

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session  
H.B. No. 4294



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**Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVE LEONARDO L. BABASA, JR.**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The upgrading of the National High School into National Science and Technology High School is a demand of the time as we journey toward developing the countryside at the age of computerization era. Countryside development will remain a dream unless our national high school will be upgraded into science and technology high school geared toward producing technology oriented high schools.

As we all know, technology is the prime mover of all economic growth and progress. Though the Philippines have experienced economic growth, this was confined to urban areas and has still to be trickled down to the countryside to be enjoyed by all. This economic growth must be driven further and sustained by the technologies generated by our National Science and Technology High School in order to create atmosphere conducive to producing technology oriented high school adaptive to technological change in the countryside.

Developed countries have proven that science and technologies drove and sustained their economic growth and were able to enjoy the fruit of this development. We have to go forward and strengthen our scientific and technological efforts toward developing scientific competency that will benefit our countrymen in the countryside. We must empower our students and teachers to become capable researchers by upgrading their capabilities and equip our science laboratory with sophisticated equipment and generate technologies appropriate for countryside development.


Pursuant to this foresight, this bill seeks to upgrade the 15 national high school one each from every municipality in District II of Zamboanga del Sur into National Science and Technology High School and establish a science laboratory wherein students and teachers alike can use the laboratory facilities for the furtherance of science and technology in District II of Zamboanga del Sur.

More importantly, this bill seeks to address the science and technology gaps needed to develop and drive the countryside economy and beyond. More so that high school dropout rate is at 7.82 percent in 2012 according to the available data from the Department of Education.

High school dropouts if they choose to remain and stay in the countryside, would at least make our citizenry thereat more educated, technically oriented and scientifically intellectuals that are receptive to change for the betterment of farming system and other appropriate livelihood technology that will drive and sustain our economy in the District.

At the end, the goal is countryside development through the harmonious upgrading of 15 National Science High School into National Science and Technology High School and the establishment of science laboratory therein for the benefits of students and teachers alike conducting science and technology research in the countryside extolling inclusive growth and development.

In view of the above, the immediate passing of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
**LEONARDO D. BABASA, JR.**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur

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**AN ACT FAST TRACKING COUNTRYSIDE DEVELOPMENT BY UPGRADING THE 15 NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOLS IN DISTRICT II OF ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR INTO NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL AND ESTABLISHING SCIENCE LABORATORY THEREOF, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

Section 1. Title – This act shall be known as the “National Science and Technology High School Act of 2019.”

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – The Department of Education (DepEd) formulates, implements, and coordinates policies, plans, programs and projects in the areas of formal and non-formal basic education. It supervises all elementary and secondary education institutions, including alternative learning systems, both public and private; and provides for the establishment and maintenance of a complete, adequate, and integrated system of basic education relevant to the goals of national development.

Pursuant to this policy, the Department of Education is mandated to implement programs and projects that will upgrade the quality of education in all levels and level up the quality of education in countryside comparable to the highly urbanized areas pursuant to the strand Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) of DepED.

Section 3. The 15 National High Schools that will be upgraded into National Science and Technology High School are the following:

**DISTRICT II, ZDS**

1. Damit NHS, Damit, Bayog, ZDS
2. Comprehensieve NHS, Lakewood, ZDS
3. Tigbao NHS, Tigbao, ZDS
4. Kumalarang NHS, Kumalarang, ZDS
5. Dumalinao NHS, Dumalinao, ZDS
6. Guipos NHS, Guipos, ZDS
7. San Pablo NHS, San Pablo, ZDS
8. Betinan NHS, San Miguel, ZDS
9. Lapuyan NHS, Lapuyan, ZDS



10. Torribio Minor NHS, Margosatubig, ZDS
11. Kabatan NHS, V. Sagun, ZDS
12. Paulino Dari NHS, Pitogo, ZDS
13. Dinas NHS, Dinas, ZDS
14. Laureano Salusod NHS, Dimataling, ZDS
15. Tabina NHS, Tabina, ZDS

Section 3. Establishment of Science Laboratory. There shall be a Science Laboratory established in every National Science and Technology High School and strengthened with funding for financial support and purchase of equipment and ingredients for every student to use to conduct research. Every Junior and Senior High School student shall be required to conduct research in the following identified priority areas of the National Integrated Basic Research Agenda (NIBRA) of the Harmonized National Research Agenda:

- a.) Water Security
- b.) Food and Nutrition Security
- c.) Health Sufficiency
- d.) Clean Energy
- e.) Sustainable Communities
- f.) Inclusive National Building

Section 4. Research for Master Teachers. As DepEd policy, Master Teachers are required to conduct research every two years. The Master Teachers in the established science laboratory of the National Science and Technology High School will be privileged to use the facility, provided the research to be conducted are within the priority area identified under the National Integrated Basic Research Agenda, as stipulated above.

Section 5. The Office of the Science and Technology Supervisor (S&T Supervisor). There shall be established the Office for the Science and Technology Supervisor manned by Science Supervisor who will head, direct and supervise the science laboratory, student experiment and research with permanent position and with a salary grade of twenty-four (SG 24). The Office of the S&T Supervisor shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Formulate plans, programs and projects designed to fast track the conduct of research for the countryside development following the NIBRA
2. Supervise and monitor the conduct of research projects by students and master teachers
3. Conduct in-house peer review of proposals and completed or terminated projects
4. Strengthen Application of Intellectual Property Rights
5. Develop linkages and network with other research institutes
6. Develop package of technologies generated out of the researches
7. Conduct field trials/technology piloting to verify research results
8. Present to fora/funding agencies results of research
9. Develop research information dissemination materials
10. Transfer to interested clients matured technologies
11. Perform other related function as maybe assigned by higher authorities

Section 6. Remuneration and other benefits of S&T Supervisor. The remuneration of the S&T Supervisor shall be equivalent to that of the same Salary of Grade twenty-four (SG 24) in the government service and shall be entitled to reimbursable representation and transportation allowance commensurate to his office and other benefits as prescribe by law.

Section 7. Staff of the Office of S&T Supervisor. There shall be a minimum of four (4) technical staff in the Office of the S&T Supervisor including the S&T Supervisor and additional one (1) non-technical staff. The DepED shall determine the level of these positions, provided that prescribed qualifications shall be in accordance with civil service laws and regulations.

Section 8. Appropriations. The funds necessary for the continuous and effective operation of the various National Science and Technology High School established under this act shall be included in the appropriations of the DepED in the General Appropriations Act.

All fees and services rendered by the Science Laboratory shall be aligned with the Technology Transfer Act.

Section 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd and other relevant government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Section 10. Separability Clause. Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

Section 11. Repealing Clause. This Act repeals or modifies accordingly pertinent provisions, regulations, executive order, proclamation, or other issuance or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modify accordingly.

Section 12. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,