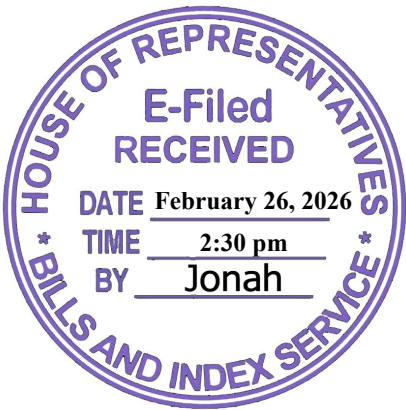


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8130



Introduced by **Representative Florabel Co Yatco**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sa bawat batang Pilipino na pumapasok sa paaralan, dala nila ang pangarap ng kanilang pamilya. Ngunit paano sila makakapag-aral nang maayos kung kulang ang silid-aralan?

According to the latest available data, the country continues to face a shortage of approximately 165,000 classrooms nationwide.¹ As a result, students endure overcrowded classrooms, shifting schedules, and compromised learning conditions that ultimately affect the quality of their education.

As a mother, we must not allow inadequate facilities to stand in the way of our children’s future.

The Classroom-Building Acceleration Program (CAP) seeks to expedite the construction of safe and adequate learning spaces by allowing qualified local government units (LGUs) and private sector entities to participate in classroom construction, subject to national standards. While the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) retain primary responsibility over educational infrastructure, the magnitude of the current deficit calls for broader collaboration.

Through CAP, we strengthen the spirit of bayanihan... bringing together government and private sector partners to address classroom shortages more swiftly and efficiently.

This proposed measure is a step toward providing safer, more orderly, and more humane learning environments. For every mother, education is not merely a right—it is the foundation of every child’s future.

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


FLORABEL CO YATCO
Representative
NANAY Partylist

¹ Department of Education (DepEd), Basic Education Facilities Data (2023), reporting an estimated classroom backlog of approximately 165,000 units nationwide.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H.B. No. 8130

Introduced by Hon. Florabel Co Yatco

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

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the Classroom-Building
Acceleration Program (CAP) Act.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is the policy of the State to promote quality
education 4 through adequate and accessible public school facilities. In recognition of
the 5 persistent classroom backlog across the country, the State shall adopt a whole-of6
nation approach by enabling local government units (LGUs) and the private sector to
actively participate in the construction of school buildings, in coordination with the
Department of Education (DepEd), and supported by national government funding,
private sector participation, and technical assistance.

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

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 of the 3
following criteria:

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

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

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

SEC. 6. Funding Sources. — Funds for the implementation of classroom projects under
the CAP shall be drawn from:

- a) The annual appropriations of DepEd for Basic Education Facilities;
- b) Other national government sources, subject to budgetary rules;

- c) Contributions from the private sector through corporate donations, foundations, or Public-Private Partnership (PPP) modalities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 11. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to implement the initial phase of the CAP shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DepEd. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of the program shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

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

SEC. 13. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

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

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

Approved,