

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

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 949



Introduced by Representative Lucy Torres-Gomez

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to the 1987 Philippine Constitution "The State shall give *priority* to education, xxx foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development" (Sec. 17, Art. II). It further provides 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 (Sec. 1, Art. XIV). And it also mandates that "The State shall: (1) Establish, maintain, and support a complete, *adequate*, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society (Sec. 2 [1], Art. XIV, all italics supplied).

The Ormoc City Division is composed of 83 elementary schools and 16 secondary schools. The 83 elementary schools serve a total of 31,286 pupils whereas the 16 secondary schools serve a total of 15,727 students. Given these two (2) ratios of schools and students, clearly there is now an acute lack secondary schools. As a result of this great disproportion, the Ormoc City National High School – the central secondary institution – is suffering from heavy congestion. The situation is no longer conducive to optimal learning. It is failing the adequacy test mentioned in the fundamental charter. The overpopulation is now depriving students of their right to access quality education.

It is for this reason that this measure calls for the establishment of a separate/new national high school in Barangay Mas-in, Ormoc City. The proposed new high school is not within the 1-2 kilometer radius from the nearest secondary school, hence, would be viable. Its feeder schools would include the Mas-in Elementary School (with 375 enrollees, including 50 possible enrollees for junior high school), the San Vicente Elementary School (with 240 enrollees, including 39 graduating pupils), the Demonar

Elementary School (with 325 enrollees, including 41 graduating pupils), the Esperanza Elementary School (with 123 enrollees, including 24 graduating pupils), the Green Valley Elementary School (with 170 enrollees, including 25 graduating pupils), and the Inaad Elementary School (with 126 enrollees, including 17 Grade Six level pupils).

This is a refiled measure from the Seventeenth Congress.

The early approval of this bill therefore is earnestly requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Torres Gomez', is positioned above the printed name.

LUCY TORRES GOMEZ
Representative
Fourth District of Leyte

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HOUSE BILL NO. 949

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY
MAS-IN, CITY OF ORMOC IN THE PROVINCE OF LEYTE TO
BE KNOWN AS MAS-IN 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. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Education, a national high school in Barangay Mas-in, City of Ormoc in the Province of Leyte to be known as Mas-in National High School.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Mas-in National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall issue rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. M. S.", is positioned below the word "Approved,". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the left.