

Republic of the Philippines  
BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO  
BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY  
Cotabato City

PROPOSED PARLIAMENT BILL No. 142

Bangsamoro Transition Authority	
Office of	
MP JAAFAR "JAMBO" L. MATALAM	
<b>RELEASED</b>	
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**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE MADARIS EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE BANGSAMORO REGION AND PROVIDING ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MADARIS EDUCATION FUND ASSISTANCE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Thousands of students in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region (or Philippines) receive some or all of their formal education in a madrasah or madaris, plural for madrasah. In Madaris, Muslims are provided with religious foundations in Qur'anic recitations and Islamic values. The light of *Imān* (faith) first permeates in the heart of the Muslim in this environment. For some Muslims, the madrasah is the only formal education afforded to them; for others, it is supplementary to secular basic education provided in primary and secondary schools.

Education is a core of human resource development, it aims to instill young people's values and culture to mold their identity as better citizens. In fact, the Constitution explicitly states that the system of education to be established, maintained and supported should be relevant to the needs of the people and society (Sec. 2(1), Art. XIV), hence it has also responsibility to strengthen and develop our Madrasah education system in Bangsamoro Autonomous Region and other Muslim-populated regions in the archipelago.

The Madrasah has been officially streamlined into the Philippine Education system almost two (2) decades ago, and the Department of Education issued Policy Guidelines on Madrasah Education in the K to 12 Basic Education Program under DO 41, series of 2017. However, up to date, many private Madaris still are located in poor communities and are woefully ill-equipped in terms of school facilities, books, teaching/learning devices, and some teachers are not afforded with consistent compensation salary. Many poor Muslim students attend Madrasah because it is near their home, and there is little incentive to attend the local government schools.

Hence, it is imperative that all Madaris in this region be strengthened by providing additional educational funds which shall play an important factor in the operational improvement of its educational quality. With more funds, Madaris will be able to expand their curriculum and train their teachers, and eventually be pressured to integrate basic subjects into the curriculum.

Further, we in the government should take serious steps in considering Madrasah education as an important part of education system not just a source of basic Islamic education but a source of inspiration for real world advancements.

And lastly, we need a proper funding system to be implemented to address their financial needs so that the standards of these institutions shall be mainstreamed into the modern world.

Based from the foregoing, the approval of this bill is urgently requested.



**JAAFAR APOLLO MIKHAIL L. MATALAM**  
Member of Parliament

**RASUL E. ISMAEL**  
Member of Parliament

**EDDIE M. ALIH**  
Member of Parliament



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*Authored by:* MP JAAFAR APOLLO MIKHAIL L. MATALAM, RASUL E. ISMAEL, EDDIE M. ALIH

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**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE MADARIS EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM IN THE BANGSAMORO REGION AND PROVIDING ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MADARIS EDUCATION FUND ASSISTANCE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Madaris Education Fund Assistance."

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is a declared policy of the Bangsamoro Government to promote and make quality education accessible to all its constituents. Bangsamoro Government also recognizes the complementary roles of public and private educational institutions in the region's educational system and the invaluable contribution of private educational institutions to educate its citizenry, and this includes the Madrasah Schools in Bangsamoro Region and other areas in the Philippines.

As a matter of policy, the establishment of a fund system for Madaris for their infrastructure development as well as system of scholarship grants, teacher development programs, accreditation of private madrasah, shall be attained by providing subsidies and other incentives which shall be made available to deserving grantees, especially to the underprivileged. Further, the State shall encourage non-formal, informal and indigenous learning systems as well as self-learning, particularly those that respond to community needs.

For this purpose, the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE) will impose mechanisms that will improve the quality of Madrasah education as well as open the opportunity of more Muslim students benefiting said educational system through maximizing the use of existing resources of public education, recognizing in the process the government responsibility to provide equal education to its people.

**SEC. 3. The Madaris Educational Fund Assistance Criteria.** The program for assistance shall be based on a set of criteria which shall be imposed on, among others, continuous training for teachers, infrastructure facilities, scholarship grants, the socio-economic needs of the students giving priority to those who come from the poorest sector of society, the overall performance of the school, the academic qualifications and the financial needs of both students and teachers.

**SEC. 4. Forms of Assistance.** For the purpose of this Act, programs and assistance to the teachers and students in Madrasah schools shall consist of the following:

1. Nutrition and Feeding Program for young children;
2. Classroom Facilities such as desks, tables, chalkboards, and other basic classroom needs;
3. Textbook Assistance Funds, to purchase textbooks for students with such a number that the ratio is 1: 1 (one book per student) per subject.
4. In- Service Training Fund for Teachers;
5. Scholarship Grants to Children of Teachers;
6. Scholarship Grants to qualified students;
7. Funding for Trainings and Seminar of Arabic Language and Islamic Values Education (Alive) Teachers;
8. Increase of ALIVE teachers' salaries;
9. Funding allocation for Madaris Registration and Accreditations; and
10. Madrasah Infrastructure Development.

**SEC. 5. Funding.** The initial funds necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be provided in the Bangsamoro Appropriation Act (BAA) in the amount of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) and shall be charged under the current appropriations of the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE) Bureau of Madaris.

**SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Guidelines.** The Minister of MBHTE, in close coordination with other related government agencies shall issue rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 8. Separability Clause.** If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions hereof.

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

Approved,

Principal Authors:

  
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