

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **5013**



Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Access to quality education remains one of the most important commitments of the State in ensuring the development and empowerment of its citizens. Education is not only a constitutional right but also a cornerstone for building stronger communities, particularly in remote and rural areas where accessibility continues to be a challenge.

In the Municipality of Kibungan, Province of Benguet, many children face significant barriers in pursuing continuous and uninterrupted education due to the lack of nearby secondary schools. After completing elementary education, students are often forced to travel long distances across mountainous terrains to attend high school, which discourages school attendance and contributes to higher dropout rates. This situation not only undermines the rights of learners but also limits opportunities for their personal growth and future livelihood.

The conversion of Palina Elementary School into Palina Integrated School is a strategic response to this longstanding challenge. Transforming the existing elementary school into an integrated school will enable the provision of both elementary and secondary education within the same facility, thereby ensuring continuity in learning for children in Barangay Palina and nearby communities.

Moreover, this measure aims to reduce the physical, financial, and emotional burdens faced by families whose children currently have to leave their communities to access secondary education. It will also encourage higher enrollment and attendance, ultimately contributing to improved literacy, educational attainment, and opportunities for the youth in Kibungan.

The passage of this bill is therefore imperative to uphold the State's commitment to accessible, inclusive, and equitable education. Establishing the Palina Integrated School upholds our dedication to strengthening public education, empowering rural communities, and investing in the future of our children. Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. ERIC G. YAP

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AN ACT
CONVERTING PALINA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PALINA,
MUNICIPALITY OF KIBUNGAN, PROVINCE OF BENGUET INTO AN
INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PALINA INTEGRATED SCHOOL
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Palina Elementary School in Barangay Palina, Municipality of Kibungan, Province of Benguet is hereby converted into an integrated school to be known as Palina Integrated School.

SEC. 2. All personnel, assets, liabilities, and records of the Palina Elementary School are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Palina Integrated School.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Palina Integrated School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of Education shall formulate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act within one hundred twenty (120) days after its effectivity.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,