## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

## H. No. 6308

- BY REPRESENTATIVES DAZA, VILLAR, CUA (J.), JAVIER, REMULLA, CHATTO, PADILLA, MADRONA, NICOLAS, DEL MAR, AMATONG, AQUINO, MITRA, DE GUZMAN, GARAY AND ANGPING, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1994
- AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN ISIDRO AGRO-INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN ISIDRO, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR INTO A STATE COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE SAN ISIDRO POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Conversion. - The San Isidro Agro-Industrial School in the
 Municipality of San Isidro, Province of Northern Samar is hereby converted
 into a state college to be known as the San Isidro Polytechnic State College,
 hereinafter referred to as the College.

5 SEC. 2. General Mandate. – The College shall primarily provide 6 advanced education, higher technological, professional instruction and training 7 in the fields of economics, agriculture, fishery, trade, home industry, 8 engineering, arts and sciences, education, forest research and conversion, 9 management, finance, accounting, business and public administration, information technology and other revelant fields of study. It shall also
 undertake research and extension services, and provide progressive leadership
 in its areas of specialization.

SEC. 3. Curricular Offerings. - The College shall offer undergraduate 4 and graduate studies in the fields of economics. agriculture. fisherv. trade. 5 home industry, engineering, arts and sciences, education, forest research and 6 conversion, management, finance, accounting, business 7 and public 8 administration, information technology and other degrees/courses within its areas of specialization and according to its capabilities as the Board of 9 10 Trustees may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, particularly to meet the needs of the Province of Northern Samar and Region VIII. 11

The existing high school shall be transferred to the jurisdiction and supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd). *Provided*, That the high school shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of the College until its students, who are currently enrolled, shall have completed their high school education: *Provided*, *further*, That the College may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school, if it has a College of Education.

18 SEC. 4. *Administration.* – The College shall have the general powers of 19 a corporation set forth in Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, as amended, otherwise 20 known as "The Corporation Code of the Philippines". The administration of 21 the College and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively 22 in the Board of Trustees and the President of the College.

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SEC. 5. *The Governing Board.* – The governing board of the College shall be the Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of the following:

26 (a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED),27 Chairperson;

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(b) The President of the College, Vice Chairperson;

- (c) The Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture
   of the Senate, member;
   (d) The Chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical
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Education of the House of Representatives, member;
(e) The Regional Director of the National Economic and Development

6 Authority (NEDA), member;

7 (f) The Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture (DA),8 member;

9 10 (g) The President of the faculty association of the College, member;

(h) The President of the student council of the College, member;

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- (i) The President of the alumni association of the College, member; and

(j) Two (2) prominent citizens from the private sector who have
distinguished themselves in their profession or fields of specialization of the
College, members.

16 The Board shall appoint the two (2) prominent citizens from among a 17 list of at least five (5) qualified persons in the Province of Northern Samar, as 18 recommended by the search committee constituted by the College President, in 19 consultation with the Chairperson of the CHED and the other members of the 20 Board, based on the normal standards and qualifications for the position.

The term of office of the President of the faculty association, the President of the student council and the President of the alumni association shall be coterminous with their respective terms of office, as set forth in their respective constitutions and bylaws.

- The two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years from the date of appointment.
- SEC. 6. Promulgation and Implementation of Policies. The Board
   shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared State

policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Philippine
 Constitution on education, agriculture, science and technology, as well as the
 policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722,
 otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994".

5 SEC. 7. *Powers and Duties of the Board of Trustees.* – The Board shall 6 have the following specific powers and duties, in addition to its general powers 7 of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the board of 8 directors of a corporation under existing laws:

9 (a) To promulgate rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be
10 necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the College;

(b) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the
support of the College in the manner it may determine in its discretion, in order
to carry out the purposes and functions of the College;

(c) To import duty-free economic, technical and cultural books and/or
publications, upon certification by the CHED that such imported books and/or
publications are for economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical,
historical or cultural purposes, in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff
and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended;

(d) To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real properties of
all kinds and to administer and dispose of the same when necessary for the
benefit of the College and, subject to the limitations, directions and
instructions of the donor, if any.

Such donations shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall
be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income in the
computation of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with the provisions
of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended: *Provided*, That such donations shall not be disposed of, transferred or sold;

1 (e) To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges such as, 2 but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as 3 the Board may deem proper to impose, after due consultations with the 4 involved sectors.

5 Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other 6 income generated by the College, shall constitute special trust funds and shall 7 be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all interests 8 that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same funds for the use of the 9 College.

10 Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary 11 notwithstanding, any income generated by the College from tuition fees and 12 other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land 13 grants, shall be retained by the College and may be disbursed by the Board for 14 instruction, research, extension or other programs/projects of the College: 15 *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific purposes 16 for which these are collected.

