Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2163


EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish a Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) System by declaring PHSA in Mt. Makiling, Laguna as the main campus and integrating it with future campuses in the Philippines. This will promote, establish, maintain, and support an adequate integrated system of education in every region and will ensure that all students with relevant inclination will be given equal opportunity to benefit secondary education focused on arts and culture. This will also serve as an avenue for local and international students to learn the different art forms our country has to offer.

Through the establishment of a Philippine High School for the Arts in every region, the different types of art and culture in the country can be preserved and recognized. This will also help improve cultural sensitivity among Filipinos.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.

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First District, Lanao del Norte
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AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS SYSTEM

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

SECTION 1. Creation. There is hereby established a Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) System Act of 2018

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. The State shall give priority to research and development, invention, innovation and their utilization, and to Arts and Culture education, training, and services. It shall support indigenous, appropriate, and self-reliant artistic and cultural capabilities, and their application to the country’s productive systems and national life. The State shall hereby establish a PHSA System that will assume leadership role in secondary level arts and culture education.

The State shall also ensure that every region is given equal opportunity to benefit from the establishment of the PHSA System. Towards this end, only one (1) PHSA campus shall be established in each of the administrative regions of the country. The PHSA campus in an administrative region shall feature one culture in the region. Such culture will not be replicated in another region.

The National Commission for the Cultural and the Arts (NCCA) shall identify and describe all the indigenous cultures of the State.
SECTION 3. Objectives. – In implementing the foregoing policy, the State shall pursue the following objectives:

A. The State shall preserve and make known all of its indigenous culture;
B. Integrate the existing PHSA in Mt. Makiling, Laguna and future campuses which shall be established under this Law into one system of governance and management;
C. Ensure quality standards and systemize operations of schools under the PHSA System; and
D. Rationalize the establishment of Culture and Arts High Schools as defined by this Act.

SECTION 4. The Philippine High School for the Arts System shall be composed of the existing PHSA campus at Mt. Makiling, Laguna and future campuses which shall be established under this law.

SECTION 5. Scope. – The Philippine High School for the Arts System shall be composed of the existing PHSA campus at Laguna shall be PHSA – Main Campus and future campuses to be established under this law.

In the establishment of future campuses, the Board of Trustees shall consider Balanga City, Bataan and Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte as sites of a PHSA Campus in Region III and Region X.

SECTION 6. Overall Coordinating Authority. – The PHSA System shall be under the administrative supervision of the Department of Education and in coordination with the National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA). The PHSA System Board of Trustees shall be the Governing Board of all the PHSA Campuses wherever situated.

SECTION 7. Board of Trustees. PHSA System shall have an Advisory Council composed of the following members:

A. Secretary of the Department of Education as ex-officio Chairman,
B. Secretary of NCCA as ex-officio Vice Chairman, and;
C. The following members: The President of the U.P., the Executive Director of PHSA, and the President from the PHSA Alumni Association as ex-officio members;

D. One (1) representative each from the private sector representing higher education, education for the gifted, industry, agriculture, and new and emerging technologies. The private sector representatives shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee.

E. For the first set of appointments, three (3) of them shall serve for four (4) years, while the other two (2) for two (2) years, thereafter, succeeding appointments shall have a fixed term of four (4) years.

The Board of Trustees shall meet at least once a month. A quorum of the Board of Trustees shall consist of the majority of all its members holding office at the time the meeting is called and present thereat. Each member of the Board of Trustees shall receive an honorarium in accordance with pertinent laws, rules, and regulations.

SECTION 8. Powers and Functions. To accomplish the mandate of PHSA System, the Board of Trustees shall exercise the following power:

a. Formulates policies and guidelines for the administration and operation of the PHSA System;

b. Establishes a PHSA campus in each of the Administrative Regions in coordination with the NCCA on what culture will be featured by each campus;

c. Approves appointment, promotion, retention, renewal, rewards and incentives for faculty and staff; fix their compensation and other conditions of employment, and remove them for cause after proper investigation and hearing;

d. Approves the curricula submitted by the Executive Director;

e. Approves the criteria for the selection and admission of students;

f. Approves the grant of scholarship, stipend and such allowances for students;

g. Approves the graduation of successful candidates from the various PHSA campuses;

h. Formulates policies and rules of discipline for students, faculty and staff;
i. Approves the PHSA System budget and appropriate to the ends specified by law such sums as may be provided by law for the support of the System and supervise each campus in other necessary ways;

j. Receives grants whether cash, land, buildings and improvements thereof; donations, contributions, bequest, gifts, and to formulate policies for the administration thereof;

k. Approves the use of all income generated by the school 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 of Trustees shall likewise appropriate the same for the benefit of the System or any part thereof;

l. Develops policies for the expansion of enrollment in the campuses under the PHSA System;

m. Establishes policies and criteria to rationalize the establishment and operation of art and culture high schools under the System, for its evaluation and approval thereof; and

n. Prepares strategic plans to enhance the capability of the System in developing human resources with focus on youth with special talents in arts and culture; and

SECTION 9. Executive Director. – There shall be an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees and shall have the rank of a bureau director, with a fixed term of six (6) years, renewable for another term. The Executive Director shall exercise administrative supervision over all campus directors and shall be the primary implementor of policies and guidelines set by the Board of Trustees. As a member of the Board of Trustees, the Executive Director shall articulate to the Board of Trustees the mutual and individual concern of all the campuses.

The Executive Director shall perform the following roles and functions:

a. Coordinates curriculum planning activities for the PHSA System;

b. Oversees research projects on the gifted in art and culture;

c. Coordinates publication of research outputs of the teachers, administrators and students from the PHSA System;
d. Provides legal and technical support to the members of the System;

e. Coordinates exchange programs with other educational institutions both local and foreign;

f. Develops and coordinates linkages and networking among the campuses of the PHSA System with other institutions;

g. Coordinates the implementation of the program for the identification and selection of scholars for the PHSA System;

h. Provides for the secretariat services of the Board of Trustees and within authorities given hereby or buy the Board of Trustees; and

i. Performs other functions as may be deemed necessary.

For the efficient and effective implementation of the foregoing functions, the Executive Director shall be provided with a staff.

SECTION 10. Deputy Executive Director – There shall be a Deputy Executive Director who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees for a term of six (6) years, renewable for another term. The Deputy Executive Director shall perform the duties and functions assigned by the Executive Director

SECTION 11. Campus Director. – The school shall be headed by a Campus Director who shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees, upon recommendation of the Executive Director on the basis of a search process. He/she shall have a fixed term of six (6) years, renewable for another term at the option of the Board of Trustees. The Campus Director shall not be removed from office except for cause.

The Campus Director shall be the administrative and academic head of his/her campus and will be responsible for its smooth operations. The Campus Director may constitute a consultative body which may act as a citizen's arm to interpret the educational needs of the service area of the campus.

The incumbent Campus Director may serve the unexpired term as defined in this Act.
SECTION 12. Executive Committee. – There shall be an Executive Committee composed of the Executive Director as ex officio chairperson and the Campus Directors as members.

SECTION 13. Funding. – The amount necessary to carry out the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of the Philippine High School for the Arts campuses. Thereafter, such sums as may be needed for the continued operation of the Philippine High School for the Arts System shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 14. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Board of Trustees shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations to carry out the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 15. Separability Clause. – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 16. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 17. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect on the day following its complete publication in at least

Approved,