

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

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 4503**



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**Introduced by Representative Cyrille “Beng” F. Abueg-Zaldivar**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill was previously filed as House Bill (H.B.) No. 1466 in the 16<sup>th</sup> and as H.B. No. 1538 during the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress. Both bills were referred to the House Committee on Basic Education and Culture.


This bill aims to provide the youth of Barangay Punang in the Municipality of Sofronio Española, Province of Palawan, access to quality secondary education by converting the Pulot National High School – Punang Extension into a separate and distinct national high school from the Pulot National High School, to be known as PUNANG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL.

The Pulot National High School – Punang Extension was established in June 2011. At present, Punang Extension obtains its funding for operations from its mother school, the Pulot National High School. The continuous increase in the number of enrollees of Punang Extension shows that students recognize the tremendous value of education in shaping the future and alleviating poverty. Moreover, in order for the school to function effectively and efficiently, a regular source of funds every school year must be sufficient. It can only be realized by making it a distinct institution and funding therefor included in the annual General Appropriations Act. Furthermore, the separation and conversion into a national high school will improve the administration of both Punang Extension and Pulot National High School in terms of addressing the needs of its students.

The Punang Extension High School was issued permit to operate by the Regional Director of Region IV-B, Department of Education, pursuant to the request of local government officials of Sofronio Española, Palawan, after compliance with necessary requirements therefor.

This bill is recommended for approval, consistent with Article XIV Section One of the 1987 Constitution which mandates that, "the State shall 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."

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

  
**CYRILLE "BENG" F. ABUEG-ZALDIVAR**  
Representative, 2nd District of Palawan

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**AN ACT**

**SEPARATING THE PULOT NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL – PUNANG  
EXTENSION IN BARANGAY PUNANG, MUNICIPALITY OF SOFRONIO  
ESPAÑOLA, PROVINCE OF PALAWAN FROM THE PULOT NATIONAL HIGH  
SCHOOL, CONVERTING IT INTO AN INDEPENDENT NATIONAL HIGH  
SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS PUNANG NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1.** The Pulot National High School – Punang Extension in Barangay  
Punang, Municipality of Sofronio Española, Province of Palawan is hereby separated from  
the Pulot National High School and converted into an independent national high school to  
be known as Punang National High School.

**SEC. 2.** All personnel, assets, liabilities and records of the Pulot National High  
School – Punang Extension are hereby transferred to and absorbed by the Punang National  
High School.

**SEC. 3.** The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department’s  
program the operationalization of the Punang National High School, the initial funding of  
which shall be charged against the current year’s appropriation of the Pulot National High  
School – Punang Extension. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued operation  
of the school shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1           **SEC. 4.** Within one hundred twenty (120) days after the approval of this Act, the  
2 Secretary of Education shall formulate the rules and regulations implementing the  
3 provisions of this Act.

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

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8           *Approved,*