

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**2256**

**HOUSE BILL NO.** \_\_\_\_\_



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Introduced by **Honorable SAMANTHA LOUISE V. ALFONSO**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Education is not a privilege. It is a right inherent in all humans regardless of gender, race, or social status. To ensure that every Filipino has a chance to enjoy it, investments to education must be undertaken. After all, education is the key towards a brighter tomorrow. One that is free from the shackles of ignorance and poverty.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that “elementary education shall be compulsory” while “higher education shall be equally accessible to all” (Section 1, Article 26 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights). Furthermore, the Philippine Constitution mandates that “The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all” (Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution). This constitutional provision is in consonance with the State’s policy of giving priority to education “to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development” (Section 17, Article II of the 1987 Constitution).

In order to reach their potential, the Filipino youth should be equipped with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed. This bill is a step towards that direction. It aims to establish a national high school at Barangay San Juan, Municipality of Rizal, Province of Cagayan to be known as the Florencio L. Vargas National High School.

The municipality of Rizal is a fifth class municipality of Cagayan. It is located 104-kilometers northwest of Tuguegarao City. The proposed national high school will serve three barangays in Rizal situated at the Zinundungan Valley, namely: Bural, Masi, and San Juan.

The establishment of a national high school in the area will be a huge help for the people of the Zinundungan Valley. They will be able to fully enjoy their right to education as the proposed school provides them an easier access to quality secondary education. No longer will

the growing student population travel long distances to reach their respective schools. Their parents do not have to worry anymore about the costs of sending their kids to schools far from home. It is therefore imperative that the Florencio L. Vargas National High School come into fruition.

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



**SAMANTHA LOUISE V. ALFONSO**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY SAN**  
**JUAN, MUNICIPALITY OF RIZAL, PROVINCE OF CAGAYAN, TO BE**  
**KNOWN AS THE FLORENCIO L. VARGAS NATIONAL HIGH**  
**SCHOOL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. *Establishment of a National High School.*** There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Education, a national high school in Barangay San Juan, Municipality of Rizal, Province of Cagayan, to be known as the Florencio L. Vargas National High School.

**SECTION 2. *Appropriations.*** The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Florencio L. Vargas National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

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

**SECTION 4. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

*Approved,*