

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8514



Introduced by Rep. Abdullah D. Dimaporo and Rep. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Province of Lanao del Norte that will focus on Islamic Arts and Culture of Mindanao. Currently, there is only one Philippine High School for the Arts in our country located at Mt. Makiling, Los Baños, Laguna.

Mindanao is the second largest Island in the Philippines and is home to the majority of Filipino Muslims. It is composed of different tribes, ethnicities, and cultures. Through the Philippine High School of the Arts – Lanao del Norte, the different arts and cultures in Mindanao can be preserved. PHSA – Lanao del Norte will cater to the needs of artistically inclined students through its unique secondary education curriculum. The establishment of PHSA – Lanao del Norte will serve as an avenue for students to learn the different art forms Mindanao has to offer. Furthermore, it will greatly help in improving cultural sensitivities among Filipinos and will help bridge the different cultures and religions in Mindanao.

With the integration of arts and culture in education, this Bill will therefore help us better our understanding of Islamic Arts and the different cultures in Mindanao.

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


ABDULLAH D. DIMAPORO
Second District, Lanao del Norte


MOHAMAD KHALID Q. DIMAPORO
First District, Lanao del Norte

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS –
LANAO DEL NORTE**

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

SECTION 1. *Creation.* There is hereby established in Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte, a high school to be known as the Philippine High School for the Arts – Lanao del Norte (PHSA-LDN) Campus for Islamic Arts, which shall be a regular government entity.

SECTION 2. *Mandate.* The High School shall implement a general secondary education program, combined with a special curriculum oriented to culture and Islamic arts geared to the early recognition and development of highly talented children exceptionally gifted in the arts, thus providing a continuing source of artists of excellence and leaders in the preservation and promotion of the Filipino heritage in the arts.

SECTION 3. *Advisory Council.* PHSA-LDN shall have an Advisory Council composed of the following members:

- a. The President of the Cultural Center of the Philippines who shall be the Chairperson, ex-officio;
- b. The Secretary of the Department of Education who shall be the Vice-Chairperson, ex-officio;
- c. The Chairperson of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, ex-officio;
- d. The Campus Director of the Philippine High School for the Arts – Lanao del Norte, ex-officio;

- e. A representative from each of the fields of music, dance, theatre arts, visual arts, and literature to be appointed by the Chairperson, upon recommendation of the Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council shall meet at least once a month. A quorum of the Advisory Council shall consist of the majority of all its members holding office at the time the meeting is called and present thereat. Each member of the Advisory Council shall receive an honorarium in accordance with pertinent laws, rules, and regulations.

SECTION 4. *Powers and Functions.* To accomplish the mandate of PHSA-LDN, the Advisory Council shall advise the Campus Director on the following:

- a. Fixing the site of the school;
- b. Receipt for, and appropriations for the ends specified by law, of such sums as may be provided by law for the support of PHSA-LDN
- c. Approval of appointments made and contracts entered into by the Campus Director in connection with the employment of teachers, lecturers and other employees of PHSA-LDN, fixing of their compensations and other conditions of employment, with concurrence by the Secretary of Budget and Management; and their removal for cause after due notice and hearing;
- d. Providing fellowships for faculty members and approval of the grant of scholarships, stipends, and other allowances to deserving students;
- e. Determining the criteria for the selection and admission of students which shall include, among others, national competitive examination;
- f. Approval of the issuance of certificates or diplomas to successful candidates for graduation
- g. Receipt of in trust legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions, or other transfers of ownership and/or possession of real and personal properties of all kinds and administration of the same for the benefit of PHSA-LDN or for aid to any of its students;
- h. Approval of the annual work program and budget for endorsement to the Department of Budget and Management; and

- i. Such other tasks as may be assigned to it by the Secretary of the Department of Education, which are necessary for the efficient and effective accomplishment of the purposes of this Act.

SECTION. 5. *Authority to Solicit Donations, Grants, and the Like.* Upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council, the Campus Director may, without need of authority, approval or intervention by any government agency of any kind whatsoever, solicit, negotiate with, and receive from any public or private, domestic or foreign sources such legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions or other transfers of ownership and/or possession of real or personal properties of all kinds in favor and for the benefit of PHSA-LDN, subject to ratification by the Secretary of the Department of Education;

Provided, that the Campus Director shall, upon recommendation by the Advisory Council and in accordance with pertinent accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations, prescribe the measures necessary for the proper use, maintenance and safekeeping of said donations, grants, endowments, contributions or transfers and the compliance of the terms and conditions thereon, if any.

All such legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions or other transfers of ownership and/or possession of real or personal properties of all kinds in favor and for the benefit of PHSA-LDN or for its support and maintenance or for aid to any of its students shall be tax-exempt and shall be an allowable deduction from the gross income of the donors. For purpose of income tax, PHSA-LDN shall be exempt from the payment of all taxes, fees, assessments and other charges of the Government, its branches and subdivisions.

SECTION. 6 *Campus Director.* The day-to-day operations of PHSA-LDN shall be under the supervision and control of the Campus Director in accordance with Section 4 hereof. He shall be appointed by the Secretary of Education, upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council. His functions, powers and duties, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of the principal of any high school in the Philippine educational system.

The Campus Director shall have a fixed term of six (6) years, renewable for another term at the option of the Advisory Council. The Campus Director shall not be removed from office except for cause.

SECTION. 7. *Civil Service Coverage.* Personnel of PHSA-LDN shall be classified into:

- a. Career service personnel, namely, those of the finance, administrative and personnel staff of the PHSA-LDN and its general education faculty; and
- b. Non-career service personnel, namely, visiting professors and arts instructors.

Career and non-career service personnel shall be subject to civil service rules and regulations on wage and position classifications. They shall be entitled to retirement benefits enjoyed by all government personnel, in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations. Provisions for retirement shall be included in the annual budget of PHSA-LDN.

SECTION. 8. *Attachment.* PHSA-LDN is hereby attached to the Department of Education, in consultation with the Cultural Center of the Philippines, for policy and program implementation with special emphasis on subjects pertaining to the arts, with the end in view of preparing its students for a career in the arts.

SECTION. 9. *Arts High School Fund.* All legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions and other similar transfers of real and personal properties of all kinds received by the PHSA-LDN shall constitute the Arts High School Fund, which shall be expended or used by, or with the authority from, the Campus Director upon the recommendation of the Advisory Council, to attain the purposes of this Act, in accordance with pertinent laws, rules and regulations. Signatories to this Fund shall be the Campus Director and the officer of PHSA-LDN responsible for its finances, regular reports on the status of the fund shall be submitted to the Advisory Council.

SECTION. 10. *Position Structure and Staffing Pattern.* The position structure and staffing pattern of PHSA-LDN shall be approved and prescribed by the Secretary of Education, upon the recommendation of the Campus Director of PHSA-LDN and with the concurrence of the Secretary of Budget and Management, within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of this Act and the authorized positions created thereunder shall be filled with regular appointments by the PHSA-LDN or by the President of the Philippines, as the case may be.

SECTION. 11. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act is hereby authorized to be appropriated in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The Secretary of Education shall prescribe the rules and regulations for the efficient and effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SECTION. 13. *Separability Clause.* Any portion or provision of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect or nullifying other portions or provisions hereof.

SECTION. 14. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION. 15. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,