EXPLANATORY NOTE

A local school board (LSB) is a special body created by virtue of Republic Act No. 7160, popularly known as the Local Government Code of 1991 (LGC 91). Its main duty is to allocate the Special Education Fund (SEF) to meet the supplementary needs of the local public school system. The SEF is an additional 1% levy that is collected together with real property taxes paid to the local government. The Local Government Code provides that the LSB be co-chaired by the local chief executive and the local public schools division superintendent, and made up of the following members: the chair of the education committee of the Sanggunian, the provincial/municipality/city treasurer, a representative of the Sangguniang Kabataan (youth council), and duly elected representatives of the PTA league, the teachers’ organization, and the non-academic personnel of public schools.

Pursuant to Section 99 of the Local Government Code, the provincial, city or municipal school board shall, among others, (a) Determine, in accordance with the criteria set by the Department of Education, the annual supplementary budgetary needs for the operation and maintenance of public schools within the province, city, or municipality, as the case may be, and the supplementary local cost of meeting such needs, which shall be reflected in the form of an annual school board budget corresponding to its share of the proceeds of the special levy on real property constituting the Special Education Fund and such other sources of revenue as this Code and other laws or ordinances may provide; authorize the provincial, city or municipal treasurer, as the case may be, to disburse funds from the Special Education Fund pursuant to the budget prepared and in accordance with existing rules and regulations; and serve as an advisory committee to the sanggunian concerned on educational matters such as, but not limited to, the necessity for and the uses of local appropriations for educational purpose.

Recent news have centered on the local school boards in view of the important roles they play towards providing augmentation in coping with the needs of the students and the schools during the COVID19 pandemic.

This Bill is passed in order to assure the public of a transparent mechanism and budgeting for the needs of the elementary schools, secondary schools in coordination with the local government units.

DEPUTY SPEAKER JOSE L. ATIENZA, JR.
Representative, BUHAY Party-list
Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH (18th) CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

House Bill No. 8060  


AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 7160  

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

Section 1. Section 100 of Republic Act 7610, otherwise known as the “Local Government Code” and shall read as follows:  

Section 100. Meetings and Quorum; Budget. –  

(a) The local school board shall meet at least once a month, as far as practicable every first week of the month, or as often as may be necessary.  

(b) All meetings of the local school board shall be publicly announced in the websites and social media accounts of the local government unit, the DepEd district supervisor, parent-teacher associations and the public schools within the territorial jurisdiction of the local government, and through such other means as would ensure utmost awareness and participation by all stakeholders, at least ten (10) days prior to the scheduled meeting. Any interested school official or community leader may attend such meetings, but they will not be able to vote.  

(c) Any of the co-chairmen may call a meeting. A majority of all its members shall constitute a quorum. However, when both co-chairmen are present in a meeting, the local chief executive concerned, as a matter of protocol, shall be given preference to preside over the meeting. The division superintendent, city superintendent or district supervisor, as the case may be, shall prepare the budget of the school board concerned. Such budget shall be supported by programs, projects, and activities of the school board for the ensuing fiscal year.  

The budget shall be posted in the manner as to ensure transparency and accountability.
(d) The affirmative vote of the majority of all the members shall be necessary to approve the budget.

(e) The annual school board budget shall give priority to the following:

(1) Construction, repair, and maintenance of school buildings and other facilities of public elementary and secondary schools;

(2) Establishment and maintenance of extension classes where necessary; and

(3) Sports activities at the division, district, municipal, and barangay levels.

Section 3. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect;

Section 4. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders and their implementing rules, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 5. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.