

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

18<sup>th</sup> Congress  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 5964**



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Introduced by Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

A good background in science and technology education is very important during the formative years of our students, the nation is in dire need of scientists who will serve the Filipino people. To address these needs, we need a continuous development in the field of science and technology.

This bill seeks to expand the establishment of Philippine Science High School (PSHS) campus in the different regions of the country.

The establishment of a Philippine Science High School in the different regions of the country will be a catalyst in inspiring our youth to seek further knowledge and eventually pursue a career in the field of science and technology, research and other related fields which may be beneficial to the country in general.

The various regions of the country deserve to have a Philippine Science High School campus of its own so that quality education in the field of science and technology can be provided, considering the pool of talent and deserving high school students that excel in the field of science and mathematics.

The establishment of a Philippine Science High School in the regions will enable the students to be equipped with proper training and facilities that will eventually lead them to a science-oriented career and will provide free access to quality education while addressing the future of our youth as a whole for the benefit of the country.

In view of these, passage of the bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Erico Aumentado", written over a circular stamp.

**ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO.**

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2 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
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13 Introduced by **Rep. ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO**  
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16 **AN ACT**

17 **EXPANDING THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM,**  
18 **AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8496 AS**  
19 **AMENDED BY 9036**

20  
21 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*  
22 *assembled:*  
23  
24  
25

26 **Section 1.** Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Expanded Philippine Science High  
27 School (PSHS) System Act of 2020."  
28

29 **Section 2.** Section 2 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:  
30

31 "The State shall give priority to Research and Development, invention, innovation, and  
32 their utilization; and to Science and Technology education, training and services. It shall  
33 support appropriate, and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, and their  
34 application to the country's productive systems and national life. To achieve these, the  
35 State hereby establishes a PSHS System that will assume a leadership role in secondary  
36 Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education."  
37

38 The State shall support the admission process of the PSHS System by establishing test  
39 centers all over the regions, to enhance equitable admissions and access for deserving  
40 pupils.  
41

42 The State shall also ensure that every region is given equal opportunity to benefit from the  
43 establishment of the PSHS System. Towards this end, not more than three (3) PSHS  
44 campuses inclusive of the existing PSHS Campuses shall be established in each of the  
45 administrative regions of the country outside NCR where PSHS Main Campus is located.  
46 *Provided that,* all establishment of PSHS Campuses shall be in accordance with the  
47 guidelines/criteria set by the PSHS System Board of Trustees. After 10 years of the  
48 implementation of this law, the PSHS System Board of Trustees (BoT) may consider  
49 establishment of more than three (3) PSHS campuses per region.



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2  
3 **Section 3.** Section 3 of the same Act shall be amended to read as follows:  
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5 **“Section 3. Objectives.** – In implementing the foregoing policy, the State shall pursue the  
6 following objectives:  
7

- 8 a) to ensure that pupils’ with high aptitudes in science and mathematics are given  
9 opportunities to enroll in Philippine Science High School System;  
10  
11 b) to provide more scholarship opportunities to pupils with high aptitudes in science and  
12 mathematics;  
13  
14 c) to establish campuses that are geographically more accessible to the public;  
15  
16 d) to increase the pool of high school graduates who will pursue undergraduate courses,  
17 conduct researches and become leaders in the field of science, technology,  
18 engineering and mathematics;”  
19

20 **Section 4. Definition of Terms -** Section 4 of the same Act shall be amended to read as follows:  
21

- 22 “a) PSHS System – composed of the Office of the Executive Director and the PSHS  
23 campuses under its supervision.  
24  
25 b) Term – refers to the *“term of office,”* with a duration of five (5) years in one (1) term”  
26

27 **Section 5.** Section 5 of the same Act shall be amended to read as follows:  
28

29 **“Section 5. Scope. -** The Philippine Science High School System shall be composed of  
30 the existing PSHS campuses herein mentioned and future campuses which shall be  
31 established under this Act. The existing sixteen (16) campuses shall be known as follows:  
32

- 33 5.1 Philippine Science High School - Main Campus  
34  
35 5.2 Philippine Science High School - Davao Region Campus in Davao City, formerly  
36 PSHS – Southern Mindanao Campus  
37  
38 5.3 Philippine Science High School - Western Visayas Campus in Iloilo City, formerly  
39 Philippine Science High School - Western Visayas Campus  
40  
41 5.4 Philippine Science High School - Eastern Visayas Campus in Leyte, formerly  
42 Philippine Science High School - Eastern Visayas Campus  
43  
44 5.5 Philippine Science High School - Cagayan Valley Campus in Nueva Vizcaya,  
45 formerly PSHS-Cagayan Valley Campus  
46  
47 5.6 PSHS-Northern Mindanao Campus in Lanao del Norte, formerly Philippine Science  
48 High School-Central Mindanao Campus  
49  
50 5.7 Philippine Science High School - Bicol Region Campus in Camarines Sur, formerly  
51 Philippine Science High School -Bicol Region Campus  
52  
53 5.8 Philippine Science High School - Ilocos Region Campus in Ilocos Sur, formerly  
54 Philippine Science High School - Ilocos Region Campus

