

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

8784
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ISAGANI S. AMATONG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure seeks to establish a separate Schools Division Office for all basic education schools in the 3rd District of Zamboanga del Norte, to be located in the Municipality of Liloy, Province of Zamboanga del Norte.

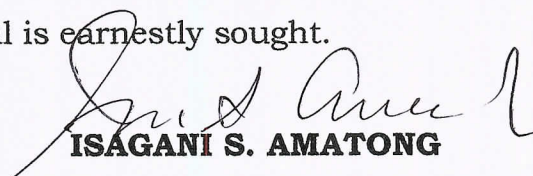
Schools division offices are the primary support structure in school operations. As such, they exercise direct administrative supervision over schools and align their functions and activities toward addressing the urgent problems at the school level.

At present, the Schools Division Office of Zamboanga del Norte, which has jurisdiction over the basic education schools in the 3rd District of Zamboanga del Norte, is located in Dipolog City. However, the distance from Dipolog City to Leon B. Postigo, the northernmost municipality under the 3rd District of Zamboanga del Norte, is approximately 105.8 kilometers, with average travel time of 2 hours and 25 minutes. On the other hand, the distance from Dipolog City to Sibuco, the southernmost municipality of the district, is approximately 283.7 kilometers, with average travel time of 6 hours and 24 minutes. Not only is this great distance and long travel physically taxing on teachers and principals who file documents and report to the Division Office, it also wastes a lot of their valuable time which would have otherwise been used for preparing their lessons, checking their students' works, and doing necessary works.

Moreover, for the school year 2020-2021, the Schools Division Office of Zamboanga del Norte has jurisdiction over 753 schools, 8,609 teachers, and 1,893 non-teaching employees. Ideally, a Schools Division should only comprise of 800 to 1000 teachers. This huge number of personnel under the existing Divisions Office creates difficulty in communication of immediate standard actions and memoranda.

It is also noteworthy that this proposal to create a separate Schools Division Office in the Third District of Zamboanga del Norte came from the existing Schools Division Office of Zamboanga del Norte itself. Thus, establishing a separate schools division office for the schools in the 3rd District of Zamboanga del Norte will not only help the teachers and principals, but will also improve the Department of Education's desire to provide efficient, effective, and responsive services to the constituents.

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


ISAGANI S. AMATONG

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LILOY, PROVINCE OF
ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, A SEPARATE SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE
FOR THE THIRD DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE,
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 Schools Division Office in the Municipality of Lilooy, Province of Zamboanga del Norte. The Schools Division Office shall have jurisdiction over all basic education schools in the Third District of Zamboanga del Norte.

The DepEd shall determine the staff complement and the qualification standards of the personnel assigned in the Schools Division Office.

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

SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall formulate and issue the rules and regulations implementing the provisions 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,

