

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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SENATE

S. No. 296

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Human resources are the most important source of wealth and income for the country, and the education of our children and youth is the most important investment that we can make for their future. Paragraph 2, Sec. 2 Article XIV of the Constitution clearly echoes this value as it provides:

“(The State shall) establish and maintain a system of free public education in the elementary and high school levels. Without limiting the natural right of parents to rear their children, elementary education is compulsory for all children of school age.”

In order to safeguard every child's access to free education and ensure the implementation of this constitutional provision, this bill provides for the establishment of an elementary school in every barangay in the country, to be placed under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd) and to be funded from appropriations of the DepEd under the General Appropriations Act.

Education is the best legacy we can make to the next generation. It is an investment which assures us of the best returns in terms of having adequately skilled work force that is ready and fully equipped to take on the global competition.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

S. Osmeña III

SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL
PROVISION ON FREE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AND APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** There shall be established, under the supervision of the
2 Department of Education (DepEd), an elementary school in every barangay in
3 the country.

4 **SEC. 2. Appropriations.** – The funds necessary for the implementation
5 of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of Education
6 under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sum as may be
7 necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual
8 General Appropriations Act.

9 **SEC. 3. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
10 complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,