- 1  
2 5.9 Philippine Science High School - Central Visayas Campus in Cebu, formerly,  
3 Philippine Science High School - Central Visayas Campus  
4  
5 5.10 Philippine Science High School - Central Luzon Campus in Clark Freeport Zone,  
6 formerly Philippine Science High School - Central Luzon Campus  
7  
8 5.11 Philippine Science High School - Cordillera Administrative Region Campus in  
9 Baguio City, formerly Philippine Science High School - Cordillera Administrative  
10 Region Campus  
11  
12 5.12 Philippine Science High School - SOCCSKARGEN Region Campus in Koronadal  
13 City, formerly Philippine Science High School - SOCCSKARGEN Region Campus  
14  
15 5.13 Philippine Science High School - CARAGA Region Campus in Butuan City, formerly  
16 Philippine Science High School - CARAGA Region Campus  
17  
18 5.14 Philippine Science High School - CALABARZON Region Campus in Batangas City,  
19 formerly Philippine Science High School - CALABARZON Region Campus  
20  
21 5.15 Philippine Science High School - MIMAROPA Region Campus in Romblon,  
22 formerly Philippine Science High School - MIMAROPA Region Campus  
23  
24 5.16 Philippine Science High School - Zamboanga Peninsula Region Campus in Dipolog  
25 City, formerly Philippine Science High School - Zamboanga Peninsula Region  
26 Campus”  
27  
28 “Future campuses which shall be established under this Act shall be integrated in the  
29 Region where they are located and shall be named after the municipality, province or  
30 chartered city where they are located.”  
31  
32 5.17 Philippine Science High School - Central Visayas Campus in Ubay,  
33 Bohol  
34  
35 5.18 Philippine Science High School – Bicol Region Campus in Daraga,  
36 Albay  
37  
38 5.19 Philippine Science High School – CALABARZON Campus in Sta Rosa,  
39 Laguna  
40  
41 5.20 Philippine Science High School – Cagayan Valley Campus in Reina  
42 Mercedes, Isabela  
43  
44 5.21 Philippine Science High School – Cagayan Valley Campus in Iguig, in  
45 Cagayan  
46  
47 5.22 Philippine Science High School – Zamboanga Peninsula Campus in  
48 Labangan, Zamboanga Del Sur  
49  
50 5.23 Philippine Science High School – Northern Mindanao Campus in  
51 Bukidnon  
52  
53  
54



**Section 6. Power of the Board of Trustees** - Section 8 paragraph 2 of the same Act shall be amended and read as follows:

"The Board shall exercise the following powers:

- a) Ensures that the provisions of the Laws pertaining to the creation and operation of the PSHS System are enforced/ implemented;
- b) Approves policies and guidelines necessary in the operation of science high schools under the PSHS System in order to maintain the quality and uniform standard in all PSHS Campuses;
- c) Approves strategic plans to enhance the capability of the System in developing human resources with focus on youth with special talents in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.
- d) Approves the curricula submitted by the Executive Director;
- e) Approves policies for the expansion of enrollment in the campuses under the PSHS System;
- f) Approves the grant and termination of PSHS scholarships;
- g) Approves the graduation of successful candidates from the various PSHS campuses;
- h) Recommends to the DOST Secretary the appointment of Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director(s) and Campus Director(s);
- i) Approves appointment, promotion, retention, renewal, rewards and incentives for faculty, fix their compensation and other conditions of employment, and remove them for cause after proper investigation and hearing;
- j) Appoints professorial lecturers up to 70 years of stage.
- k) Draws up a position classification and compensation plan for its faculty and staff, and, any law to the contrary notwithstanding, to create positions and fix and adjust salaries and benefits of the faculty members and other employees and to determine the minimum hours of service of faculty and such other terms and conditions of employment as it may deem proper;
- l) Receives grants whether cash, land, buildings and improvements thereof; donations, contributions, bequests, gifts, and to formulate policies for the administration thereof in accordance with applicable internal revenue laws;
- m) Approves the use of income generated by the PSHS System in the pursuit of its functions and donations received in trust by individual campuses, according to the purpose of the donor and intention of the donation. In cases where income/donation received is not intended for a particular campus, the Board shall likewise appropriate the same for the benefit of the System or any part thereof; and
- n) Approves partnership of PSHS System with local and international institutions.



