

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
*1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session*

House Bill No. **5016**



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**Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that “The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.” It is within this constitutional mandate that the proposed measure finds its legal basis and justification.

At present, Tawang Elementary School in Barangay Tawang, Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet, caters only to learners at the elementary level. However, the absence of a secondary school within close proximity compels students who wish to pursue higher basic education to transfer to other barangays, thereby imposing additional financial and logistical burdens on their families. This situation adversely affects access to education, often resulting in dropouts or incomplete schooling, especially among economically disadvantaged households.

The conversion of Tawang Elementary School into Tawang Integrated School will address this gap by providing both elementary and secondary education within the same institution. Such a measure will ensure the seamless progression of learners, minimize barriers to access, and strengthen the government’s commitment to universal and inclusive education as mandated by the Constitution and reinforced by Republic Act No. 9155, otherwise known as the Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001.

Furthermore, this legislative initiative is consistent with the State’s duty to prioritize education in the allocation of national resources, as provided under Article XIV, Section 5 (5) of the Constitution, which directs the State to assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents.

The establishment of Tawang Integrated School will not only serve the immediate needs of learners in Barangay Tawang and nearby areas but will also contribute to the long-term development of the Municipality of La Trinidad and the Province of

Benguet by producing better-educated citizens equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary for nation-building.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is highly recommended.



**HON. ERIC G. YAP**

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**AN ACT**  
**CONVERTING TAWANG ELEMENTARY SCHOOL IN BARANGAY TAWANG,**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD, PROVINCE OF BENGUET INTO AN**  
**INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS TAWANG 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 Tawang Elementary School in Barangay Tawang, Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet is hereby converted into an integrated school to be known as Tawang Integrated School.

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

**SEC. 3.** The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Tawang 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,*