

SENATE

S. No. 2113

(In substitution of S. Nos. 866, 1388, 1868, 1871 and taking into  
consideration H. Nos. 8134 and 11651)

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS SOTTO III, COSETENG, AQUINO-ORETA  
AND MAGSAYSAY, JR.

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNANCE AND  
DEFINING THE SCOPE OF THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE  
HIGH SCHOOL (PSHS) SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR  
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8496

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

1 SECTION 1. A second paragraph is hereby added under Section  
2 2 of Republic Act No. 8496, otherwise known as the Philippine Science  
3 High School (PSHS) Sytem Act of 1997, to read as follows:

4 "THE STATE SHALL ALSO ENSURE THAT EVERY  
5 REGION IS GIVEN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO BENEFIT  
6 FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PSHS SYSTEM.  
7 TOWARDS THIS END, ONLY ONE (1) PSHS CAMPUS SHALL  
8 BE ESTABLISHED IN EACH OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE  
9 REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY."

10 SEC. 2. Section 3, paragraph (a) of the same Act is hereby

1 amended to read as follows:

2 "(a) Integrate the existing PSHS at Diliman; NUEVA  
3 VIZCAYA, CAMARINES SUR, ILOILO CITY, LEYTE, LANAO  
4 DEL NORTE AND DAVAO CITY [Eastern Visayas, Western  
5 Visayas and Mindanao] into one system of governance and  
6 management;"

7 SEC. 3. Section 5 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as  
8 follows:

9 "SEC. 5. *Scope.* - The Philippine Science High School  
10 System shall be composed of the existing PSHS campuses  
11 HEREIN MENTIONED [at Diliman, Eastern Visayas, Western  
12 Visayas and Mindanao,] and future campuses which shall be  
13 established under this [law] ACT. THE EXISTING CAMPUSES  
14 AT DILIMAN, QUEZON CITY; BAYOMBONG, NUEVA  
15 VIZCAYA; GOA, CAMARINES SUR; JARO, ILOILO CITY;  
16 PALO, LEYTE; TUGBOK, DAVAO CITY; AND BALO-I, LANAO  
17 DEL NORTE, SHALL BE KNOWN AS THE PSHS MAIN  
18 CAMPUS, PSHS CAGAYAN VALLEY, PSHS BICOL REGION,  
19 PSHS WESTERN VISAYAS, PSHS EASTERN VISAYAS, PSHS  
20 SOUTHERN MINDANAO AND PSHS CENTRAL MINDANAO,  
21 RESPECTIVELY.

22 THE NUEVA VISCAYA SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL,  
23 ESTABLISHED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7622, AS  
24 AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8364, IS HEREBY  
25 ABSORBED BY THE PSHS SYSTEM AND SHALL BECOME

1 PSHS CAGAYAN VALLEY CAMPUS.

2 THE PSHS BICOL CAMPUS LOCATED IN THE  
3 MUNICIPALITY OF GOA, CAMARINES SUR, ESTABLISHED  
4 UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8304, AS AMENDED BY  
5 REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8619, SHALL BE CONSIDERED DISTINCT  
6 AND SEPARATE FROM THE SAN RAFAEL NATIONAL HIGH  
7 SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TIGAON, CAMARINES  
8 SUR. THE SAN RAFAEL NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL SHALL  
9 CONTINUE TO EXIST UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE  
10 DECS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF BATAS  
11 PAMBANSA BLG. 580, AS AMENDED, AND SHALL  
12 MAINTAIN ALL PERSONNEL, ASSETS, LIABILITIES AND  
13 RECORDS PREVIOUSLY TRANSFERRED AND ABSORBED BY  
14 THE PSHS BICOL CAMPUS.”

15 SEC. 4. A new Section 6 is hereby inserted between Sections 5  
16 and 6 of the same Act, to read as follows:

17 “SEC. 6. *RESTRICTION ON THE CONVERSION OF HIGH*  
18 *SCHOOLS INTO A PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL.* - IN  
19 ADDITION TO THE GUIDELINES/CRITERIA THAT MAY BE  
20 ESTABLISHED BY THE PSHS BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN THE  
21 ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF SCIENCE HIGH  
22 SCHOOL, THE CONVERSION AND INCLUSION OF EXISTING  
23 HIGH SCHOOLS INTO THE PSHS SYSTEM SHALL NOT BE  
24 ALLOWED.”

1 SEC. 5. Section 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 “SEC. [6] 7. *Overall Coordinating Authority.* - The PSHS  
4 System shall be under the administrative supervision of the  
5 Department of Science and Technology (DOST). THE PSHS  
6 SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES (BOT) SHALL BE THE  
7 GOVERNING BOARD OF ALL THE PSHS CAMPUSES  
8 WHEREVER SITUATED.”