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2  
3 **Section 7.** Section 9 of the same Act shall be amended and read as follows:  
4

5 **“Section 9.** Executive Director (ED). — There shall be an Executive Director (ED) who  
6 shall be appointed by the Board and shall have the rank of an Executive Director V, with  
7 a Salary Grade of 30 and with a fixed term of five (5) years, renewable for another term  
8 but with a maximum of three (3) terms at the option of the PSHS System BoT.  
9

10 The ED shall exercise academic and administrative supervision within the Philippine  
11 Science High School System and shall be the Chief Executive Officer and primary  
12 implementor of policies and guidelines set by the Board of Trustees. As a member of the  
13 Board of Trustees, the ED shall articulate to the Board the concerns of the PSHS System.  
14

15 The ED shall act as the Head of the Procuring Entity in the Office of the Executive Director.  
16

17 The Executive Director III position shall be upgraded to Executive Director V upon  
18 establishment of an additional campus in at least one region;”  
19

20 **Section 8.** Section 10 of the same Act shall be amended and read as follows:  
21

22 **“Section 10.** Deputy Executive Director (DED). – “There shall be three (3) Deputy  
23 Executive Directors, for Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Finance and Administration  
24 (DED) with the rank of Deputy Executive Director IV and with a Salary Grade 28 who shall  
25 be appointed by the DOST Secretary upon the recommendation of the PSHS BoT on the  
26 basis of a search process. They shall serve for a fixed term of five (5) years, renewable  
27 for another term but with a maximum of three (3) terms at the option of the PSHS System  
28 BoT.  
29

30 The DED shall perform the duties assigned by the Executive Director.  
31

32 The creation of the additional two (2) Deputy Executive Director IV positions and upgrading  
33 of the existing Deputy Executive Director III position to Deputy Executive Director IV shall  
34 be upon the establishment of an additional campus in at least one region;”  
35

36 **Section 9.** Section 11 of the same act will be amended to read as follows:  
37

38 **“Section 11.** Campus Director (CD) – There shall be a Campus Director for each PSHS  
39 campus in the region who shall be appointed by the PSHS System BoT with the rank of  
40 Director IV with a Salary Grade 28 on the basis of a search process. He/She shall serve for  
41 a fixed term of five (5) years, renewable for another term but with a maximum of three (3)  
42 terms in the Campus at the option of the PSHS System BoT.  
43

44 The Campus Director shall be given the option to be a Special Science Teacher IV with the  
45 Salary Grade of 26 upon the end of his/her term.  
46

47 The CD shall implement the academic programs, plans and activities of the PSHS  
48 Campus.  
49

50 The CD shall act as the Head of the Procuring Entity in the campus.”  
51

52 **Section 10.** A new Section, Section 13 of the same Act will be added to read as follows:  
53

54 **“Section 13.** Extension of Tenure. PSHS faculty members shall be considered as  
scientists under the provisions of RA 11312 (Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers,

1 Researchers and other Science and Technology Personnel in the Government, Amending  
2 for the purpose of RA 8439).

3  
4 **Section 11.** A new Section, Section 14 will be added to the same Act and will read as follows:

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6 **“Section 14.** Exemption from Tax. Gifts and donations of real and personal properties of  
7 all kinds shall be exempt from the donor’s tax and the same shall be considered as  
8 allowable deductions from the gross income of the donor, in accordance with applicable  
9 internal revenue laws;”

10  
11 **Section 12.** Section 11 of RA 3661 is reiterated as follows:

12  
13 **“Section 16.** Appointment to Special Science Teacher I shall be exempt from CSC  
14 Eligibility and can stay in the said rank for a maximum of three (3) years. Appointments to  
15 Special Science Teacher II and above shall require CSC eligibility/ appropriate professional  
16 license.

17  
18 Said professors, instructors and faculty members, as well as the school's administrative  
19 staff, shall be exempt from the provisions of laws, rules and regulations on wage and  
20 position classification.”

21  
22 **Section 14.** Section 13 of the same Act is hereby renumbered to Section 17 amended to read as  
23 follows:

24  
25 **“Section 17.** Funding – The amount necessary to carry out the initial implementation of  
26 this Act shall be provided for in the General Appropriations Act with a minimum allocation  
27 of 200 Million pesos per additional campus, to be adjusted for inflation, for one academic  
28 building and one dormitory building. Thereafter, sufficient appropriation as may be needed  
29 for the continuous operation of the Philippine Science High School System shall be included  
30 in the annual General Appropriations Act for the continuous offering of secondary STEM  
31 education on scholarship basis.”

32  
33 **Section 16.** Section 16 of the same Act is hereby renumbered as Section 20 and amended to  
34 read as follows:

35  
36 **“Section 20.** Repealing Clause. – Sections 7, 9 and 10 of Republic Act No. 3661 otherwise  
37 known as ‘An Act to Establish the Philippine Science High School’ is hereby repealed. All  
38 laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act  
39 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.”

40  
41 **Section 17.** Sections 14 to 15 of the same Act are hereby renumbered accordingly.

42  
43 **Section 18.** Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect on the day following its complete publication  
44 in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.