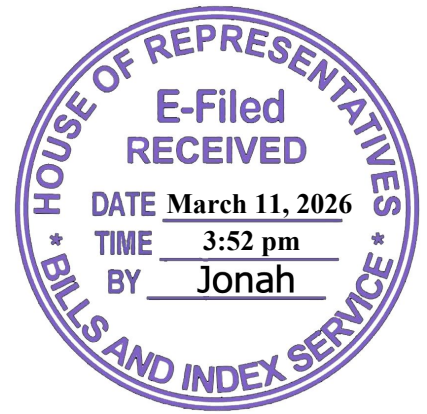


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8455



Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA "AGAY" A. CRUZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Science is one of the quiet architects of national progress. It powers industries, drives innovation, and provides the intellectual tools needed to solve complex problems. Nations that invest in scientific education cultivate not only knowledge but also the human capital necessary for sustained economic growth and technological advancement.

Recognizing this imperative, the 1987 Constitution directs the State to give priority to science and technology as essential instruments for national development. This mandate is reinforced by the Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013, which integrates Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education into the country's basic education curriculum.

Despite these efforts, access to specialized science education remains uneven across the country. In many provinces, academically gifted students must rely on general secondary schools that lack the advanced laboratories, research opportunities, and specialized faculty necessary for rigorous STEM training. This disparity limits the development of promising young minds and contributes to regional inequalities in educational opportunity.

These national disparities are reflected in local communities such as the Municipality of Guiguinto in the Bulacan. While the municipality supports science-oriented education and hosts programs that nurture early scientific aptitude among our learners, it does not have a legislated science high school capable of sustaining this academic trajectory at the secondary level.

A feasibility study conducted by education stakeholders in the Schools Division of Bulacan underscores the need for establishing such an educational institution. The study found strong support among students, parents, educators, and local officials and concluded that "the establishment of Guiguinto Science High School is expected to promote better educational outcomes, skill development, and local economic

advancement.”¹

The proposed Guiguinto Science High School seeks to address this gap by providing a specialized secondary institution dedicated to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. With advanced laboratories, research-oriented curricula, and highly qualified faculty, the school will cultivate scientific inquiry, critical thinking, and innovation among students.

Beyond academic development, the school is expected to strengthen local human capital, promote innovation, and expand access to quality STEM education for talented students across socioeconomic backgrounds.

In a global economy increasingly shaped by science and technology, strengthening institutions that nurture scientific talent is essential. Establishing the Guiguinto National Science High School is a meaningful step toward that goal.

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



AGATHA PAULA "AGAY" AGUILAR CRUZ
Representative, Fifth Legislative District of Bulacan

¹ Marinella Pengson, et.al., *Assessing Public Perception on the Establishment of Guiguinto Science High School (GSHS) in Guiguinto District, Province of Bulacan*. Schools Division of Bulacan feasibility study, which found strong stakeholder support and concluded that the proposed school would improve educational outcomes and contribute to local economic development.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8455

Introduced by **Representative AGATHA PAULA “AGAY” A. CRUZ**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF GUIGUINTO, PROVINCE OF BULACAN,
TO BE KNOWN AS THE GUIGUINTO NATIONAL SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **Section 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Guiguinto National
2 Science High School Act.”
3

4 **Section 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to promote quality
5 science and technology education and develop a pool of scientifically literate and
6 technologically competent citizens. Toward this end, the State shall strengthen specialized
7 science secondary schools that nurture students with aptitude in Science, Technology,
8 Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM).
9

10 **Section 3. Establishment of the Guiguinto Science High School.** – There is hereby
11 established, under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd), a national
12 science high school in the Municipality of Guiguinto, Province of Bulacan, to be known as
13 the Guiguinto National Science High School (GNSHS).
14

15 **Section 4. Funding.** – The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the
16 Department’s program the operationalization of the Guiguinto National Science High
17 School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
18

19 **Section 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days from
20 the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education shall formulate the rules and
21 regulations implementing the provisions of this Act. Such implementing rules and
22 regulations shall provide for the school’s organization, administration, operations, and
23 management, in accordance with Republic Act No. 9155 or the “Governance of Basic

1 Education Act of 2001”, Republic Act No. 10533 or the “Enhanced Basic Education Act of
2 2013”, and other basic education-related laws.

3
4 **Section 6. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act is held
5 unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in
6 full force and effect.

7
8 **Section 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and
9 regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
10 repealed or modified accordingly.

11
12 **Section 8. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
13 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

14
15 *Approved,*