



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 8055



Introduced by: **Representative JERRY EVANGELISTA PEREZ**
2nd District, Zamboanga City
Representative KATRINA REIKO CHUA - TAI
1st District, Zamboanga City

AN ACT
CONVERTING LUMBANGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - MARIA CLARA L. LOBREGAT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MCLLNHS) EXTENSION IN BARANGAY LUMBANGAN, ZAMBOANGA CITY INTO AN INTEGRATED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE LUMBANGAN INTEGRATED SCHOOL - MCLLNHS EXTENSION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution affirms the State's solemn duty to protect and promote the right of every citizen to quality education at all levels and to make elementary and secondary education accessible to all. This constitutional mandate is not a mere statement of policy; it is a continuing obligation that calls for concrete and responsive measures, particularly for communities that remain on the margins of development.

In Zamboanga City, the demand for public basic education remains substantial and steadily increasing. With more than 200,000 learners enrolled, most of whom depend on public schools, the Schools Division oversees over 200 institutions from elementary to senior high school. While commendable strides have been made, the rapid growth in enrollment has placed considerable pressure on existing facilities, personnel, and instructional resources.

Reports from local education authorities reveal persistent classroom shortages and infrastructure deficiencies. Many schools operate beyond their intended capacity, resorting to shifting schedules and temporary learning spaces. Several classrooms likewise require rehabilitation to meet safety and adequacy standards. Although educators and administrators continue to discharge their duties with dedication and resolve, the limitations in physical infrastructure inevitably affect the quality of instruction and the overall learning environment.

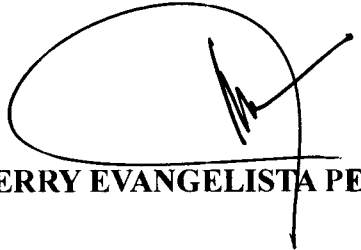
Barangay Lumbangan, situated in the Second Legislative District of Zamboanga City, reflects these broader challenges. For many learners in the area, especially those advancing to higher grade levels, access to nearby public schools remains difficult. The distance to secondary institutions often entails additional transportation costs and logistical burdens for families, many of whom already contend with limited financial means. These barriers contribute to absenteeism and, in some cases, lead students to discontinue their education altogether, an outcome that runs counter to the State's constitutional commitment.

This measure seeks to address these concerns directly and meaningfully by converting Lumbangan Elementary School - MCLLNHS Extension into an Integrated School. By consolidating elementary and secondary education under a single administration within the same locality, the proposed structure aims to ensure continuity of learning and make basic education more accessible to students in Barangay Lumbangan and nearby communities.

The establishment of an Integrated School is not merely an administrative adjustment. It is a practical and compassionate response to the lived realities of families who strive to secure better futures for their children despite economic constraints. It will enable more efficient use of existing resources, help alleviate classroom congestion in neighboring schools, and foster a stable, supportive educational environment where learners can progress without unnecessary interruption.

In converting Lumbangan Elementary School - MCLLNHS into an Integrated School, the State reaffirms its constitutional duty and demonstrates fidelity to the principle that education must be both accessible and equitable. By reducing geographic and economic barriers to schooling, this measure advances not only the welfare of Barangay Lumbangan but also the broader goal of strengthening the nation's human capital. In doing so, it gives meaningful expression to the Constitution's promise that quality education shall be within reach of every Filipino child.

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



JERRY EVANGELISTA PEREZ



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. The Lumbangan Elementary School - MCLLNHS Extension in Barangay Lumbangan, Zamboanga City, is hereby converted into an integrated school to be known as the Lumbangan Integrated School - MCLLNHS Extension.

SECTION 2. All personnel, assets, liabilities, and records of the Lumbangan Elementary School - MCLLNHS Extension are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Lumbangan Integrated School - MCLLNHS Extension.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Lumbangan Integrated School - MCLLNHS, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Education shall formulate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act. Such implementing rules and regulations shall provide for the school's organization, administration, operations, and management, in accordance with Republic Act No. 9155, or the "Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001", Republic Act No. 10533, or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013", and other basic education-related laws.

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

Approved,