



Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Quezon City, Metro Manila



**Twentieth Congress**

**First Regular Session**

**House Bill No. 2546**

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Introduced by

**HON. REPRESENTATIVE LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, BUKIDNON**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The growth of special education in the Philippines has been given a good support all these years by the government. While there have been specialized educational institutions established to exclusively serve the needs of the physically handicapped, these training facilities are perceived inadequate in terms of them being apt and fitting for the self-development and self-reliance of disabled individuals.

This bill seeks to provide permanent and adequate educational facilities for the training and education of the physically handicapped by providing for the establishment of such specialized institution in the City of Valencia, Province of Bukidnon. This facility will serve as a place to learn, develop and grow the skills of handicapped individuals, particularly those in the marginalized sectors. As a pilot project, our educators can learn from the experience to be gained from the operation of this school which can later on be utilized as a model for starting other similar schools not only in Bukidnon but elsewhere in the country.

It is anticipated that if the specialized school is set up, the government may even be able to obtain or avail of grants, donations and endowments from foundations here and abroad which may, as part of

their primary objectives, have already been supporting this type of educational institution.

However, until such kind of specialized school is established, the physically handicapped will invariably be kept in the homes of their parents, perchance under tutorship of persons, who neither have the expertise nor inclination to attend to the specific needs of these infirm persons, and they, thereby will eventually become a social burden.

If properly educated, however, to acquire some skills, in addition to being able to maintain their lives to meet ordinary needs of daily living, these physically handicapped can be made into productive citizens who are able to contribute to the socio-economic development of the country.

As we continue to strive for excellence in the delivery of educational services, the continuing challenge upon us is to provide the best to all persons with special needs to give them innovative strategies that will equip them with the means to face the challenges of life, and enrich their sense of purpose and being in life.

In view of all the foregoing, early approval of this bill is urgently requested.

  
**HON. LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, BUKIDNON**



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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A SPECIALIZED NATIONAL SCHOOL FOR THE**  
**PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY HANDICAPPED IN THE CITY OF**  
**VALENCIA, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON TO BE KNOWN AS THE**  
**BUKIDNON INTEGRATED SCHOOL FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH SPECIAL**  
**NEEDS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the Department of Education, a specialized school providing for elementary and secondary education to the physically handicapped in the City of Valencia, Province of Bukidnon to be known as the Bukidnon Integrated School for Individuals with Special Needs.

SECTION 2. The education and training to be provided in said specialized school shall cover those who are deaf, mute or blind as well as others who may be suffering from physical infirmities or handicaps, inborn or acquired, who may not be able to properly cope with studies in regularly established schools because of the special needs demanded or warranted by their infirmities or handicaps.

Accordingly, the physical structure of the school, classrooms, seating arrangements and teaching materials, and other equipment that are deemed suitable for the efficient and effective training and education of the physically handicapped shall be provided in said school.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Bukidnon Integrated School for Individual with Special Needs, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. Grants, donation or bequests of equipment, teaching and reading materials, and other educational aids required by said school shall be exempt from donor's tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income in the computation of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended: *Provided*, however, That such donations shall not be disposed of, transferred or sold.

The school may also import duty-free economic, technical and cultural books and/or publications upon certification of the Department of Education that such books and/or publications are for economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical, historical or cultural purposes, in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and Customs Code, as amended.

SECTION 5. This Act will take immediate effect upon its approval.

**Approved.**