

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2539**



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*Introduced by Honorable Ma. Alana Samantha Taliño Santos*

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, COTABATO PROVINCE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE COTABATO PROVINCE SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Investing in specialized education is essential to preparing the next generation of Filipinos for a future shaped by science, technology, and innovation. High schools that focus on mathematics and science offer learners a deeper understanding of critical subjects and develop skills that are necessary for national competitiveness and sustainable development.

This bill proposes the creation of the Cotabato Province School of Mathematics and Science in the Municipality of Carmen, Cotabato Province. This national high school will be placed under the supervision of the Department of Education and will implement a curriculum that prioritizes science, mathematics, engineering, and research, in accordance with the K to 12 Basic Education Program.

The establishment of this school affirms the importance of bringing quality, specialized education closer to the youth of Cotabato. For many students in the province, particularly those in rural or underserved areas, access to institutions that offer advanced academic instruction remains limited. This school is envisioned to serve as a center of excellence that is inclusive and accessible, providing young Cotabateños with meaningful opportunities to pursue their academic goals without needing to leave their communities.

By nurturing the talents and aspirations of students in these critical fields, the school will help build a generation of leaders, professionals, and innovators who can contribute to the growth of Cotabato Province and the country at large. It reflects a long-term investment in human capital, equitable education, and regional progress.

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

**MA. ALANA SAMANTHA TALIÑO SANTOS**  
Representative, 3rd District of Cotabato



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

SECTION 1. **Establishment.** - There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd), a national science and mathematics high school in the Municipality of Carmen, Province of Cotabato, to be known as the Cotabato Province School of Mathematics and Science.

SECTION 3. **School Site.** — The specific location of the Cotabato Province School of Mathematics and Science shall be determined by the DepEd, in coordination with the local government of the Municipality of Carmen, subject to the availability of suitable land and compliance with the minimum standards for educational facilities..

SECTION 3. **Curriculum and Program Implementation.** - The Cotabato Province School of Mathematics and Science shall offer a specialized curriculum with emphasis on advanced mathematics, science, technology, engineering, and research, in accordance with the K to 12 Basic Education Program and other relevant educational frameworks.

SECTION 4. **Appropriations.** - The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Cotabato Province School of Mathematics and Science, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. **Implementation.** - The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 6. **Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*