

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives

19th CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10795

Introduced by Hon. Charisse Anne Hernandez
Lone District of Calamba, Laguna

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill proposes the establishment of a congressional district library in the City of Calamba, Province of Laguna, to be named the "Jose Rizal Public Library," in honor of Dr. Jose Rizal, our national hero born in Calamba. The library will pay homage to Dr. Rizal's legacy as a proponent of education and enlightenment and reflect his enduring influence on our nation's cultural and intellectual development.

The proposed library is aligned with Republic Act No. 7743, which mandates the creation of public libraries and reading centers nationwide. This act emphasizes the importance of these institutions in advancing the moral and intellectual well-being of Filipinos, fostering a culture of reading, and making educational resources accessible to all. By establishing the Jose Rizal Public Library, we will not only celebrate Dr. Rizal's contributions but also promote lifelong learning and personal growth within the community.

The benefits of the Jose Rizal Public Library will be substantial. It will serve as an essential educational resource for students, educators, and researchers, providing access to a vast collection of books, periodicals, and digital materials that support academic achievement. The library will also function as a community hub, offering a space for literacy programs, workshops, and cultural activities that engage and enrich local residents.

Additionally, by preserving and celebrating Dr. Rizal's historical and cultural legacy, the library will enhance the community's appreciation of our national heritage. It will bridge the digital divide by providing modern technological resources and promote social cohesion by offering a welcoming environment for diverse community interactions.

To bring this vision to fruition, the bill includes provisions for the appropriation of necessary funds for the library's construction, operation, and maintenance. These funds will ensure the establishment of a state-of-the-art facility that meets the needs and aspirations of the Calamba community.

The creation of the Jose Rizal Public Library is a fitting tribute to Dr. Rizal and a significant step towards enhancing the educational and cultural development of our citizens.

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



CHARISSE ANNE C. HERNANDEZ

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Lone District of Calamba, Laguna

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT LIBRARY IN THE CITY OF CALAMBA, PROVINCE OF LAGUNA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "DR. JOSE RIZAL PUBLIC LIBRARY" AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. **Short Title** - This Act shall be known as the *"Dr. Jose Rizal Public Library Act."*

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy – It is the policy of the State to promote education, literacy, and the preservation of cultural heritage as essential elements of national development and social progress.

The State acknowledges that access to quality education and resources is vital for individual and societal growth. To this end, it is committed to ensuring equitable access to educational materials and lifelong learning opportunities for all citizens.

The State also values the preservation of cultural and historical heritage, recognizing its role in fostering national pride and identity. Public libraries are pivotal in achieving these goals, serving as community hubs that support learning, cultural enrichment, and social cohesion.

The establishment of the Dr. Jose Rizal Public Library in Calamba reflects this policy by providing essential resources and promoting educational and cultural advancement.

SECTION 3. Objectives - The objectives of this Act are multifaceted and aim to enhance the educational, cultural, and social well-being of all Calambeños.

1. **Educational Resource Provision**: To offer a comprehensive collection of books, periodicals, digital resources, and other educational materials that support academic achievement, research, and lifelong learning for students, educators, and researchers.
2. **Promotion of Literacy and Learning**: To foster a culture of reading and intellectual growth by providing access to resources and programs that encourage literacy development and a love for learning among residents of all ages.
3. **Community Engagement and Enrichment**: To serve as a community hub for educational and cultural events, workshops, and activities that engage and enrich the lives of local residents, promoting social cohesion and community development.
4. **Historical and Cultural Preservation**: To honor and preserve the legacy of Dr. Jose Rizal by celebrating his contributions to the nation and showcasing his historical and cultural significance, thus deepening the community's appreciation of Filipino heritage.
5. **Digital Inclusion and Technological Access**: To bridge the digital divide by providing access to modern technological resources, such as computers and the internet, and by offering training in digital literacy, ensuring that all community members can develop essential digital skills.
6. **Support for Local Educational Institutions**: To collaborate with local schools and educational institutions, providing them with additional resources and support to enhance their educational programs and initiatives.
7. **Encouragement of Lifelong Learning**: To promote lifelong learning opportunities through various programs and resources that cater to the diverse interests and needs of the community, encouraging personal and professional growth throughout one's life.

SECTION 4. Establishment of the Dr. Jose Rizal Public Library. – There is hereby established a Congressional District Library in the City of Calamba, Province of Laguna, which shall be known as the "Dr. Jose Rizal Public Library" which shall be under the supervision of the National Library of the Philippines (NLP).

SECTION 5. The Director of the NLP shall appoint the necessary manpower to manage Dr. Jose Rizal Public Library which shall include at least the following:

a) Librarian I;
b) Librarian II;
c) Administrative Assistant III;
d) Computer File Librarian I;
e) Administrative Aide VI;
f) Information and Technology Personnel; and
g) Watchman (Security Guard)

The appointment of said positions shall be in accordance with the Compensation and Position Classification System and other Civil Service Rules and Regulations. In addition, their salaries and allowances shall be in accordance with Republic Act No. 11466, otherwise known as the "Salary Standardization Law of 2019" and other applicable laws.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – National Library of the Philippines (NLP) in consultation with the Local Government of the City of Calamba, National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and the Department of Education (DepEd) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 7. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of the National Library of Philippines in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,