

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **4400**



Introduced by Honorable Ma. Alana Samantha Taliño Santos

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL – COTABATO PROVINCE CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, COTABATO PROVINCE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Science High School (PSHS) System, created under Republic Act No. 8496 and strengthened by Republic Act No. 9036, is tasked with providing world-class secondary education that emphasizes science, mathematics, and technology. Its mission is to develop a new generation of scientists, engineers, researchers, and innovators who will drive national development and strengthen our country's global competitiveness.

Over the years, the PSHS System has produced outstanding graduates who have excelled in research and innovation. However, access to this specialized education remains limited, particularly in underserved regions of the country. For Mindanao, and especially for the Province of Cotabato, the establishment of a PSHS campus will open doors of opportunity for gifted students who may otherwise be unable to pursue advanced science education. Cotabato's growing population, rich cultural diversity, and strategic role in Mindanao's development make it an ideal location for a new campus.

This bill therefore proposes the creation of the Philippine Science High School – Cotabato Province Campus in the Municipality of Carmen. The campus will offer a rigorous curriculum anchored in science, mathematics, engineering, technology, and research, aligned with the K to 12 Basic Education Program and other relevant educational standards. Beyond nurturing the potential of young scientists, the proposed campus will serve as a catalyst for regional growth, innovation, and inclusive progress.

The establishment of this campus is in line with the State's policy to promote equitable access to quality science and technology education and to ensure that every region benefits from the opportunities provided by the PSHS System.

In light of these aspirations, the immediate passage of this bill is 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 Science and Technology (DOST), a Philippine Science High School in the Municipality of Carmen, Province of Cotabato, to be known as the Philippine Science High School – Cotabato Province Campus.

SECTION 2. ***School Site.*** — There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), a campus of the Philippine Science High School System in the Municipality of Carmen, Province of Cotabato, to be known as the Philippine Science High School – Cotabato Province Campus.

SECTION 3. ***Curriculum and Program Implementation.*** - The Philippine Science High School – Cotabato Province Campus shall offer a specialized curriculum with emphasis on advanced science, mathematics, 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 Science and Technology shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Philippine Science High School – Cotabato Province Campus, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. ***Implementation.*** - The Secretary of Science and Technology shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions 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,