

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **7197**



Introduced by Rep. Reynante U. Arrogancia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert qualified public elementary schools into Integrated Schools (IS), and shall offer complete basic education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in one school site with unified instructional program subject to certain parameters.

Section 1 of Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education and shall make education accessible to all. Furthermore, Section 2 Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society. Lastly, Republic Act No. 9155 or the "Governance of Basic Education of 2001" states that the establishment of integrated school from existing public elementary and public high school shall be encouraged.

In accordance with the policy of providing accessibility to quality education this bill seeks to convert qualified public elementary school into Integrated Schools to benefit residents especially in rural areas quality education.

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

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3rd District of Quezon

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AN ACT
ENSURING ACCESS TO SECONDARY EDUCATION BY CONVERTING
QUALIFIED PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS INTO INTEGRATED
SCHOOLS OFFERING COMPLETE BASIC EDUCATION, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Integrated Public Schools
2 Act.”
3

4 **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect
5 and promote the right of all citizens to quality basic education and to make such
6 education accessible to all Filipino children.
7

8 **SEC. 3. *Conversion of Public Elementary Schools into Integrated Schools.*** – Qualified
9 public elementary schools are hereby converted into Integrated Schools (IS), and shall
10 offer complete basic education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in one school site with
11 unified instructional program.
12

13 **SEC. 4. *Expansion of Qualified Public Elementary School into Integrated Schools.*** – A
14 public elementary school shall be converted into an IS if they satisfy any of the
15 following:

- 16 a. There are no other public schools offering complete basic education within the
17 catchment area;
18 b. The community warrants a public high school to accommodate the growing
19 student population and the elementary education graduates in the catchment
20 area;

- 21 c. The nearest secondary school is situated more than two kilometers (2 km)
22 radius and one kilometer (1 km) radius from the existing public elementary
23 school in rural and urban areas, respectively.
24

25 The IS shall offer complete basic education from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in one
26 school site with unified instructional program.
27

28 **SEC. 5. Objectives.** – The Department of Education (DepEd), herein referred to as the
29 Department, shall be responsible in developing a school integration plan to complete
30 the conversion of the qualified public elementary school into IS within ten (10) years
31 from the effectivity of this Act: *Provided*, That the Department shall, within the ten-year
32 period, achieve significant improvements in the following metrics:

- 33 a. High school net participation rate;
34 b. Overall basic education completion rate, from elementary to senior high school;
35 and
36 c. High school to elementary school-classroom ratio.
37

38 **SEC. 6. Integrated School Development Plan.** - Not later than one hundred twenty days
39 (120) days after the approval of this Act, the school principal of each qualified
40 elementary school shall prepare and submit to its respective DepEd Division Office an
41 Integrated School (IS) Development Plan which will include the following:

- 42 a. Proposal for the additional school buildings/classrooms to be constructed;
43 b. Additional teaching and non-teaching personnel *plantilla* items needed;
44 c. Program budget, for recommendation to the Department of Budget and
45 Management (DBM), of all funding requirements over the ten-year period
46 necessary to carry out the conversion into an IS; and
47 d. The organizational, administrative, as well as, academic structure of the created
48 IS.
49

50 The development plan shall take into consideration the school population growth,
51 school-age population profile, and projected number of high school enrollees in the
52 catchment area. In case any of the aforementioned criterion is not met, the DepEd
53 Division Office shall make the necessary justification.

54 Within sixty days (60) days after the receipt of the development plan, the DepEd
55 Division Office shall evaluate the development plan submitted and recommend to the
56 DepEd Central Office the approval of the Plan for implementation of the IS.

57 **SEC. 7. Infrastructure Requirements.** – The Department, together with the Department
58 of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), shall ensure that the additional infrastructure
59 requirements of the IS is completed within the prescribed time frame.

60 *Provided*, That the primary objective in the use of any allocation shall be to eliminate
61 school building/classroom shortages if any: *Provided, further*, That for every school
62 building and/or classroom constructed, the corresponding toilets and/or sanitation
63 facilities shall also be provided in accordance with Chapter VI - School Sanitation and
64 Health Services chapter of Presidential Decree No. 856 otherwise known as "Code on
65 Sanitation of the Philippines".

66 **SEC. 8. *Expedition of Titling of Real Properties Used a Public School Sites.*** – The
67 Department, together with the national and local government agencies concerned, shall
68 prioritize the acquisition of lands occupied by the qualified public elementary schools
69 subject to the guidelines set under applicable Executive Orders and other related
70 issuances, rules and regulations, and ensure the school's titling prior to the conversion
71 into an IS.

72 The Registry of Deeds, Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Local Government Units
73 (LGUs), and all other government agencies concerned are directed to process the
74 registration and titling of the properties in favor of the Department in the most efficient
75 and expeditious manner.

76 **SEC. 9. *Planning and Budgeting.*** – The Department shall formulate rolling budget plans
77 with continuous five (5) year planning horizons, consistent with the identified outcomes
78 under Section 5 hereof, enabled by forward estimates established by the DBM,
79 Department of Finance (DOF), and the National Economic Development Authority
80 (NEDA) which will provide for a specific annual increase in the education budget
81 ceilings.

82 **SEC. 10. *Reporting Requirements.*** - The DepEd, DBM, and the DPWH, are required to
83 submit to the respective Committees on Education of both houses of Congress an
84 Annual Report on the progress of implementation, program accomplishments, and the
85 utilization of the budget provided under this Act: *Provided*, That such submission shall
86 be separate and distinct from the reports that the said departments submit to Congress
87 in relation to the deliberations on the General Appropriations Bill.

88 **SEC. 11. *Appropriations.*** – Such amount as may be necessary for the effective
89 implementation of the ten (10)-year school integration plan formulated under Sections
90 5 and 6 hereof and for the continued implementation of this Act shall be provided for
91 in the budget of the Department of Education or under the public elementary school
92 concerned in the annual General Appropriations Act, consistent with the budget plan
93 created pursuant to Section 9 of this Act.

94 **SEC. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the approval
95 of this Act, the DepEd, DBM, and DPWH shall promulgate the rules and regulations
96 necessary to implement this Act.

97 **SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held
98 unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions, which are not affected thereby, shall
99 continue to be in full force and effect.

100 **SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and
101 regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended
102 or modified accordingly.

103 **SEC. 15. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
104 the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers in general circulation.

Approved