9 SEC. 6. Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as  
10 follows:

11 “SEC. [7] 8. *Board of Trustees.* - There shall be a Board of  
12 Trustees composed of the secretary of the DOST as *ex-officio*  
13 Chairman, the secretary of DECS as *ex-officio* Vice Chairman, and  
14 the following members: The President of the U.P., the Executive  
15 Director of PSHS, the Director of the Science Education Institute  
16 (SEI), [and] the President from the PSHS National Alumni  
17 Association, AND THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE  
18 CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES ON SCIENCE AND  
19 TECHNOLOGY as *ex-officio* members; and one (1) representative  
20 each from the private sector representing higher education,  
21 education for the gifted, industry, agriculture, and new and  
22 emerging technologies. The private sector representatives shall  
23 be appointed by [the Chairman subject to the confirmation of]  
24 the Board of Trustees UPON RECOMMENDATION OF A DULY  
25 CONSTITUTED SEARCH COMMITTEE. For the first set of

1 appointments, three (3) of them shall serve for four (4) years,  
2 while the other two (2) for two (2) years, thereafter, succeeding  
3 appointments shall have a fixed term of four (4) years.

4 The Board shall exercise the following powers:

5 (a) Formulate policies and guidelines for the  
6 administration and operation of the PSHS System;

7 (B) ESTABLISH A PSHS CAMPUS IN EACH OF THE  
8 ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS;

9 (C) [b] [Formulate policies on the] APPROVE  
10 appointment, promotion, retention, [removal,] renewal, rewards  
11 and incentives for [administrators,] faculty and staff, FIX THEIR  
12 COMPENSATION AND OTHER CONDITIONS OF  
13 EMPLOYMENT, AND REMOVE THEM FOR CAUSE AFTER  
14 PROPER INVESTIGATION AND HEARING;

15 (D)[c] Approve the curricula submitted by the Executive  
16 Director;

17 (E)[d] Approve the criteria for the selection and admission  
18 of students;

19 (F)[e] Approve the grant of scholarship, stipend and such  
20 allowances for students;

21 (G)[f] Approve the graduation of successful candidates  
22 from the various PSHS campuses;

23 (H)[g] Formulate policies and rules of discipline for  
24 students, faculty and staff;

1 (I)[h] Approve the PSHS System budget, RECEIVE and  
2 appropriate to the ends specified by law such sums as may be  
3 provided by law for the support of the System;

4 (J)[i] Receive grants whether cash, land, buildings and  
5 improvements thereof; donations, contributions, bequestS, gifts,  
6 and to formulate policies for the administration thereof;

7 (K) APPROVE THE USE OF ALL INCOME GENERATED  
8 BY THE SCHOOL IN THE PURSUIT OF ITS FUNCTIONS AND  
9 DONATIONS RECEIVED IN TRUST BY INDIVIDUAL  
10 CAMPUSES, ACCORDING TO THE PURPOSE OF THE DONOR  
11 AND INTENTION OF THE DONATION. IN CASES WHERE  
12 INCOME/DONATION RECEIVED IS NOT INTENDED FOR A  
13 PARTICULAR CAMPUS, THE BOARD SHALL LIKEWISE  
14 APPROPRIATE THE SAME FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE  
15 SYSTEM OR ANY PART THEREOF;

16 (L)[j] Develop policies for the expansion of enrollment in  
17 the campuses under the PSHS System;

18 (M)[k] [Set] ESTABLISH policies and FORMULATE  
19 GUIDELINES/criteria, REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY to  
20 rationalize the establishment AND OPERATION of the science  
21 high schools under the System IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE  
22 QUALITY AND UNIFORM STANDARD INHERENT OF A  
23 BONAFIDE PSHS [, for its evaluation and approval thereof]; and

24 (N)[l] Prepare strategic plans to enhance the capability of  
25 the System in developing human resources with focus on youth

with special talents in science and mathematics.”

SEC. 7. Section 8 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. [8] 9. *Executive Director (ED)*. - There shall be an Executive Director who shall be appointed by [the Chairman, subject to the approval of] the Board and shall be conferred the rank equivalent to a bureau director with a fixed term of six (6) years, renewable for another term. The ED shall [coordinate the implementation] EXERCISE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISION OVER ALL CAMPUS DIRECTORS AND SHALL BE THE PRIMARY IMPLEMENTOR of policies and guidelines set by the Board of Trustees. As a member of the Board of Trustees, the ED shall articulate to the Board the mutual concern of all the campuses.”

SEC. 8. A new Section 10 is hereby inserted between Sections 8 and 9 of the same Act, to read as follows;

“SEC. 10. *DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (DED)*. - THERE SHALL BE A DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (DED) WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD FOR A TERM OF SIX (6) YEARS, RENEWABLE FOR ANOTHER TERM. THE DED SHALL PERFORM THE DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS ASSIGNED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.”

SEC. 9. Section 9 of the same Act is hereby renumbered as Section 11.

SEC. 10. Section 10 of the same Act shall be amended, to read as follows:

“SEC. [10] 12. *Executive Committee*. - There shall be an Executive Committee IN THE PSHS SYSTEM composed of the Executive Director AS *EX-OFFICIO* CHAIRPERSON and the Campus Directors [in the PSHS System] as members. [The committee shall be collegial in character.]”

SEC. 11. Sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of the same Act are hereby renumbered accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Repealing and Amending Clause*. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, rules and regulations or parts hereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity*. - This Act shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

Approved,