17 If, for reasons beyond its control, the College shall not be able to pursue 18 any project for which the funds have been appropriated and allocated under its 19 approved program of expenditures, the Board may authorize the use of said 20 funds for any reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary 21 and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the College;

(f) To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and other
 school fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;

(g) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery,
equipment and other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real
property, including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;

(h) To appoint, upon recommendation of the President of the College, 1 2 Vice Presidents, deans, directors, heads of campuses, faculty members and other officials and employees of the College;

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(i) To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative 4 5 officials and employees, subject to the provisions of the Revised 6 Compensation and Position Classification System and other pertinent budget and compensation laws governing hours of service and such other duties and 7 8 conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of 9 absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any provision of existing law to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in 10 11 accordance with the requirements of due process of law;

(i) To approve the curricula, instructional programs and rules of 12 discipline drawn by the Administrative and Academic Councils herein 13 14 provided;

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(k) To set policies on admission and graduation of students:

(1) To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their 16 outstanding contribution in the fields of education, public service, arts, science 17 and technology, agriculture or in any field of specialization within the 18 academic competence of the College; and to authorize the awarding of 19 certificates of completion of nondegree and nontraditional courses; 20

21 (m) To establish and absorb nonchartered tertiary institutions within the Province of Northern Samar as branches and centers in coordination with 22 the CHED, and in consultation with the Department of Budget and 23 24 Management (DBM), and to offer therein programs or courses to promote and carry out equal access to educational opportunities as mandated by the 25 26 Constitution:

27 (n) To establish research and extension centers of the College where 28 such will promote the development of the latter;

- 1 (o) To establish professorial chairs in the College and to provide 2 fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving 3 students;
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(p) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided hereinabove to the President and/or other officials of the College as it may deem appropriate, so as to expedite the administration of the affairs of the College;

7 (q) To authorize an external management audit of the College, to be
8 financed by the CHED, subject to the rules and regulations of the Commission
9 on Audit (COA); and to institute reforms, including academic and structural
10 changes, on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;

(r) To collaborate with other governing boards of the state colleges
and universities within the Province of Northern Samar or Region VIII, under
the supervision of the CHED and in consultation with the DBM, and work
towards the restructuring of the College to become more efficient, relevant,
productive and competitive;

(s) To enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the
profitable development and management of the economic assets of the
College, the proceeds from which shall be used for the development and
strengthening of the College;

(t) To develop consortia and other economic forms of linkages with
local government units (LGUs), institutions and agencies, both public and
private, local and foreign, in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of
the College;

(u) To develop academic arrangements for institutional capability
building with appropriate institutions and agencies, public and private, local
and foreign, and to appoint experts/specialists as consultants, part-time or
visiting or exchange professors, scholars or researchers, as the case may be;

1 (v) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of 2 transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual 3 learning system, open learning or distance education and community 4 laboratory for the promotion of greater access to education and graduate 5 studies, as the case may be;

6 7 (w) To establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative decision-making and transparency within the College;

8 (x) To privatize, where most advantageous to the College,
9 management of nonacademic services such as health, food, building or grounds
10 or property maintenance and such other similar activities; and

(y) To extend the term of the President of the College beyond the age
of retirement but not beyond the age of seventy (70), whose performance has
been unanimously rated by the Board as outstanding based on the guidelines,
qualifications and/or standards set by the Board, after unanimous
recommendation by the search committee.

SEC. 8. Meetings of the Board. - The Board shall regularly convene at
least once every quarter. However, the Chairperson of the Board may, upon
three (3) days' prior written notice, call a maximum of two (2) special
meetings whenever necessary.

A quorum of the Board shall consist of majority of all its members holding office at the time of the meeting: *Provided, however*, That the Chairperson of the Board or the President of the College is among those present in the meeting.

In the absence of the Chairperson of the CHED, a Commissioner of the CHED, duly designated by him/her, shall represent him/her in the meeting with all the rights and responsibilities of a regular member: *Provided, however*, That during this meeting, the President of the College as Vice Chairperson shall be the Presiding Officer: *Provided, further*, That this *proviso*  notwithstanding, the Chairperson of the CHED is hereby authorized to
 designate a CHED Commissioner as the regular Chair of the Board, in which
 case said CHED Commissioner shall act as the Presiding Officer.

In case the Chairpersons of the Congressional Committees on Education
shall not be able to attend the Board meeting, they may duly designate their
respective representatives to attend the said meeting, who shall have the same
rights and responsibilities as a regular member of the Board.

8 The members of the Board shall not receive any salary but shall be 9 entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either 10 in their attendance to meetings of the Board or in connection with other 11 official business authorized by resolution of the Board, subject to existing laws 12 and regulations.

SEC. 9. The College President. - The College shall be headed by a 13 14 President who shall render full-time service. He/She shall be appointed by the 15 Board, subject to the guidelines, gualifications and/or standards set by the Board, upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. He/She 16 17 shall have a term of four (4) years and shall be eligible for reappointment for 18 another term: *Provided*. That in order to effect a smooth transition to a state 19 college, the incumbent head of the San Isidro Agro-Industrial School, if 20 qualified, shall serve as the first President of the College.

