

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 240



Introduced by **Representative MARY MITZI CAJAYON-UY**

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall foster the preservation, enrichment, and dynamic evolution of a Filipino national culture based on the principle of unity in diversity in a climate of free artistic and intellectual expression.

There is a need to encourage and develop artistic talent among the youth, with the possibility of preparing them for a career in the arts.

Currently, the arts are considered as minor subjects in the country's basic education curricula and there are little to no programs that allow the youth to explore and advance in their chosen field in the arts.

Hence, this bill proposes the establishment of a high school in the City of Caloocan which centers on the teaching and development of the arts, together with the general secondary curriculum provided by law.

For these reasons, immediate approval of this bill is being sought


MARY MITZI CAJAYON-UY
Representative
2nd District, Caloocan City

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

SECTION 1. there is hereby established a high school for the arts in Caloocan, Metro Manila, to be known as Caloocan High School for the Arts.

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby the declared policy of the State to promote and support cultural and artistic creations, as well as the development of young Filipinos with aptitude and skill in culture and the arts through education and specialized training programs. For this purpose, the State

SECTION 3. *Creation of the Caloocan High School for the Arts.* – There is hereby created a high school for the arts in the City of Caloocan to be known as the “Caloocan High School for the Arts,” hereinafter referred to as the “School.”

SECTION 4. *Mandate.* – The School shall implement a general secondary curriculum prescribed by Republic Act No. 10533, or the “Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013”, with special emphasis on subjects pertaining to the arts. The School shall

SECTION 5. *Advisory Board.* – The School shall have an Advisory Board, which shall be composed of the City Mayor, as chairperson, the School Director as Vice-Chairperson, and the following members: Superintendent for Caloocan City of the Department of Education - National Capital Region, a representative of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and six (6) prominent citizens from the private sector who are distinguished in their professions or fields of specialization, specifically, creative writing, dance, music, theater arts, visual arts and media arts, to be appointed by the Chairperson, upon recommendation of a Search Committee to be constituted by the School Director.

SECTION 6. *Powers and Functions of the Advisory Board.* – The Advisory Board shall advise the School Director on the following:

- (a) Formulation of policies, rules and regulations as may be necessary for the administration and operation of the School, including rules and regulations governing the faculty and students of the School;
- (b) Receiving in trust of legacies, gifts, and donations of real and personal property of all kinds, and administration of the same for the benefit of the School, subject to the terms and conditions of the donor, if any;
- (c) Development of the curricula and programs to be offered by the school;
- (d) Establishment of the criteria for the selection, admission and graduation of students, upon the recommendation of the Admissions Council.
- (e) Approval of the awarding of allowances and other grants to deserving students.

The members of the Advisory Board shall be entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either in their attendance to meetings of the Board or in connection with other official business authorized by the Department of Education, subject to existing laws and regulations.

SECTION 7. *School Director.* – The School shall be headed by a School Director with functions, duties and power of the principal of any high school in the Philippine education system, in addition to those specified in this Act.

SECTION 8. *Admissions Council.* – The Admissions Council, headed by the School Director, shall have the power to screen and select the students to be admitted to the School and to select the students who shall be recipients of allowances and other grants.

SECTION 9. *Position Structure and Staffing Pattern.* – The position, structure, and staffing pattern of the School shall be prescribed by the Department of Education upon the recommendation of the School Director, and subject to existing laws and regulations.

SECTION 10. *Civil Service Coverage.* – Except for visiting professors and other instructors engaged by the School, all personnel of the School shall be subject to civil service rules and regulations on wage and position classification.

SECTION 11. *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 received by the School, shall constitute the School Fund. The use of the School Fund shall be under the direction and control of the School Director, under the guidance and supervision of the Advisory Board.

SECTION 12. *Authority to Solicit, Receive Donations, Grants and the Like.* – Upon recommendation of the Advisory Board, the School Director may solicit, negotiate with, and receive in trust from any public or private, domestic or foreign sources, legacies, gifts, donations, grants, endowments, contributions or other transfers of ownership or possession of real or personal properties in favor and for the benefit of the School.

SECTION 13. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's programs the operationalization of the School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The Local Government Units concerned may likewise provide financial assistance to the School.

SECTION 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education, in coordination with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, shall issue the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 15. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, superseded, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 16. *Separability Clause.* – Should any portion or provision of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, the other provisions hereof shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 17. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,