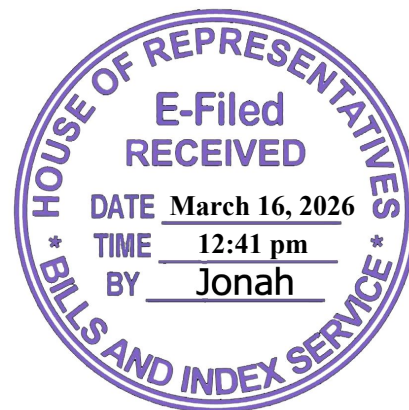


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8514



Introduced by Representative **JESUS R. MARQUEZ**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Republic of the Philippines and the Federal Republic of Germany share a long-standing relationship built on trade, intellectual exchange, diplomacy, development cooperation, and strong people-to-people ties. Formal diplomatic relations were established in 1954, and over the decades the partnership has grown into a stable and productive collaboration that continues to benefit both countries.

Germany has been an important partner of the Philippines in the areas of science, research, and education. Many Filipino scholars and professionals have pursued advanced studies in German universities through scholarships from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). Development cooperation programs implemented through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) have also supported Philippine initiatives in environmental protection, renewable energy, biodiversity conservation, and disaster resilience.

Economic relations between the Philippines and Germany remain strong. Germany is among the Philippines' key trading partners within the European Union. Philippine exports to Germany include electronics, semiconductors, coconut products, and garments, while the Philippines imports industrial machinery, medical equipment, automotive components, and other high-quality technologies that support the modernization of local industries. German companies such as Siemens, Bosch, and BASF have established operations and partnerships in the country, contributing to employment, technology transfer, and industrial development.

Education has likewise played a vital role in strengthening Philippine–German ties. The German European School Manila serves as an important institution that promotes intercultural learning and academic exchange. By offering internationally recognized programs such as the German International Abitur and the International Baccalaureate, the school provides students with access to high-quality education that prepares them for higher learning and careers in an increasingly globalized world.

Recognizing the German European School Manila as an educational institution of international character affirms the Philippines' commitment to strengthening global educational partnerships and supporting institutions that foster academic excellence, cultural understanding, and international cooperation.

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


REP. JESUS R. MARQUEZ

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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HOUSE BILL NO. 8514

Introduced by Representative **JESUS R. MARQUEZ**

AN ACT
RECOGNIZING THE GERMAN EUROPEAN SCHOOL MANILA, INCORPORATED
AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER, AND
GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES CONDUCTIVE TO ITS DEVELOPMENT AND
GROWTH

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

SECTION 1. The German European School Manila, Inc., herein referred to as the “German School”, is hereby recognized as a basic educational institution of international character authorized to operate recognized by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) of Germany that primarily and principally adhere to universally accepted and recognized educational policies.

SEC. 2. In support of the duty of the State to give priority to education, the German School shall provide basic education services and curricular programs that are socially responsible, forward thinking, and democratically disseminated, drawing inspiration from three (3) main guiding principles, namely:

- (a) Brain and Intelligence Research;
- (b) Change and Social Policy Development; and
- (c) Language and Culture Studies.

The resultant unique international curriculum of the German School thus integrates the following:

- (1) The latest scientific findings on brain and intelligence research as well as critical pedagogy pertaining to diversity and inclusive education;
- (2) Language study at the age when a child learns multiple languages naturally and intuitively;
- (3) Exposure to and proper use of technology; and
- (4) Culturally responsive teaching through the use of multicultural and interactive learning materials.

SEC. 3. The members of the German School shall be comprised of the parents or guardians of the children, whether of Philippine or foreign nationality, who have enrolled and attended the German School for at least one (1) school year: *Provided*, That no group of foreign nationality shall comprise more than one-third (1/3) of the German School’s enrollment; *Provided, further*, that the school year shall be determined in accordance with the German School’s own calendar of duties and work schedule: *Provided, finally*, That the German School shall be governed by a Board of Trustees, herein referred to as the Board, elected at large from among the corporation’s German and/or Filipino members of good standing.

SEC. 4. To enable the German School to continue carrying out its educational program, improve its standard of instruction, and meet the special needs of the foreign temporary resident community for quality education, it shall:

(a) Accept applicant for admission, regardless of nationality, in accordance with its own eligibility standards and rules for admission, and grade placement: *Provided*, That no single alien nationality shall consist more than one-third of the entire student population in a given school year, as stated in the records of the German School, except in case of dependents of foreign diplomatic personnel or other foreign temporary residents, as may be provided by law;

(b) Whenever necessary to carry out its objectives, have the right to obtain leases on real properties, acquire personal properties, tangible or intangible, or any interests in such properties other than real, by purchase, lease, barter, donation, or gift, and dispose of, mortgage, or encumber them for the benefit of the German School concerned, subject to the limitations provided by law;

(c) Be managed and administered by a Head of German School who is a Filipino citizen, and who possesses the qualifications prescribed by the Board;

(d) Upon consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd), determine its own curriculum, teach whatever language or languages it may deem proper, and determine the amount of fees and assessments which may be reasonably imposed upon its learners and students, to maintain or conform to the German School's standards of education;

(e) Maintain the international standards of education compatible with those obtained in similar schools of generally recognized standing;

(f) Employ its own teaching and management personnel selected by the Board either locally or abroad, from the Philippines or other countries or nationalities, such foreign personnel being exempt from otherwise applicable laws and regulations attending their employment, except laws that have been or will be enacted for the protection of employees: *Provided*, That such exemption shall not extend to their liability for income taxes, unless otherwise provided by a bilateral agreement: *Provided*, further, That the German School shall give priority to hiring locally qualified teaching and management personnel;

(g) Promote international friendship, goodwill, and understanding among members of the foreign community and the citizens of the Philippines; and

(h) Not to teach anything derogatory to the prestige and well-being of the Philippines and its people, nor those which will subvert its institution and government.

SEC 5. Notwithstanding the recognition and prerogatives under this Act, the German School shall be under the supervision and regulation of the DepEd and shall adhere to the basic laws and the rules and regulations of the DepEd governing international or foreign school.

SEC 6. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the DepEd shall, in consultation with the members of the Board, issue the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SEC 7. If any part or provision of this Act is subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC 8. Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the rules and regulations under Section 6 herein, this Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,