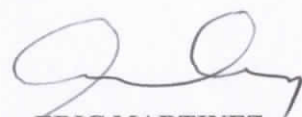
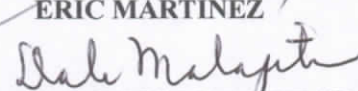
The primary responsibilities of the SHSO will include the supervision of the school canteen and campus security, the implementation of school nutrition programs and immunization campaigns, and the primary handling of the numerous other related non-teaching roles and functions that will be vested upon the SHSO of each public school, including state universities and colleges, and public technical- vocational schools by their respective school administration.

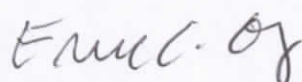
Currently, the state of those aforementioned responsibilities in schools are lacking, and in some cases, either inadequate, or borderline, non-existing. Public schools are lacking personnel that directly oversee and administrate these important aspects of service that students should be receiving as part of their right to Health. They should always be assured that student safety is of paramount concern while within the confines of what they consider as their second home.

This bill seeks to address crucial and pertinent health, safety, and security issues that are currently being experienced by the different schools nationwide.

In view of the foregoing, the favorable consideration and approval of this proposed measure is respectfully and most earnestly sought.


JOHN MARVIN "YUL SERVO" NIETO

EDWARD VERA PEREZ MACEDA


ERIC MARTINEZ

DALE "ALONG" MALAPITAN



FEDERICO II "RICKY" SANDOVAL

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE SCHOOL HEALTH AND SAFETY OFFICE IN EVERY PUBLIC
SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY, PROVIDING FUNDSTHEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

Section 1. **Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "School Health and Safety Act of 2018".

Section 2. **Declaration of Policy.** - It is the declared policy of the State, protect the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them and to promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all.

Section 3. **School Health and Safety Office.** There is hereby established a School Health and Safety Office, hereinafter referred to as SHSO, in every public school, including state universities and colleges and public technical-vocational schools.

The SHSO shall be attached to the Office of the School Head for the Basic Education Schools, and to the Vice President/Assistant Dean or Director for Administration for the Technical-Vocational and Higher Education Schools.

Section 4. **Roles, Functions, Responsibilities, and Accountabilities.** The SHSO shall have these primary roles, functions, responsibilities, and accountabilities:

1. Formulate, recommend to the school head for approval, and implement the following policies, programs and projects involving and affecting the students, faculty, and non-teaching personnel of the school: (1) Comprehensive School Health Management Program; (2) Child Protection Policy; and (3) School Security, Safety, and Disaster Preparedness Management Program;
2. Participate in the formulation and implementation of the Campus Crisis Management Plan;
3. Lead in the implementation of all school nutrition, immunization, dental extraction, reproductive health, and other on-campus health care activities;

4. Serve as first responders to medical, safety, and security emergencies and incidents on campus and within the immediate one hundred meters vicinity of the campus;
5. Conduct first aid training and drills;
6. Oversee the management and operation of school canteens;
7. Maintain and secure health, consultation, and counseling records according to standards set by the Department of Education, National Privacy Commission, Department of Health, and Department of Social Welfare and Development;
8. Oversee and secure safekeeping of any hazardous chemicals and flammable liquids;
9. Protect the campus from any security threats and intruders;
10. Manage the daily operation of the campus closed-circuit television (CCTV) system and emergency communications devices;
11. Conduct daily fire safety and hazards checks throughout the campus;
12. Supervise and coordinate fire, earthquake, evacuation, and campus lockdown drills;
13. Implement security and safety searches for firearms, bladed weapons, and devices that can cause serious physical injuries, illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, and other contraband;
14. Call for response units from the local Barangay Office, Philippine National Police, and Bureau of Fire Protection;
15. Conduct research and surveys relevant and related to the functions of the SHSO;
16. Assist in the classroom teaching of subjects and modules within the competencies and specializations of the SHSO personnel;
17. Participate in the administration of educational tests mandated by the Department of Education;
18. Attend professional development training and competencies updating/upgrading courses;
19. Prepare the budget of the SHSO and implement the approved budget; and
20. Follow government accounting and auditing rules and regulations, the SHSO shall maintain, safe keep, and account for all funds, equipment, furniture, fixtures, supplies, and other inventory items entrusted to, assigned to, and used by the SHSO.

The SHSO shall perform such other related or secondary functions as may be assigned to them by the principal, acting principal, or officer in charge of the school.

Section 5. Complement of SHSO personnel. - Professional personnel of the SHSO must possess the requisite civil service qualifications and license to practice their profession from the Professional Regulation Commission. Personnel not required to possess PRC license must have appropriate competencies certification from duly-accredited or authorized institutions. The number of full-time SHSO personnel in a public school shall be determined by student population size as follows:

For a public school, extension campus, and branch with student population of up to one thousand:

1. one (1) medical doctor
2. one (1) nurse;
3. one (1) dental hygienist;
4. one (1) nutritionist;
5. one (1) guidance counselor or psychologist;
6. one (1) electrician;
7. two (2) security guards, and
8. two (2) utility workers.

For a public school with student population ranging from more than one thousand but no more than three thousand:

1. one (1) medical doctor
2. two (2) nurses;
3. two (2) doctors of dental medicine;
4. one (1) nutritionist;
5. one (1) social worker;
6. one (1) guidance counselor or psychologist;
7. one (1) electrician;
8. three (3) security guards; and
9. two (2) utility workers.

For a public school with student population of more than three thousand:

1. two (2) medical doctors;
2. three (3) nurses;
3. two (2) doctors of dental medicine;
4. two (2) nutritionists;
5. two (2) social workers;
6. two (2) guidance counselors or psychologists;
7. one (1) psychometrician;
8. three (3) emergency medical technicians;
9. four (4) security guards;
10. two (2) electricians;
11. three (3) utility workers, and
12. three (3) volunteer firefighters.

Subject to availability of funds and absolute necessity, the school head may augment, but not decrease the number of SHSO personnel provided in this Act, through job order or contract of service.

Section 6. Structure and Staffing Pattern. - Subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and Management, the Department shall determine its organizational structure and create new divisions or units as it may deem necessary, and shall appoint officers and employees of the Department in accordance with the civil service law, rules, and regulations.

Section 7. Separation and Retirement from Service. - Employees who are separated from service within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act as a result of the consolidation and/or reorganization under the provisions of this Act shall receive separation benefits to which they may be entitled under Executive Order No. 366, s. 2004: Provided, that those who are qualified to retire under existing retirement laws shall be allowed to retire and receive retirement benefits to which they may be entitled under applicable laws and issuances.

Section 8. **Appropriations.** - The amount needed for the initial implementation of this Act shall be taken from the current fiscal year's appropriation of the agencies abolished by this Act and all agencies herein absorbed by the Department. The current budgets of the agencies attached to the Department shall remain intact for the current year. Thereafter, the amount needed for the operation and maintenance of the Department shall be included in the General Appropriations Act

Section 9. **Separability.** - If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 10. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, executive orders, and administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 11. **Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the online version of the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or with established internet website presence.

Approved,