

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7027
(In Substitution of HB No. 4937)

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING, MARK O. GO,
ERIC GO YAP and JOEY SARTE SALCEDA

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF ALIAGA, PROVINCE OF NUEVA ECIIJA, TO BE KNOWN AS THE ALIAGA
POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Establishment.**— There is hereby established a polytechnic state college
2 in the Municipality of Aliaga, Province of Nueva Ecija, to be known as the Aliaga
3 Polytechnic State College, hereinafter referred to as the College. Its main campus shall be
4 located in the Municipality of Aliaga of the said province.
5

6 **SEC. 2. General Mandate.**— The College shall primarily provide advance education,
7 higher technological, professional instruction and training in the fields of agriculture, arts and
8 sciences, education, commerce, business administration, engineering, social sciences, and
9 short-term technical-vocational courses that will support the development of the Province of
10 Nueva Ecija and Region III.
11

12 **SEC. 3. Curricular Offerings.**— The College shall offer short-term technical-
13 vocational courses, undergraduate, and graduate courses within its competency and areas of
14 specialization in the fields of agriculture, arts and sciences, teacher education, commerce,
15 business administration, engineering, and social sciences and other degree courses, as the
16 Board of Trustees may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, and those which respond to
17 human resource development needs of the Province of Nueva Ecija and Region III.
18

19 The existing and any other future technical-vocational courses or programs under the
20 supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall
21 remain and continue to be offered within the campus of the College.
22

23 The College may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school if it has a College of
24 Education.
25

26 **SEC. 4. Administration.**— The College shall have the general powers of a corporation
27 set forth in Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, as amended, otherwise known as "The Corporation

1 Code of the Philippines". The exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively in
2 the Board of Trustees and the President of the College.

3
4 **SEC. 5. *The Governing Board.***— The governing board of the College shall be the
5 Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be chaired and co-chaired
6 by the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the President of the
7 College, respectively, with the following as members:

- 8
9 a. Chairperson of the Committee on Higher, Technical, Vocational Education of the
10 Senate;
11 b. Chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education of the House of
12 Representatives;
13 c. Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority;
14 d. Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture;
15 e. Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology;
16 f. Regional Director of the TESDA;
17 g. President of the federation of faculty associations of the College;
18 h. President of the federation of student councils of the College;
19 i. President of the federation of alumni associations of the College; and
20 j. Two (2) prominent citizens from the private sector who have distinguished
21 themselves in their professions or fields of specialization.

22
23 The Board shall appoint the two (2) prominent citizens who shall be selected from a
24 list of at least five (5) qualified persons in the Province of Nueva Ecija where the College is
25 located, as recommended by the search committee to be constituted by the College President,
26 in consultation with the CHED Chairperson and other members of the Board, based on the
27 standards and qualifications for the position set by the Board. They shall serve for a term of
28 two (2) years from the date of appointment.

29
30 Membership of the President of the federation of faculty associations, the President of
31 the federation of student councils, and the President of the federation of alumni associations
32 in the governing board, shall be coterminous with their terms of office, as provided under
33 their respective constitution and bylaws.

34
35 **SEC. 6. *Promulgation and Implementation of Policies.***— The Board shall promulgate
36 and implement policies in accordance with the declared State policies on education, other
37 pertinent provisions of the Constitution on education, agriculture, science and technology,
38 and the policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. (RA) 7722,
39 otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994".

40
41 **SEC. 7. *Powers and Duties of the Board of Trustees.***— In addition to its general
42 powers of administration and the powers granted to the board of directors of a corporation
43 under existing laws, the Board shall have the following specific powers and duties:

- 44
45 a. Approve the curricula, instructional programs, and rules of discipline drawn by
46 the Administrative and Academic Councils herein provided;
47
48 b. Appoint, upon the recommendation of the President of the College, the vice
49 presidents, deans, directors, heads of the campuses, faculty members, and other
50 officials and employees of the College;

1
2 c. Fix and adjust the salaries of faculty members, administrative officials and
3 employees, subject to the provisions of the Revised Compensation and Position
4 Classification System and other pertinent budget and compensation laws,
5 including those governing the hours of service, and such other duties and
6 conditions as it may deem proper; grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence
7 under such regulations as it may promulgate, any provision of existing law to the
8 contrary notwithstanding; and remove them for cause in accordance with the
9 requirements of due process of law;

10
11 d. Fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, such as matriculation
12 fees, graduation fees, and laboratory fees, as the Board may deem proper to
13 impose, after due consultation with the concerned sectors. The fees and charges,
14 including government subsidies and other income generated by the College, shall
15 constitute its special trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized
16 government depository bank. All interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form
17 part of the same funds for the use of the College.

