

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9386



Introduced by Honorable Mark O. Go

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution mandates the State to promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry. It is in response to this mandate that this bill proposes the creation of the Baguio City Sports High School.

The Baguio City Sports High School will be a specialized public high school which will cater to the specific needs of young athletes in training through a sports-focused curriculum complemented with the necessary general academic curriculum. This is to ensure that the students are well-rounded and equipped with the proper foundation to enter and future field of study or profession, in addition to, or even beyond the area of sports and athletics. Still, the sports high school shall be organized primarily to provide its students with the optimal environment to excel in sports, and pave their way to athletic careers.

The concept of specialized high schools focusing on sports is seen in several countries around the globe. In Southeast Asia, the Bukit Jalil Sports School in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and the Singapore Sports School have successfully produced several Olympic medalists and Olympians over the years. After Mansuelito “Onyok” Velasco, Jr. won in 1996 at Atlanta, the Philippines had to wait for 20 long years before Hidilyn Diaz ended our medal drought at the 2016 Rio Olympics. Further, the country has yet to win a single gold medal since its Olympic debut in the 1924. It is the intent of this proposal to discover, train, and support Filipino talents, such that from the ranks of its future graduates will rise world class athletes who will carry the Philippine flag at the international arena, all the way up to the Olympics.

While aspiring young athletes are found all over the country, many promising talents from the provinces do not receive the adequate support and training, and are not exposed to the proper opportunities to further pursue their athletic dreams. Establishing a sports high school in Baguio will open a lot of opportunities for young athletes in northern Luzon, which may be replicated in many strategic locations across the archipelago. In addition, several studies have shown that training in high altitudes improve athletic performance. Apart from

the Baguio Athletic Bowl and Baguio Teachers' Camp, many sports and housing facilities are readily available within Metro Baguio. With adequate government support, these facilities could further be improved to meet international standards.

With the creation of the Baguio City Sports High School, not only is the country raising generations of world-class athletes, it also raises sports awareness and interest among the Filipino youth. Sports ultimately provide the youth healthy and productive outlets to channel and develop their physical strengths, mental acumen, and social skills. Likewise, it provides athletes from poor households the opportunities to pursue their dreams and in the future provide for their families as professionals, opportunities which they otherwise would not have had without the specialize public high school.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of the measure is earnestly sought.



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AN ACT
CREATING A HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE SPORTS IN THE CITY OF BAGUIO TO
BE KNOWN AS THE BAGUIO CITY SPORTS HIGH SCHOOL, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is a declared policy of the State to promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry.

Towards this end, the State shall promote the sustained development of young Filipinos whose skills in the field of sports shall be encourage and honed through education and specialized training programs. It shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education and training to encourage sports enthusiasm and to advance the athletic talents and skills of the Filipino youth, and to promote the development of young athletes nationwide.

SEC. 2. *Creation of the Baguio City Sports High School.* - There is hereby created a high school for the sports in the City of Baguio to be known as the "Baguio City Sports High School", hereafter referred to as the "School".

The School shall be administered and supervised by the Department of Education (DepEd), in close coordination with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), for policy and program formulation and implementation, and technical assistance.

SEC. 3. *Mandate.* - The School shall implement a general secondary curriculum, as prescribed by the Republic Act No. 10533 or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013", with special focus on the sports that shall develop the athletic skills and potentials of high school students.

SEC. 4. *School Director.* - There shall be a School Director who shall serve as the Head and chief academic officer of the school. The functions, powers and duties shall be similar to the Office of the Principal of any high school in the Philippine education system.

The School Director shall serve a term of five (5) years, render full-time work, and shall be eligible for reappointment to another term, who shall be appointed by the DepEd Secretary, subject to the guidelines and qualifications set forth in the implementing rules and regulations, upon the recommendation of a duly constituted Search Committee.

A Search Committee shall be constituted by the DepEd Regional Director in consultation with the head of the PSC. It shall be formed immediately upon the approval of the implementing rules and regulations of this Act, and shall reconvene again within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of the School Director.

The salary of the School Director shall be equivalent to Principal IV in accordance with the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System.

SEC. 5. *Position Structure and Staffing Pattern.* - The position structure and staffing pattern of the School shall be prescribed by the DepEd upon the recommendation of the School Director, subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and Management.

SEC. 6. *School Fund.* - All government appropriations for and other income generated by the School, as well as all legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions and other similar transfers of real and personal properties of all kinds received by the School, shall constitute the School Fund.

The Fund shall be exclusively utilized for the School's program for the sports, subject to the Commission on Audit (COA) rules and regulations.

SEC. 7. *Authority to Solicit and Receive Donations and Grants.* - The School Director, with the approval of the DepEd Regional Director and Schools Division Superintendent, may solicit, negotiate with, and received in trust from any public or private, domestic or foreign sources, 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 the School; *Provided*, That the School Director shall, in accordance with pertinent accounting and auditing laws, rules and regulations, prescribe the necessary measures 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.

SEC. 8. *Development Plan and Organizational Structure.* - Within the period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the approval of this Act, and the approval of its implementing rules and regulations, the School shall accomplish the following:

- (a) Submit a five (5)-year development plan, including its corresponding budgetary program to the DepEd for corresponding recommendation to the DBM; and
- (b) Set up its organizational, administrative, as well as academic structure, including the appointment of the School officials, subject to the qualifications set forth in this Act.

SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual appropriations of DepEd as contained in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The DepEd, in coordination with the PSC, shall issue within a period of ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any portion or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.