The 3rd District of Quezon City is fortunate to have seventeen (17) public Elementary Schools and seven (7) public High Schools. In addition to this, it is home to some of the most prestigious Universities and Colleges in the Philippines, namely: Ateneo De Manila University and Miriam College.

In June 2017, the Japan International Cooperation Agency ("JICA") in its report entitled "The Project for Supporting Senior High School (SHS) Program in Technical Vocational High Schools In the Republic of the Philippines" designated pilot schools to develop technical and vocational activities around the Philippines, one of which is the Don Alejandro Roces Sr. Science and Technology High School ("DARSSTHS") located in Quezon City. In the same report, it showed that although DARSSTHS was a new school, there was a slight improvement in the number of its graduates who were employed after graduation from 64% in 2014 to 66.7% in 2017. The progress was reported after some reforms were instituted by JICA.

In connection with this, the Gen. Vito Belarmino National High School was the only sports centered/ oriented Senior High School in the Philippines. However, due to its lack of residential and other mandatory facilities, only around fifty (50) students currently use the facilities of the Belarmino Sports Complex. Further, the facilities located therein are not being maximized and are already in a state of deterioration. This is coupled with its proximity problem, which makes it difficult for other students who live far from enrolling therein even if they are qualified to engage in the sports curriculum.

This Representation has deemed it an opportune time to improve the public-school system by improving and creating an atmosphere where the arts, sports and other educational fields can flourish. This Bill seeks to reopen and reestablish the former Gen. Vito Belarmino National High School as the only sports oriented Senior High School Institution in the country. The National and Local Government should see to it that it is revived and subsequently maintained in the highest of standards and given extra attention in order for the objectives of the school to be achieved.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.
Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session  

HOUSE BILL NO. 2458  

Introduced By Representative ALLAN BENEDICT S. REYES  

AN ACT  
REESTABLISHING THE GENERAL VITO BELARMINO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND  
ENHANCING ITS SPORTS CURRICULUM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR  

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby established, an enhanced sports curriculum with  
improved facilities and services for qualified Senior High School students at therestored  

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – The 1987 Constitution provides that “The  
State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect  
their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the  
youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic  
affairs.”  

Further, the Constitution states that “The State shall give priority to education,  
science and technology, arts, culture and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism,  
accelerate social progress and promote total human liberation and development.”  

Finally, it is the recognized policy of the State to “promote physical education and  
encourage sports programs, league competitions and amateur sports, including training  
for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork and excellence for the  
development of a healthy and alert citizenry.”  

Consistent with these principles, it is the duty of the State to support those who are  
interested, capable and willing to pursue a career in the field of sports.  

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act, the following terms are  
defined as follows:  

a. Dormitory- refers to a free separate male and female  
residence/accommodation area located within the School to used by  
the qualified students therein.  

b. School- refers to the newly restored and reestablished Gen. Vito  
Belarmino National High School.
c. *Sports Facilities*—refer to all equipment, areas for sports and other services offered by the School and within its premises.

**SECTION 4. Coverage.**—This Act shall apply to all qualified Senior High School students who have accomplished at least one (1) year of kindergarten education, six (6) years of elementary education and four (4) years of junior high school and subject to other qualifications as may be outlined in the implementing rules and regulations.

**SECTION 5. Qualifications.**—The Department of Education (DepEd) in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall formulate and issue guidelines for the admission of prospective senior high school students in the sports program of the school.

**SECTION 6. Sports Curriculum Development.**—The DepEd in coordination with CHED shall formulate the design and details of the enhanced sports curriculum. It shall ensure that the Filipino graduates that it will produce are capable and equipped to compete globally. The agencies shall also ensure that the students are prepared to enter college and/or ready for gainful employment as determined by TESDA.

The DepEd shall also undertake consultations with other national and local government agencies and other stakeholders, private and public schools’ associations, national student organizations, national teachers organizations, the parents-teachers associations and the chambers of commerce on matters affecting the concerned stakeholders.

**SECTION 7. Mandatory Facilities and Services.**—These facilities shall only be the minimum and not limited to the following:

a. Dormitory for students and/or athletes;

b. Basketball Court;

c. Volleyball Court;

d. Olympic sized Aquatics stadium

e. Badminton Court

f. Tennis Court

g. Archery range

h. Olympic Track Oval;

i. Coaches/Trainers quarters
j. Guest/Visitors residence;

SECTION 8. Appropriations. – The Secretary of Education shall include in the Department's program the operationalization of the enhanced sports education curriculum, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DepEd. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the continued implementation of the enhanced Sports Education Curriculum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 9. Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on the Enhanced Sports Education Curriculum. – There is hereby created a Joint Oversight Committee to oversee, monitor and evaluate the implementation of this Act.

The Oversight Committee shall be composed of three (3) members each from the Senate and from the House of Representatives, including Chairs of the Committees on Education and Finance of both Houses.

SECTION 10. Mandatory Evaluation and Review. – By the end of School Year 2020-2021, the DepEd shall conduct a mandatory review and submit a midterm report to Congress as to the status of the School, which includes the following (a) teachers; (b) classrooms; (c) textbooks; (d) sports facilities; (e) dormitories; and (f) other shortages that should be addressed.

The DepEd shall include among others, in its midterm report, the following key metrics: (a) enrollment rate; (b) retention rate; (c) completion rate; (d) teachers' welfare and training profiles; (e) adequacy of funding requirements; and (f) other sports facilities that may be granted to the School.

SECTION 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations and Standard Forms – Within ninety (90) days from the promulgation of this Act, the necessary Rules and Regulations for the proper implementation of its provisions shall be formulated by the DepEd, CHED and TESDA.

SECTION 12. Repealing Clause. – All laws, ordinances, executive orders, administrative orders, rules, regulations, decrees and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby revoked, repealed, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other Provisions not affected thereby shall continue in operation and remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 14. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
its publication the *Official Gazette* or in the two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,