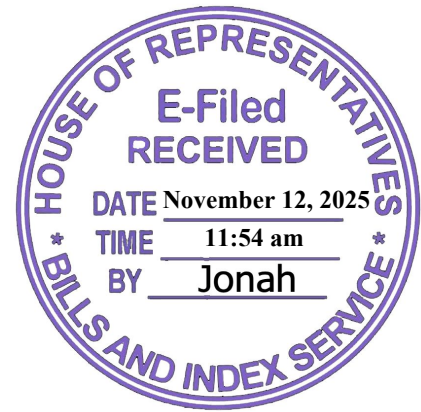


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5900**



Introduced by Honorable Ma. Alana Samantha Taliño Santos

AN ACT SEPARATING THE CARMEN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL - SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF CARMEN, PROVINCE OF COTABATO, FROM THE CARMEN NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CARMEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is a constitutional mandate of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.¹ Pursuant to this mandate, this bill seeks to separate the Carmen Senior High School from Carmen National High School in Barangay Poblacion, Municipality of Carmen, Province of Cotabato, converting it into an independent senior high school to be known as the Carmen Senior High School.

It is both timely and necessary to establish a stand-alone Carmen Senior High School to further enhance the quality of senior high school education, provide students with more diverse and relevant learning opportunities, and improve administrative efficiency through streamlined management and focused supervision of senior high school programs. Institutionalizing its establishment will ensure sustained government support for its continued operation and development, thereby strengthening the delivery of quality education and promoting the holistic growth of learners in the Municipality of Carmen.

The Carmen National High School – Senior High School has been in operation for more than eight years since the implementation of the Department of Education’s Senior High School (SHS) program. Since 2016, it has operated independently at a separate campus located approximately 1.1 kilometers from Carmen National High School (Junior High School). The nearest alternative institution, Ranzo Senior High School, is situated 9.4 kilometers away, highlighting the need for an autonomous senior high school within Carmen.

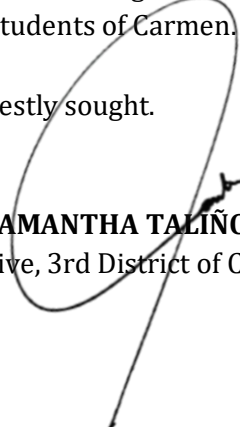
However, as the senior high school remains fiscally dependent on its mother school, teaching and non-teaching personnel continue to face operational challenges. This dependence often results in limited funding and slower physical development, as the senior high school remains a secondary priority in budget allocation. Establishing a stand-alone Carmen Senior High

¹ Section 1, Article XIV, 1987 Constitution

School will address these constraints, enabling more efficient management, equitable resource distribution, and improved educational outcomes for the students of Carmen.

In view of the foregoing, 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 the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

Section 1. ***Separation and Conversion into a National High School*** - The Carmen Senior High School in Barangay Poblacion, Municipality of Carmen, Province of Cotabato is hereby separated from the Carmen National High School and converted into an independent senior high school to be known as Carmen Senior High School.

Section 2. ***Transfer of Assets and Liabilities*** - All personnel, assets, liabilities, and records of the Senior High School in Carmen National High School are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Carmen Senior High School.

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

Section 4. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations*** - Within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

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

Approved,