



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4815



INTRODUCED BY: HON. REYNOLDS MICHAEL T. TAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This legislative measure seeks the establishment of modern public libraries and learning centers in every city and municipality of Samar, equipped with internet access and a comprehensive collection of books and educational resources across all cities and municipalities in the Province of Samar.

This measure is line with the mandate provided under Republic Act No. 7743, which provides for the establishment of additional public libraries to serve all congressional districts, cities and municipalities in the Philippines and reading centers in every barangay in the promotion of the moral and intellectual well-being of the people, elevate the literacy level; and recognize the vital role of knowledge and information in nation-building by establishing public libraries throughout the Philippines.

Foregoing considered; the passage of this Bill is earnestly sought.

HON. REYNOLDS MICHAEL T. TAN
Representative, Second District of Samar



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AN ACT CREATING A SAMAR PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM BY ESTABLISHING PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND LEARNING CENTERS IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY OF SAMAR, EQUIPPED WITH INTERNET ACCESS AND A COMPREHENSIVE COLLECTION OF BOOKS AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Title. This Act shall be known as the “Samar Public Library System Act.”

SECTION 2. Establishment of Samar Public Library System. There is hereby established modern public libraries, equipped with internet access and a comprehensive collection of books and educational resources in every city and municipality of the Province of Samar.

SECTION 3. Objectives. This Act shall establish municipal public libraries and learning centers with the following objectives:

- a. To offer a comprehensive collection of books, periodicals, digital resources, and other educational materials for the people and stakeholders of each municipality.
- b. To serve the research and educational needs of the students, teachers, scholars of each municipality.
- c. To collaborate with local schools and educational institutions, providing them with resources and support to enhance their educational programs and initiatives.
- d. To provide a venue for audio-visual presentation in the community and other kinds of exhibitions and activities aimed at increasing the literacy rate by government agencies, non-governmental organizations or private entities in the dissemination of information of general interest.
- e. To bridge the digital divide by providing access to modern technological resources, including but not limited to computer and internet, and by offering training in digital literacy and skills to all community members.
- f. To coordinate with the National Library and establish linkages with other libraries, including those abroad.

- g. To accept donations and grants from national and international agencies in the performance of its functions.

SECTION 4. Staffing Pattern. The municipal local government units shall appoint the necessary manpower to manage the public libraries and learning centers. Provided, that the appointment shall be in accordance with the compensation and position classification system and other civil service rules and regulations. Provided further, that the salaries and allowances shall be in accordance with Republic Act No. 11466 and other applicable laws.

SECTION 5. Appropriations. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days from the promulgation of this Act, the National Library of the Philippines, the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the provincial, city and municipal local governments of the Province of Samar, shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 7. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, all other remaining provisions not otherwise affected shall remain effective.

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

SECTION 9. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,