

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9036, March 12, 2001]

**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE GOVERNANCE AND DEFINING THE
SCOPE OF THE PHILIPPINE SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL (PSHS)
SYSTEM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8496**

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

SECTION 1. A second paragraph is hereby added under Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8496, otherwise known as the Philippine Science High School (PSHS) System Act of 1997, to read as follows:

"The State shall also ensure that every region is given equal opportunity to benefit from the establishment of the PSHS System. Towards this end, only one (1) PSHS campus shall be established in each of the administrative regions of the country."

SEC. 2. Section 3, paragraph (a) of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) Integrate the existing PSHS at Diliman, Nueva Vizcaya, Camarines Sur, Iloilo City, Leyte, Lanao del Norte and Davao City into one system of governance and management;"

SEC. 3. Section 5 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. *Scope.* - The Philippine Science High School System shall be composed of the existing PSHS campuses herein mentioned and future campuses which shall be established under this Act. The existing campuses at Diliman, Quezon City; Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya; Goa, Camarines Sur; Jaro, Iloilo City; Palo, Leyte; Tugbok, Davao City; and Balo-i, Lanao del Norte, shall be known as the PSHS main campus, PSHS Cagayan Valley, PSHS Bicol Region, PSHS Western Visayas, PSHS Eastern Visayas, PSHS Southern Mindanao and PSHS Central Mindanao, respectively.

The Nueva Vizcaya Science High School, established under Republic Act No. 7622, as amended by Republic Act No. 8364, is hereby absorbed by the PSHS System and shall become PSHS Cagayan Valley campus.

The PSHS Bicol campus located in the Municipality of Goa, Camarines Sur, established under Republic Act No. 8304, as amended by Republic Act No. 8619, shall be considered distinct and separate from the San Rafael National High School in the Municipality of Tigaon, Camarines Sur. The San Rafael National High School shall continue to exist under the

supervision of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) pursuant to the provisions of Batas Pambansa Blg. 580, as amended, and shall maintain all personnel, assets, liabilities and records previously transferred and absorbed by the PSHS Bicol campus.

In the establishment of future campuses, the Board of Trustees shall consider San Ildefonso, Ilocos Sur and Aborlan, Palawan as the sites of PSHS Ilocos Region and Palawan campuses."

SEC. 4. A new Section 6 is hereby inserted between Sections 5 and 6 of the same Act, to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. *Restriction on the Conversion of High Schools Into a Philippine Science High School.* - In addition to the guidelines/criteria that may be established by the PSHS Board of Trustees in the establishment and operation of Philippine Science High Schools, the conversion and inclusion of existing high schools into the PSHS System shall not be allowed."

SEC. 5. Section 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 7. *Overall Coordinating Authority.* - The PSHS System shall be under the administrative supervision of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). The PSHS System Board of Trustees (BOT) shall be the Governing Board of all the PSHS campuses wherever situated."

SEC. 6. Section 7 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. *Board of Trustees.* - There shall be a Board of Trustees composed of the secretary of the DOST as *ex officio* Chairman, the secretary of DECS as *ex officio* Vice Chairman and the following members: The President of the U.P., the Executive Director of PSHS, the Director of the Science Education Institute (SEI), the President from the PSHS National Alumni Association, and the chairpersons of the congressional committees on science and technology as *ex officio* members; and one (1) representative each from the private sector representing higher education, education for the gifted, industry, agriculture, and new and emerging technologies. The private sector representatives shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. As much as practicable, the private sector representatives shall come from the various geographic regions. For the first set of appointments, three (3) of them shall serve for four (4) years, while the other two (2) for two (2) years, thereafter, succeeding appointments shall have a fixed term of four (4) years.

The Board shall exercise the following powers:

- a. Formulate policies and guidelines for the administration and operation of the PSHS System;
- b. Establish a PSHS campus in each of the administrative regions;
- c. Approve appointment, promotion, retention, renewal, rewards and incentives for faculty and staff, fix their compensation and other conditions of employment, and remove them for cause after proper investigation and hearing;