



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



TWENTIETH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 8761

Introduced by Representative Maria Angela S. Garcia

EXPLANATORY NOTE

EDCOM 2 (2025) on its findings on enrollment barriers, highlighted that 5,807 qualified students were unable to pursue their studies in the Philippine Science High School (PSHS), emphasizing the lack of available slots in the PSHS as the reason to the rejection of qualified students, which leads to the proposed measure in the form of the proposed Expanded Philippine Science High School System Act to enhance STEM education in the country.

Establishing Bataan Science High School (BSHS) in Barangay Sta. Isabel, Dinalupihan, Bataan is a strategic response to the demand, consistent with the constitutional mandate as stated in Article XIV, Section 1 and 2 that the State shall protect and promote quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all, including the establishment, maintaining and supporting a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and the society.

Bataan being in the top spot among Central Luzon provinces and highly urbanized cities, based on the estimated Gross Domestic Product of ₱300.61 billion or a surged by 9.3% growth rate in 2024 (Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) via PIA, 2025) has high demands in skilled STEM workforce. With industrial centers such as the Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB) and the Hermosa Ecozone Industrial Park (HEIP), which contributes significantly to Central Luzon's growth, requires a highly skilled workforce in advanced manufacturing, information technology, and high-tech sectors.

However, specialized science education remains inaccessible, as the nearest science high school lies approximately 24 kilometers away, constraining access and opportunities for deserving students in Dinalupihan and surrounding areas and municipalities. A comprehensive feasibility study confirms the viability of the project across market, technical, financial, organizational, and risk dimensions.

A survey of 269 parents, teachers, and stakeholders revealed that 150 (55.8%) of the respondents answered definitely yes and 67 (24.9%) probably yes in enrolling

1 their child in Bataan Science High School, driven by scholarships opportunities 175
2 (65.1%), advanced science curricula 171 (63.6%), modern facilities 104 (38.7%), and
3 STEM preparation 101 (37.5%). Key considerations include teacher quality 148 (55%),
4 proximity 128 (47.6%), and facilities and equipment 123 (45.7%). The findings
5 underscore strong community demand for accessible, high-quality STEM education
6 228 (84.8%), and the community will support the establishment of Bataan Science
7 High School 243 (90.3%).

8
9 By establishing the **Bataan National Science High School in Dinalupihan**,
10 we provide gifted students in the region with a specialized curriculum that fosters
11 innovation and critical thinking. This bill seeks to replicate the success of existing
12 science high schools, such as the one established under RA 11020, to ensure that
13 Bataan remains a leader in academic excellence and professional readiness.

14
15 In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

16

MARIA ANGELA S. GARCIA
Third District, Bataan



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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL
IN BARANGAY STA. ISABEL, MUNICIPALITY OF DINALUPIHAN,
PROVINCE OF BATAAN,
TO BE KNOWN AS THE BATAAN NATIONAL SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL
(DINALUPIHAN), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Establishment.** — There is hereby established, under the
2 supervision of the Department of Education, a national science high school in
3 Barangay Sta. Isabel, Municipality of Dinalupihan, Province of Bataan to be known as
4 **Bataan National Science High School (Dinalupihan).**

5 **SECTION 2. Appropriations.** — The Secretary of Education shall immediately
6 include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Bataan National
7 Science High School (Dinalupihan), the funding of which shall be included in the
8 annual General Appropriations Act.

9 **SECTION 3. Implementation.** — The Secretary of Education shall formulate
10 the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act within one hundred
11 twenty (120) days after its effectivity.

12 **SECTION 4. 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 Approved,

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