18
19 Any provision of existing laws, rules or regulations to the contrary
20 notwithstanding, any income generated by the College from tuition fees and other
21 charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land grants, shall
22 be retained by the College and may be disbursed by the Board for instruction,
23 research, extension services or other programs and projects of the College:
24 *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific purposes for
25 which these are collected: *Provided, however*, That if, for reasons beyond its
26 control, the College shall not be able to pursue any project for which the funds
27 have been appropriated and allocated under its approved program of
28 expenditures, the Board may authorize the use of the funds for any reasonable
29 purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for the attainment
30 of the objectives and goals of the College;

31
32 e. Adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and other school fees for
33 greater access of poor but deserving students in accordance with RA No. 10931
34 or the "Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act";

35
36 f. Establish professorial chairs in the College and provide fellowships for qualified
37 faculty members, and scholarships to deserving students;

38
39 g. Receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the support of the
40 College in the manner it may determine, in its discretion, in order to carry out the
41 purposes and functions of the College;

42
43 h. Set the policies on admission and graduation of students;

44
45 i. Award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their outstanding
46 contribution in the fields of education, public service, arts, science and
47 technology, agriculture or any area of specialization within the academic
48 competency of the College, and authorize the awarding of certificates of
49 completion of nondegree and nontraditional courses;

- 1 j. Establish research and extension centers to promote the development of the
2 College;
- 3
- 4 k. Develop academic arrangements for institutional capability building with
5 appropriate institutions and agencies, whether public, private, local or foreign,
6 and appoint experts/specialists as consultants, part-time or visiting/exchange
7 professors, scholars or researchers, as the case may be;
- 8
- 9 l. Adopt modern and innovative modes of transmitting knowledge for the
10 promotion of greater access to education such as the use of information
11 technology, dual training system, open distance learning, and community
12 laboratory;
- 13
- 14 m. Collaborate with the governing boards of other state universities and colleges
15 within the Province of Nueva Ecija and Region III, under the supervision of the
16 CHED and in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management
17 (DBM), in restructuring the College to make it more efficient, relevant,
18 productive and competitive;
- 19
- 20 n. Absorb non-chartered tertiary institutions within the Province of Nueva Ecija and
21 Region III, as branches and extension/external centers, in coordination with the
22 CHED and in consultation with the DBM, and offer therein programs or courses
23 to carry out the Constitutional mandate of providing equal access to educational
24 opportunities;
- 25
- 26 o. Authorize an external management audit of the College, to be financed by the
27 CHED, subject to the rules and regulations of the Commission on Audit, and
28 institute reforms, including academic and structural changes, on the basis of the
29 audit results and recommendations;
- 30
- 31 p. Develop consortia and other economic forms of linkages with local government
32 units (LGUs), as well as public, private, local and foreign institutions and
33 agencies, in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the College;
- 34
- 35 q. Import economic, technical, and cultural books and publications;
- 36
- 37 r. Enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the profitable
38 development and management of the economic assets of the College. The
39 proceeds of which shall be used for the development and strengthening of the
40 College;
- 41
- 42 s. Receive, in trust, legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal properties of
43 all kinds and to administer and dispose of the same, when necessary, for the
44 benefit of the College, and subject to the limitations, directions and instructions of
45 the donor, if any;
- 46
- 47 t. Extend the term of the President of the College beyond the age of retirement, but
48 not beyond the age of seventy (70), based on the guidelines, qualifications and
49 standards set by the Board: *Provided*, That the President's performance has been

1 rated by the Board as outstanding and a unanimous recommendation has been
2 decided by the search committee;

- 3
- 4 u. Delegate any of its powers and duties provided to the President and other officials
5 of the College, as it may deem appropriate, so as to expedite the administration of
6 the affairs of the College;
- 7
- 8 v. Establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative decision-making and
9 transparency within the College;
- 10
- 11 w. Where most advantageous to the College, privatize the management of
12 nonacademic services such as health, food, building or grounds or property
13 maintenance, and such other similar activities;
- 14
- 15 x. Authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery, equipment and
16 other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real property, including the
17 necessary supplies, materials and equipment; and
- 18
- 19 y. Promulgate rules and regulations, as may be necessary, to carry out the purposes
20 and functions of the College.
- 21

22 **SEC. 8. Meetings of the Board.**— The Board shall regularly convene at least once
23 every three (3) months. The Chairperson of the Board may, however, call a special meeting
24 whenever necessary: *Provided*, That members are notified in writing at least three (3) days
25 prior to the conduct of said meeting.

26

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

30

31 In case the CHED Chairperson cannot attend a meeting of the Board, a CHED
32 Commissioner duly designated by the CHED Chairperson as representative to the meeting,
33 shall have all the rights and responsibilities of a regular member: *Provided*, That during the
34 meeting, the President of the College, as Vice Chairperson, shall be the presiding officer:
35 *Provided, further*, That this provision, notwithstanding, the Chairperson of the CHED is
36 hereby authorized to designate a CHED Commissioner as the regular Chairperson of the
37 Board, in which case, the said CHED Commissioner, as the regular Chairperson of the Board,
38 shall act as the presiding officer.

39

40 In case the Chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Higher, Technical, and
41 Vocational Education and the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education shall not
42 be able to attend the Board meeting, they may designate their respective representatives to
43 attend the meeting, who shall have the same rights and responsibilities as the regular
44 members of the Board.

45

46 The members of the Board shall not receive any salary, but shall be entitled to
47 reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred; either for their attendance to the
48 meetings of the Board or in connection with other official business authorized by resolutions
49 of the Board, subject to existing laws and regulations.

50

1 **SEC. 9. *The College President.***— The College shall be headed by a President, who
2 shall render full-time service and be appointed by the Board, subject to the guidelines,
3 qualifications and standards set by the Board, upon the recommendation of a duly constituted
4 search committee. The President shall have a term of four (4) years and shall be eligible for
5 reappointment for another term. Within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of
6 office of the incumbent President of the College, the Board shall constitute the Search
7 Committee for the Presidency.

8
9 The Board shall designate an Officer-in-Charge of the College in case of vacancy in
10 the Office of the President by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal
11 for cause, or incapacity of the President to perform the functions of the office, pending the
12 appointment of a new President: *Provided*, That the Officer-in-Charge shall serve only during
13 the unexpired portion of the term.

14
15 The powers and duties of the President of the College, in addition to those specifically
16 provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the Office of the President of similar
17 colleges and those delegated by the Board.

18
19 The salary of the President of the College shall be in accordance with Republic Act
20 No. 11466 or the “Salary Standardization Law of 2019”, and by such other laws amendatory
21 thereto, which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be comparable to that being received by
22 the presidents of similar educational institutions.

23
24 The President of the College shall be assisted by a Vice President for Academic
25 Affairs, a Vice President for Administration, and a Vice President for Research, Extension
26 and Training, who shall all be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President.

27
28 **SEC. 10. *The Secretary of the College.***— The Board shall appoint a Secretary who
29 shall serve as such for both the Board and the College, and shall keep all records and
30 proceedings of the Board in addition to other duties and responsibilities. The Secretary of the
31 College shall serve upon each member of the Board the appropriate notice of Board meetings.

32
33 **SEC. 11. *The Treasurer of the College.***— The Treasurer of the Philippines shall be
34 the *ex officio* treasurer of the College.

35
36 **SEC. 12. *The Administrative Council.***— There shall be an Administrative Council
37 consisting of the President of the College as Chairperson, and the vice presidents, deans,
38 directors and other officials of equal rank as members, whose duties shall be to review and
39 recommend to the Board the policies that shall govern the administration, management, and
40 development plan of the College.

41
42 **SEC. 13. *The Academic Council.***— There shall be an Academic Council to be
43 composed of the President of the College, who shall act as Chairperson, and all the academic
44 staff with the rank of at least an assistant professor, as members, which shall formulate
45 academic policies.

46
47 The Academic Council shall also have the power to review and recommend the
48 curricular offerings and rules of discipline of the College, subject to the approval of the
49 Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission of students, as well as for their
50 graduation and the conferment of degrees, subject to the review and approval of the Board

1 through the President of the College. It shall exercise disciplinary power over the students of
2 the College and shall issue rules and regulations on discipline of students, subject to the
3 approval of the Board.

4
5 **SEC. 14. *The Faculty.***—No political belief, gender preference, cultural or community
6 affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in
7 the appointment of faculty members of the College: *Provided, however,* That said
8 appointment shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications and standards set by the Board:
9 *Provided, further,* that no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular
10 church or religious sect.

11
12 **SEC. 15. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.***—The College shall enjoy
13 academic freedom and institutional autonomy pursuant to Paragraph 2, Sec. 5 of Article XIV
14 of the 1987 Constitution.

15
16 **SEC. 16. *Admission/Scholarship Programs.***—No student shall be denied admission
17 to the College by reason of gender, religion, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic
18 origin. The College shall provide scholarship and other affirmative action programs to assist
19 poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to the College.

20
21 **SEC. 17. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment, Supplies and Detail***
22 ***of Personnel.***—The heads of the bureaus and offices of the national government are hereby
23 authorized to loan or transfer, upon the request of the President of the College, such
24 apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by the College, and detail employees for
25 duty therein when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, such apparatus,
26 equipment, supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to
27 public service.

28
29 The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the
30 President of the College and the time thus served shall be counted as part of their regular
31 service.

32
33 **SEC. 18. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.***—All parcels of land belonging to the
34 government occupied by the Aliaga Polytechnic State College are hereby declared to be
35 property of the College, and shall be titled under the name: *Provided,* That should the College
36 cease to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer
37 needed by the College, the same shall revert to the national government or to the concerned
38 LGU.

39
40 **SEC. 19. *Tax Exemption on Importation and Donations.***—The importation of
41 economic, technical, and cultural books or publications, which are for economic, technical,
42 vocational, scientific, philosophical, historical or cultural purposes made by the College upon
43 certification by the CHED, shall be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the
44 provisions of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the "Customs Modernization and
45 Tariff Act (CMTA)".

46
47 All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to the College,
48 to be used actually, directly, and exclusively by it, shall be exempt from donor's tax and the
49 same shall be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income of the donor in
accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

1
2 **SEC. 20. Compliance with CHED Requirements.** - The provisions of this Act
3 notwithstanding, the establishment of the institution into a state college shall become
4 effective only upon the determination and declaration by the CHED, based on the
5 recommendation of a panel of experts it shall constitute for the purpose, that the institution
6 has complied with the requirements for a college status based on CHED Memorandum Order
7 No. 46, series of 2012 (Policy-Standard to Enhance Quality Assurance in Philippine Higher
8 Education Through an Outcomes-Based and Typology-Based Quality Assurance): *Provided,*
9 That the panel may issue such recommendation when the institution has substantially
10 complied with the requirements for the grant of status as a state college.

11
12 The following operational requirements for a state college, as established by the
13 CHED, shall be complied with. As such, the College shall:

- 14
15 a. employ full-time, permanent faculty members who possess relevant degrees, as
16 required by the CHED, and shall have experience in the subject areas they
17 handle;
- 18 b. offer a comprehensive range of degree programs characterized by a core
19 curriculum that holistically develops thinking, problem solving, decision-making,
20 communication, technical, and social skills in line with the mission of the
21 College;
- 22 c. possess learning resources and support structures that are appropriate for
23 developing knowledge and skills in the specific natural science, social science,
24 humanities, and professional disciplines offered by the College, including
25 laboratories, books and journals, etc.;
- 26 d. maintain linkages with the community that would ensure the development of
27 relevant academic and extension programs, as well as the application of their
28 learning outcomes; and
- 29 e. conduct outreach programs involving students in social development-oriented
30 experiences that allow them to contextualize their knowledge within actual social
31 and human experiences.

32 The CHED, through its regional office, shall regularly provide technical assistance to
33 the institution and monitor its compliance with the requirements of the Commission.

34 The institution shall retain its status prior to the effectivity of this Act until it is able to
35 comply with the requirements provided herein.

36 **SEC. 21. Development Plan, Management Audit, and Organizational/
37 Administrative/Academic Structure.**— Within a period of one hundred twenty (120) days
38 after the approval of this Act, the College shall accomplish the following:

- 39
40 a. Submit a five (5)-year development plan, including its program budget to the
41 CHED for corresponding recommendation to the DBM;
- 42
43 b. Set up its organizational, administrative, as well as academic structure, including
44 the appointment of key officials of the College;
- 45

1 c. Set in motion the establishment of at least four (4) separate degree-granting units,
2 one of which is in the arts and sciences, and another unit for nondegree technical-
3 vocational education and training; and

4
5 d. Undergo a management audit in coordination with the CHED.

6
7 **SEC. 22. Filing of Report.**— On or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the second month
8 after the opening of the regular classes each year, the Board shall file with the Office of the
9 President of the Philippines, through the Chairperson of the CHED, and with both Houses of
10 Congress, a detailed report on the progress, condition, and needs of the College.

11
12 **SEC. 23. Suppletory Application.**— The provisions of RA No. 8292, otherwise
13 known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form an integral part of
14 this Act and shall serve as part of the governing charter of the College.

15
16 **SEC. 24. Parity Clause.**— All other powers, functions, privileges, responsibilities,
17 and limitations under existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the College
18 and officials, whenever appropriate.

19
20 **SEC. 25. Appropriations.**— The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this
21 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

22
23 **SEC. 26. Implementing Rules and Regulations.**— Within sixty (60) days after the
24 effectivity of this Act, the Board, in consultation with the CHED, shall formulate the
25 guidelines to fully implement the provisions of this Act

26
27 **SEC. 27. Separability Clause.**— If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is
28 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
29 remain in full force and effect.

30
31 **SEC. 28. Repealing Clause.**— All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and
32 rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed
33 or modified accordingly.

34
35 **SEC. 29. Effectivity.**— This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
36 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

37
38 Approved,