



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6120



Introduced by **Representative KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI**
1st District, Zamboanga City

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL IN
THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF ZAMBOANGA CITY TO BE KNOWN AS
THE “ZAMBOANGA CITY SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE (ZCMAS)”,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill proposes a National Mathematics and Science High School in Zamboanga City's First Legislative District, aiming to ignite curiosity and excellence. The school will offer advanced programs to elevate mathematics and science education, providing local students with practical access to pursue their academic passions near home and family. This initiative widens educational access to gifted learners, especially in distant and underserved communities.

It is the declared policy of the State to protect and promote the right of every Filipino to quality basic education. This right includes free and compulsory secondary education for all. The ultimate goal of this education is to equip every child with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to become self-reliant, productive, and responsible citizens. The government further recognizes localized initiatives that enrich learning and strengthen community involvement, supporting both students and out-of-school youth through training in civics, livelihood, vocational competencies, and other areas vital to holistic development.

Yet, despite these promises, deep educational gaps remain, especially in rural and underserved communities. Crowded classrooms, scarce learning infrastructure, facilities and materials, and the absence of digital tools still stand in the way of effective teaching. For many young learners, distance and financial hardship make the dream of quality education feel even further out of reach.

Mathematics and science education are vital for addressing educational challenges and shaping the nation's future. Investing in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, and Research) drives innovation, technological progress, and global competitiveness. Strengthening these fields equips students with the critical thinking and problem-solving skills essential for national development.

A strong foundation in mathematics and science produces future experts, innovators, and leaders who drive national progress in public services, health, agriculture, technology, and the economy.

Nurturing students in these fields uplifts communities and prepares the nation for global challenges.

Creating a Math and Science High School in the First Legislative District of Zamboanga City is both timely and visionary. This initiative will open doors for children and youth to access specialized learning that inspires academic achievement and personal growth. The school will become a vibrant center for innovation and opportunity, nurturing future leaders and professionals ready to drive progress in their communities and across the nation.

Now is the time to act. I urge my esteemed colleagues to swiftly approve this bill, so we can empower students in underserved areas through enhanced STEM education. Let us take decisive steps for a future full of opportunity.

IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI



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

SECTION 1. *Establishment.* - There is hereby established, under the supervision of the
Department of Education (DepEd), a national mathematics and science high school in the First
Legislative District of Zamboanga City to be known as the “Zamboanga City School of
Mathematics and Science (ZCMAS)”.

SECTION 2. *School Site.* - The specific location of ZCMAS shall be determined by
DepEd, in coordination with the Local Government of Zamboanga City, to identify suitable
land and compliance with the minimum standards set forth for educational facilities.

SECTION 3. *Curriculum and Program Implementation.* - ZCMAS shall offer a
specialized curriculum with emphasis on advanced science, technology, engineering,
mathematic, and research, in accordance with the K to 12 Basic Education Program and other
relevant educational frameworks.

SECTION 4. *Appropriations.* - The Secretary of Education shall immediately include
DepEd’s program the operationalization of ZCMAS after the approval of this Act. Its
subsequent funding requirement shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. *Implementation.* - The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and
regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,