

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5140



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to separate the Gutalac National High School-Panganuran Extension in Barangay Panganuran, Municipality of Gutalac, Province of Zamboanga del Norte, converting it into an independent national high school to be known as the Panganuran National High School.

The Municipality of Gutalac is considered as the most impoverished municipality in the Third District of Zamboanga del Norte, grappling with a 59.7% poverty rate, according to the 2018 City and Municipal Poverty Estimates by the Philippine Statistics Authority. Despite such adversity, education stands out as a source of hope, allowing individuals from this municipality to break free from the constraints of poverty and steer their communities towards prosperity.

Within this municipality, the Gutalac National High School – Panganuran Extension serves students from Barangay Panganuran, who previously had to endure around an hour-long walk to reach the main campus. Although the extension high school has alleviated this hardship, the challenge of creating a conducive learning environment for its students remains, due to lack of classrooms and facilities. Moreover, it only receives secondary consideration in terms of budget allocation and physical infrastructure development as it mainly rely on the main school financially.

The separation and conversion of the Gutalac National High School - Panganuran Extension into an independent national high school will provide a much-needed boost for the communities where most of its inhabitants are underserved. This also aligns with the State's obligation to institute, uphold, and nurture an educational framework that directly addresses the requirements of its populace and society, as mandated in the Constitution.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ADRIAN MICHAEL A. AMATONG

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AN ACT
SEPARATING THE GUTALAC NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL-PANGANURAN
EXTENSION IN BARANGAY PANGANURAN, MUNICIPALITY OF GUTALAC,
PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE FROM THE GUTALAC NATIONAL
HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH
SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE PANGANURAN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The Gutalac National High School-Panganuran Extension in Barangay Panganuran, Municipality of Gutalac, Province of Zamboanga del Norte is hereby separated from the Gutalac National High School and converted into an independent national high school to be known as Panganuran National High School.

SEC. 2. All personnel, assets, liabilities and records of the Gutalac National High School-Panganuran Extension are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Panganuran National High School.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Panganuran National High School, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the Gutalac National High School-Panganuran Extension. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the school shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

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,