

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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 3580**



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**Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE LEONARDO L. BABASA, JR.**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to carry out this duty through the establishment of a National High School in Barangay Balongbalong, Municipality of Pitogo, Province of Zamboanga del Sur.


Section 1, Article XIV of the Philippine constitution provides for the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and that appropriate steps should be taken by the government to make such education accessible to all. The State shall establish and maintain a system of free public education in the high school level, to protect and promote the right of the citizens to quality education and to take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all.

Located in a fifth-class municipality, Barangay Balongbalong has a considerable number of elementary graduates who are unable to pursue secondary education because of the geographic constraint and limited number of high schools in the vicinity. This hampers the residents' right to accessible education that in turn deprives the barangay the opportunity to progress its community and improve the quality of the residents' lives in diverse facets of development.

Education provides citizens a better life by honing knowledge, skills and values that will support the country's economic growth and will make the country progressive. Most significantly, education aids in cutting the cycle of poverty across generations.

The creation of a National High School makes secondary education available to the barangay and would result to more educated Filipinos who would then have better prospects to improve their living standards. This bill recognizes the need to rationalize the creation of this school to help create economic opportunities and strengthen national economy.

It is therefore recommended that the foregoing bill be approved.

  
**LEONARDO L. BABASA, JR**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY  
BALONGBALONG, MUNICIPALITY OF PITOGO, PROVINCE OF  
ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR TO BE KNOWN AS BALONGBALONG NATIONAL  
HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

Section 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd), a National High School in Barangay Balongbalong, Municipality of Pitogo, Province of Zamboanga del Sur to be known as Balongbalong National High School.

Section 2. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriation of the DepEd under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, the sum needed for its operation and maintenance shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 3. The Secretary of Education shall issue such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

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

Approved.