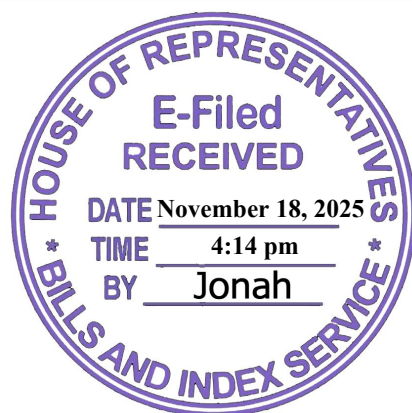


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

20th CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6148



Introduced by **REP. JUAN CARLOS "ARJO" C. ATAYDE**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE CLASSROOM-BUILDING ACCELERATION PROGRAM
(CAP), AUTHORIZING LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND PRIVATE SECTOR
ENTITIES TO UNDERTAKE CLASSROOM CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Access to quality education begins with access to safe and adequate learning spaces. Unfortunately, for decades, the Philippines has continued to face a persistent shortage of classrooms that undermines the delivery of basic education. According to the Department of Education (DepEd), millions of students continue to study in overcrowded classrooms, makeshift facilities, or shifting schedules due to the growing mismatch between school population and available infrastructure.¹ Moreover, a nationwide inventory of school buildings reveals a total of 327,851 structures built between 1950 and 2023. Of these, only 32 percent are in good condition, while 30.5 percent require minor repairs and 27.2 percent are in need of major repairs.² This classroom backlog not only affects learning outcomes but also widens the inequality in access to quality education, particularly in far-flung and disadvantaged areas.

The proposed legislation seeks to address this urgent gap by institutionalizing a whole-of-nation approach to classroom construction. The measure authorizes local government units (LGUs) and private sector entities to directly participate in the

¹ Manila Bulletin, "DepEd projects 27.6 million enrollees in basic education for SY 2025-2026," June 15, 2025. Available at: <https://mb.com.ph/2025/06/15/school-year-20252026-deped-projects-276-million-enrollees-in-basic-education>

² <https://cpbrd.congress.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/FF2024-56-Public-School-Buildings-and-Classroom-Shortage.pdf>

planning and implementation of classroom projects, in coordination with DepEd and subject to national standards.

Ultimately, these measure seeks to make the right to quality education more accessible by ensuring that every Filipino learner studies in a conducive, safe, and properly equipped classroom. Investing in classrooms is not only an investment in infrastructure, but an investment in the nation's future.

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

REP. JUAN CARLOS "ARJO" C. ATAYDE



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

3 **Section 1. Short Title.** — This Act shall be known as the *Classroom-Building*
4 *Acceleration Program (CAP) Act.*

5 **Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.** — It is the policy of the State to promote quality
6 education through adequate and accessible public school facilities. In recognition of the
7 persistent classroom backlog across the country, the State shall adopt a whole of nation
8 approach by enabling local government units (LGUs) and the private sector to actively
9 participate in the construction of school buildings, in coordination with the Department
10 of Education (DepEd), and supported by national government funding, private sector
11 participation, and technical assistance.

12 **Sec. 3. Creation of the Classroom-Building Acceleration Program (CAP)** — There
13 is hereby established a Classroom-Building Acceleration Program (CAP), which shall
14 enable and authorize qualified LGUs and private sector entities to propose, plan, and
15 access corresponding government funds for the implementation of classroom
16 construction projects in public schools within their respective jurisdictions, in accordance
17 with national standards and in coordination with DepEd.

1 **Sec. 4. Eligibility of Government Units and Private Sector Entities.** — LGUs and
2 private sector entities may participate in the CAP if they meet at least one or the following
3 criteria:

- 4 a) Demonstrated technical capacity to implement infrastructure projects;
- 5 b) Willingness to undergo technical assistance and capacity-building support; or
- 6 c) Proven track record in the successful implementation of infrastructure or
7 education-related projects, as may be determined by the Department of Education and
8 relevant oversight agencies.

9 LGUs and private sector entities shall submit project proposals, including cost
10 estimates, site plans, implementation timelines, and compliance with DepEd classroom
11 design standards.

12 **Sec. 5 Program Management.** — The Department of Education shall serve as the
13 lead implementing agency of the CAP. A CAP Secretariat shall be established within the
14 DepEd Central Office to coordinate with stakeholders and to evaluate proposals,
15 recommend funding allocations, and monitor implementation.

16 **Sec. 6. Funding Sources.** — Funds for the implementation of classroom projects
17 under the CAP shall be drawn from:

- 18 a) The annual appropriations of DepEd for Basic Education Facilities;
- 19 b) Other national government sources, subject to budgetary rules;
- 20 c) Contributions from the private sector through corporate donations,
21 foundations, or Public-Private Partnership (PPP) modalities.

22 Provided, That the CAP may also accept official development assistance (ODA)
23 and other international grants and donations, subject to existing laws.

24 **Sec. 7. Downloading of Funds.** — Funds approved under the CAP may be
25 released directly to LGUs and private entities upon compliance with documentary
26 requirements and submission of approved project proposals. The use of funds shall be
27 subject to auditing rules of the Commission on Audit (COA) and guidelines to be issued
28 by DepEd and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

29 **Sec. 8. Public-Private Partnerships.** — LGUs may implement classroom
30 construction projects under the CAP through PPP arrangements in accordance with the
31 PPP Code of the Philippines or other applicable laws, rules, and regulations. Technical
32 assistance may be provided to LGUs to develop and manage PPPs for education
33 infrastructure.

1 **Sec. 9. Capacity Building and Technical Assistance.** — DepEd, in coordination
2 with DILG, shall design and implement a capacity-building program for LGUs and
3 private sector entities to:

- 4 a) Ensure compliance with DepEd's classroom design standards;
- 5 b) Strengthen planning, procurement, and project management capabilities;
- 6 c) Enable LGUs and private sector entities to pursue PPPs for classroom
7 building projects.

8 **Sec. 10. Monitoring and Reporting** — All LGU-implemented projects under the
9 CAP shall be subject to regular monitoring and evaluation. LGUs shall submit quarterly
10 progress reports to DepEd. A consolidated national report shall be submitted annually
11 by DepEd to Congress.

12 **Sec. 11. Appropriations.** — The amount necessary to implement the initial phase
13 of the CAP shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DepEd. Thereafter,
14 such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of the program shall
15 be included in the annual General Appropriation Act (GAA).

16 **Sec. 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** — Within ninety (90) days from
17 the effectivity of this Act, DepEd, in coordination with DILG, DBM, and DPWH, shall
18 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this
19 Act.

20 **Sec. 13. Separability Clause.** — If any provision of this Act is declared
21 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected shall continue to be in
22 full force and effect.

23 **Sec. 14. Repealing Clause.** — All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
24 parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

25 **Sec. 15. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
26 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

27 Approved,