



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

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 751

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**Introduced by Representative Jocelyn Sy Limkaichong**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This House Bill was previously filed in the Seventeenth Congress as House Bill 09021. It was approved by the House on May 20, 2019 and was transmitted to the Senate on May 21, 2019. The *sine die* adjournment of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress preceded the House Bill's approval in the Upper House.

Education is a vital component of national development. In recognition of the right of all citizens to quality education, the 1987 Constitution, under Article XIV Section 2, mandates the State to “establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.” For the City of Canlaon, the establishment of a separate schools division office is a *sine qua non* requirement to fulfill this constitutional mandate.

The proposed bill heeds the request of the Sanggunian Panlungsod of Canlaon City, embodied in their Resolution No. 110, Series of 2016. The establishment of a separate schools division office aims to facilitate the supervision of the Department of Education of the schools in Canlaon City. It also aims to bolster the effectiveness and efficiency of the management and operations of the schools in the division. Its establishment is a step to ensure that the schools in the locality will be in full compliance with the existing standards for quality education. This will ultimately promote the academic performance of students through the improved supervision of Canlaon's educational institutions.

Canlaon City is one hundred sixty-six (166) kilometers from Dumaguete City where the division office of the Department of Education is located. The travel time between the two cities is estimated to be five (5) hours by bus. Given this factual circumstance, the effective instructional and field supervision of the schools has been difficult to achieve.

The desired efficiency in the administration of DepEd services to the public will be made possible through the enactment of this measure. Its approval will increase the DepEd's capacity to conduct instructional supervision to check the compliance and implementation of curriculum requirements.

In accordance with the State's policy of providing quality education for its citizens, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



**JOCELYN SY LIMKAICHONG**





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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SEPARATE SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE  
IN THE CITY OF CANLAON, PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL**

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

SECTION 1. A separate Schools Division Office of the Department of Education is hereby established in Canlaon City. The Schools Division Office shall be headed by a division superintendent who must possess the necessary qualifications required by the Department of Education. The division superintendent shall have authority, accountability and responsibility as vested by law.

The staff complement of the Schools Division Office in Canlaon City must also possess the necessary qualifications required by the Department of Education. The salaries of the supervisors, principals, teachers and other operational expenses of the primary, intermediate, high schools and other public schools in the city shall be borne by the National Government: Provided, That the powers and duties of the local government as contained in the Local Government Code in support of the schools shall not be abridged, curtailed or diminished.

SECTION 2. Section 86 of Republic Act No. 3445, otherwise known as "An Act Creating the City of Canlaon" is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 86. The Bureau of Public Schools. — The Director of Public Schools shall exercise the same jurisdiction and powers in the city as elsewhere in the Philippines. **THE CITY SHALL HAVE A SEPARATE SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE AND THE DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FOR THE CITY OF CANLAON SHALL HAVE ALL THE POWERS AND DUTIES IN RESPECT TO THE SCHOOLS OF THE CITY AS ARE VESTED IN DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS IN RESPECT TO SCHOOLS OF THEIR DIVISIONS.**

A city school board of six members, two of whom shall be women and who shall serve without salary, shall be selected and removed in the same manner, and shall have the same powers and duties, as local school boards in the municipalities.

The municipal board shall have the same powers in respect to the establishment of school as are conferred by law on municipal councils.

SECTION 3. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Schools Division Office in Canlaon City. The funding needed for the establishment, operation, and maintenance of the Division Office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. The Secretary of Education shall issue the rules necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,