

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8781



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ANN K. HOFER

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes the role of the youth in nation building. It gives priority to education as a means to promote social progress and total human development. Thus, there is a need to ensure that students of higher educational institutions have easy access to the services of government agencies tasked to promote and prioritize education as a catalyst of the country's growth and progress.

It takes more than three (3) hours for students and parents in Zamboanga Sibugay to reach the CHED Regional Office in Zamboanga City. The distance, travel time and cost of transportation involved impel this representation to propose the creation of a CHED Provincial Office in the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay to cater to the needs of the Sibugaynons. This measure aims to provide the people of Zamboanga Sibugay access to CHED for their educational concerns such as, but not limited to, applying or following up applications for student financial assistance and grants, and securing eligibility and other documents for employment purposes.

As a response to a dire situation, this measure will hopefully encourage students to stay in school, finish their degree courses and equip themselves for gainful employment.

For the abovementioned reasons, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ANN K. HOFER

2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay

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HOUSE BILL NO. **8781**

Introduced by REP. ANN K. HOFER

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER
EDUCATION (CHED) IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA SIBUGAY, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established a provincial office of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, which shall exercise jurisdiction over the said province. The CHED Provincial Office in the province of Zamboanga Sibugay shall be known as the CHED-Zamboanga Sibugay Provincial Office. It shall be located in the Municipality of Ipil, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay.

SEC. 2. The CHED-Zamboanga Sibugay Provincial Office shall be headed by a provincial director.

SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the CHED, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall formulate an organizational structure, staffing pattern and plantilla positions for the CHED-Zamboanga Sibugay Provincial Office. The said organizational structure, staffing pattern and plantilla positions shall be finalized by the CHED Chairperson and the DBM Secretary.

SEC. 4. The CHED Chairperson shall immediately include in the CHED's programs the operationalization of the CHED-Zamboanga Sibugay Provincial Office.

SEC. 5. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. The CHED shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.