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### SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

#### SENATE

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# s. No. 476

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" Trillanes IV

#### AN ACT

# TO ESTABLISH A SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL IN ALL PROVINCES AND HIGHLY-URBANIZED CITIES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In spite of the Philippines' high adult literacy rate and regard for education, the quality of the country's education system is in decline. Many Filipino children from poor families are still forced to drop out from schools. Instead of completing high school and pursuing higher education, these children are often employed in manual and very basic tasks to help support their family.

Ultimately, the situation causes these children to grow up with just elementary education. As a result, the country is suffering from an inability to produce a competent and skilled workforce - to be employed both at home and abroad - required for badly needed socioeconomic development.

The bill seeks to address this situation with the creation of Science High Schools in each province and highly urbanized city. It is hoped that these additional schools will be able to continue the good work of this country's existing national Science High Schools in producing competitive graduates especially in the field of research and Mathematics. These new schools will be subsidized by both the national government through the Department of Education and the concerned Local Government Units, giving children from poorer backgrounds the chance to a better education and a better life.

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

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known and cited as the "Science High School
 Establishment Act".

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SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the declared policy of the State to uplift the
quality of education and to equip the youth with knowledge to make them competitive and
productive citizens.

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8 SEC. 3. Statement of Goals and Objectives. – It is the goal and objective of the bill 9 to: a) promote and strengthen the quality of education; and, b) produce globally competitive 10 individuals.

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12 SEC. 4. *Establishment of Science High Schools.* – All provinces and highly 13 urbanized cities are hereby mandated to establish Science high schools within their 14 jurisdiction. Provincial and city officials together with the Department of Education shall 15 work for the establishment of the school.

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SEC. 5. *Funding Source.* – In order to finance the establishment and the continuous
 operation of the Science high school, the provincial and city government and district
 representatives shall allocate a substantial amount enough to ensure the sustainability of the
 program.

1 SEC. 6. Separability Clause. – If any provisions or part thereof is invalid or 2 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain 3 valid and subsisting.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule of regulation contrary to or inconsistent
with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

9 SEC. 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 10 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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