Within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of office of the
incumbent President of the College, the Board shall constitute the Search
Committee for the Presidency (SCP).

In case of vacancy in the Office of the President by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the President to perform the functions of his/her office, the Board shall designate an Officer-in-Charge of the College within six (6) months from the date of vacancy, pending the appointment of a new President. 1 2

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The powers and duties of the President of the College, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the Office of the President of similar colleges, and those delegated by the Board.

shall serve only the unexpired portion of the term.

7 The salary of the President of the College shall be in accordance with 8 the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System and shall be 9 comparable to that being received by the presidents of similar educational 10 institutions.

The President shall be assisted by a Vice President for Academic
 Affairs who shall be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of the
 President.

14 SEC. 10. *The Administrative Council.* – There shall be an 15 Administrative Council consisting of the President of the College as 16 Chairperson, Vice Presidents, deans, directors and other officials of equal rank 17 as members, whose duty is to review and recommend to the Board the policies 18 governing the administration, management and development planning of the 19 College.

20 SEC. 11. *The Academic Council.* – There shall be an Academic 21 Council to be composed of the President of the College, who shall act as 22 Chairperson, and all academic staff with the rank of at least an assistant 23 professor, as members.

The Academic Council shall have the power to review and recommend the curricular offerings and rules of discipline of the College, subject to the approval of the Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission of students, as well as for their graduation and conferment of degrees, subject to review and/or approval by the Board through the President of the College. It

immediately preceding paragraph, his/her successor or the Officer-in-Charge

In case of vacancy in the Office of the President as mentioned in the

shall have the disciplinary power over students of the College and shall
 formulate academic policies and rules and regulations on discipline, subject to
 the approval of the Board.

SEC. 12. The Secretary of the College. - The Board shall appoint a
secretary, who shall serve as such for both the Board and the College and shall
keep all records and proceedings of the Board. He/She shall serve upon each
member of the Board the appropriate notice of the Board meetings.

8 SEC. 13. *The Treasurer of the College.* – The Treasurer of the 9 Philippines shall be the *ex officio* treasurer of the College.

10 SEC. 14. *The Faculty.* – No political beliefs, gender preference, 11 cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, and religious opinion or 12 affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members 13 of the College: *Provided, however,* That the said appointment shall be subject 14 to the guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the Board: *Provided,* 15 *further,* That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular 16 church or religious sect.

SEC. 15. Scholarship Program/Admission. – The College shall provide
a scholarship program and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but
deserving students who qualify for admission to the College.

20 No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of sex,
21 religion, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin.

SEC. 16. Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy. – The
 College shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to
 paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution of the Republic of
 the Philippines.

SEC. 17. Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus/Equipment/
 Supplies and Detail of Personnel. – The heads of the bureaus and offices of
 the national government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon the

request of the President of the College, such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by the College, and to detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, such apparatus, equipment, supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to the public service.

6 The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them
7 by the President of the College, and the time so employed shall be counted as
8 part of their regular services.

9 SEC. 18. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel. – All assets, real and 10 personal, personnel and records of the San Isidro Agro-Industrial School, as 11 well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the College. 12 The positions, rights and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel 13 therein employed under existing laws prior to the conversion into a College 14 shall be respected.

All parcels of land belonging to the government and occupied by the San Isidro Agro-Industrial School are hereby declared to be property of the College, and shall be titled under that name: *Provided*, That should the College cease to exist or be abolished, or should such parcels of land aforementioned be no longer needed by the College, the same shall revert to the LGUs concerned.

SEC. 19. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the San Isidro Agro-Industrial School, except the sums needed to continue the operations of the existing high school. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the San Isidro Polytechnic State College shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. SEC. 20. Development Plan, Management Audit, Organizational/
 Administrative/Academic Structure. - Within the period of one hundred twenty
 (120) days after the approval of this Act, the College shall accomplish the
 following:

- 5 (a) Submit a five (5)-year development plan, including its 6 corresponding program budget to the CHED for corresponding 7 recommendation to the DBM;
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(b) Undergo a management audit in cooperation with the CHED; and

9 (c) Accordingly set up its organizational, administrative as well as 10 academic structure, including the appointment of the key officials of the 11 College.

SEC. 21. Fuling of Report. - On or before the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the
second (2<sup>nd</sup>) month after the opening of the regular classes each year, the
Board shall file with the Office of the President of the Philippines, through the
Chairperson of the CHED and with both Houses of Congress, a detailed report
on the progress, conditions and needs of the College.

SEC. 22. Suppletory Application. - The provisions of Republic Act
No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of
1997", shall be an integral part of this Act and shall serve as part of the
Governing Charter of the College.

SEC. 23. Parity Clause. – All other powers, functions and privileges,
 responsibilities and limitations to state colleges and/or their officials under
 existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the College and/or
 its officials, whenever appropriate.

SEC. 24. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Board, in
consultation with the CHED, shall formulate the guidelines to fully implement
the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 25. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any part or
 provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining
 parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

- 4 SEC. 26. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive 5 orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of 6 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 27. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
  its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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