Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2500

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE ARNULF BRYAN "ARNIE" B. FUENTEBELLA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 6655 otherwise known as the "Free Secondary Education Act of 1988" was enacted in pursuance of the mandate of the Constitution "to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all".

As a direct consequence of the free tuition granted under the said law, the number of enrollees in the secondary schools had increased significantly. It is disturbing to note however, that as the enrollees grow each year, the percentage number of unemployed high school graduates has also been increasing by leaps and bounds.
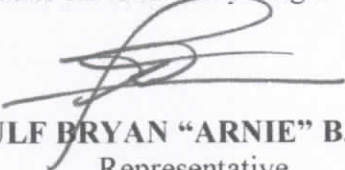
This bill therefore seeks to convert the Villafuerte-Pena High School in Barangay Ponglon, Municipality of San Jose, Province of Camarines Sur into a national technical-vocational high school to be known as the Juan C. Pena National Technical-Vocational High School.

The paramount objective of this bill is to offer technical and vocational subjects to equip all the students with technical knowledge that will somehow help them, especially those, who cannot afford to pursue college courses, earn a decent living wage. This way, this technical-vocational secondary school will help the government in arresting the rapid growth of unemployed high school graduates in this part of the country.

It is worthy to mention that this bill was approved by the House of Representatives during the 16th and 17th Congresses, and under Section 48 of the Rules of the House of Representatives, this bill "may be disposed of as matters already reported upon the approval of majority of the Members of the committee present, there being a quorom."

"The committee secretary shall immediately prepare the necessary committee report[s] on said measure[s] for inclusion in the Calendar of Business."

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

ARNULF BRYAN "ARNIE" B. FUENTEBELLA
Representative
Fourth District, Camarines Sur

Introduced by: **REPRESENTATIVE ARNULF BRYAN "ARNIE" B. FUENTEBELLA**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE VILLAFUERTE-PEÑA HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PONGLON, MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR INTO A NATIONAL TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE JUAN C. PEÑA NATIONAL TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Conversion into a National Technical-Vocational High School.* – The Villafuerte-Pena High School in Barangay Ponglon, Municipality of San Jose, Province of Camarines Sur is hereby converted into a national technical-vocational high school to be known as the Juan C. Pena National Technical-Vocational High School.

SEC. 2. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.* – All personnel, assets, liabilities and records of the Villafuerte-Pena High School are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Juan C. Pena National Technical-Vocational High School.

SEC. 3. *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Juan C. Pena National Technical-Vocational High School, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the Villafuerte-Pena High School. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation of the school shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. *Implementation.* – The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,