

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10286



Introduced by Representative Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE DIGOS CITY NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL FOR SPORTS IN
DIGOS CITY, PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 17, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that “The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.”

According to the council of Europe, sports enhances social and cultural life by bringing together individuals and communities. Sports help overcome differences and encourages dialogue, and breaks down prejudice, stereotypes, cultural differences, ignorance, intolerance, and discrimination.

Likewise, the United Nations’ Inter-Agency Task Force on Sport for Development and Peace also recognizes that “sports at all levels, from play and physical activity to elite and competitive sport, are a powerful and cost-effective way to advance the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)”.

The recent victories and exceptional performance of Filipino athletes in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics despite the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic is proof that Filipinos have the talent and the grit to excel in sports and represent the country in international competitions given the proper scientific approach and training.

This representation believes that through sports, the country’s youth will rediscover traditional and universal values such as patriotism, nationalism, self-discipline, team work and hard work, camaraderie, sportsmanship and fair play, respect for law and order and the rights of others, and the continuing quest for excellence.

It is for the foregoing reason that the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MERCEDES “DIDI” C. CAGAS

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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 “Digos City National High School for Sports Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building. To this end, it shall advance and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being through the promotion of physical education and sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training in international competitions; foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry; and develop athletes with a strong sense of patriotism and love of country. It shall likewise provide appropriate sports training and academic preparation to promote the holistic development of students with athletic abilities, instill in them strong patriotic ideals and prepare them for careers in sports.

SEC. 3. Establishment of the Digos City National High School for Sports. - The Digos City National High School for Sports is hereby established to develop the athletic skills and talents of high school students in Digos City, Davao Del Sur and its environs.

The Digos City National High School for Sports shall be administered by the Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), for policy and program formulation and implementation.

SEC. 4. Purpose. - The Digos City National High School for Sports shall offer a secondary education to students with considerable potential in sports. The school’s curriculum shall have a significant emphasis on developing the athletic skills of the students through subjects pertaining to physical education in sports.

SEC. 5. Powers and Functions. - The Digos City National High School for Sports shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a) Formulate and implement policies, plans, and programs that shall promote the development and harness the potential of high school students;
- b) Provide an integrated framework to optimize the potential of its students;
- c) Establish sports programs and facilities that shall be accessible to students;
- d) Promote strategic partnerships and alliances between and among local and international sports organizations and educational training institutions to enhance the competitiveness of students and personnel;
- e) Develop plans and programs that shall enhance the career advancement opportunities of school personnel;
- f) Establish guidelines for public-private partnerships in the implementation of sports programs of the school; and
- g) Perform such other functions as may be required to implement the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 6. *School Director.* - The Digos City National High School for Sports shall be headed by a School Director who shall be responsible for the administration and operation of the school.

The School Director shall be assisted by an Assistant Director for Internal Affairs and an Assistant Director for External Affairs.

SEC. 7. *Sectoral and Industry Task Forces.* - The Digos City National High School for Sports may create sectoral and industry task forces, technical working groups, advisory bodies or committees for the furtherance of its objectives.

The members of the sectoral and industry task forces may come from the agencies of the national government, government-owned and -controlled corporations, local government units, the academe, civil society organizations, sports organizations, and sports-related industrial organizations. The manner of selection of such members shall be provided under the Implementing Rules and Regulations to be formulated to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be included in the budget of the DepEd in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, in coordination with the PSC and other concerned agencies of the government, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,