

Republic of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2084

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
<b>RECEIVED</b>	
DATE:	27 JUL 2016
TIME:	6:00 PM
BY:	<i>[Signature]</i>
REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

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Introduced by Congresswoman AURORA ENERIO CERILLES

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the duty of the State to establish and maintain a system of free public education in the high school level, to protect and promote the right of citizens to quality education and to take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all. This bill seeks to carry out this duty through the establishment of a National High School in Barangay Balongbalong, Municipality of Pitogo, Province of Zamboanga del Sur.

A barangay of a fifth-class municipality, Barangay Balongbalong, has a sizeable number of elementary graduates who are unable to pursue secondary education because of the location and limited number of high schools in the vicinity. In fact, the nearest high school is located more than three (3) kilometers away from the barangay. This hinders the residents' right to accessible education and deprives the barangay the opportunity to develop its community and improve the quality of the residents' lives in various aspects – economic, social, cultural, political and spiritual.

Economically, education provides citizens the necessary knowledge skills and values that will support the country's economic growth and will make the country progressive and prosperous. Most importantly, education helps break the vicious cycle of poverty from one generation to the next.

The establishment of a National High School makes high school education more accessible to the barangay and would result to more educated Filipinos who would then have better opportunities to improve their living standards. This bill does not only give utmost importance to education but also helps in creating economic opportunities and strengthening our national economy.

I therefore seek the immediate passage of this bill.

  
AURORA ENERIO CERILLES

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY  
BALONGBALONG, MUNICIPALITY OF PITOGO, PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA  
DEL SUR, TO BE KNOWN AS BALONGBALONG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF**

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

**Section 1.** Establishment of National High School. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd), a National High School in Barangay Balongbalong, Municipality of Pitogo, Province of Zamboanga del Sur to be known as **Balongbalong National High School**.

**Section 2.** Appropriations. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriation of the DepEd under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the sum needed for its operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**Section 3.** Implementation. The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

**Section 4.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved: