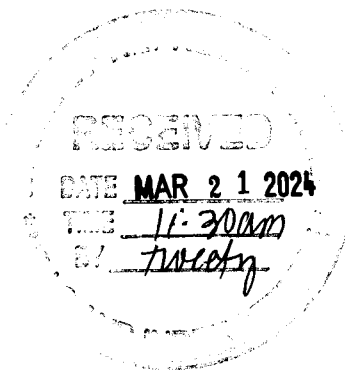


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10227



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to separate the Balas National High School-La Union Extension in Barangay La Union, Municipality of Labason, Province of Zamboanga del Norte, from the Balas National High School, and convert it into an independent national high school to be known as the La Union National High School.

Balas National High School-La Union Extension is located at Barangay La Union in the Municipality of Labason, a third-class municipality in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte. According to the 2018 City and Municipal Poverty Estimates by Philippine Statistics Authority, around half or 46% of the population in Labason is grappling with poverty. In such circumstances, education emerges as a crucial tool for the community's chance to progress.

The separation of the Balas National High School-La Union Extension is sought considering that it is 14 kilometers away from the main high school. Moreover, the conversion of Balas National High School-La Union Extension into an independent national high school will provide it with more funds necessary for the construction of classrooms and employment of permanent teaching and non-teaching personnel.

In turn, this measure will not only make basic education more accessible to the constituents of the Municipality of Labason, but also allow them to break free from the chains of poverty. It will also uphold the State's mandate under the 1987 Constitution to "protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels."

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


ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

Republic of the Philippines
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Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10227

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

**AN ACT SEPARATING THE
BALAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL-LA UNION EXTENSION
IN BARANGAY LA UNION, MUNICIPALITY OF LABASON,
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE FROM THE
BALAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN
INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS LA UNION
NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. The Balas National High School-La Union Extension in Barangay La Union, Municipality of Labason, Province of Zamboanga del Norte is hereby separated from the Balas National High School and converted into an independent national high school to be known as La Union National High School.

SEC. 2. All personnel, assets, liabilities and records of the Balas National High School-La Union Extension are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the La Union National High School.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the La Union National High School, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the Balas National High School-La Union Extension. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the school shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall issue the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,