

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7726
(In substitution of House Bill No. 4490)

Introduced by Representatives Lawrence Lemuel H. Fortun, Mark O. Go, and Eric Go Yap

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE FOREST STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE
CARAGA STATE UNIVERSITY, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Forest Studies and*
2 *Development Center Act*".
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4 **SEC. 2. Creation of the Forest Studies and Development Center.** - There is hereby
5 created in the CARAGA State University, hereinafter referred to as the University, a Forest
6 Studies and Development Center, hereinafter referred to as the Center, which shall be based in
7 the main campus of the University located in Butuan City, Province of Agusan del Norte.
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9 The Center shall be housed in a separate building within the said campus, which shall
10 serve as its office.
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12 **SEC. 3. Objectives of the Center.** - The Center shall have the following objectives:
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- 14 a. To foster the restoration, protection, and sustainable management of Philippine forests
15 and cultivate awareness and support for the field of forestry science;
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17 b. To promote partnerships among academe and industry with wood-based and other
18 related industry partners, government agencies, non-government organizations,
19 academic institutions, and other stakeholders;
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21 c. To strengthen the research component of the University, including the publication of
22 papers and research findings on the field of forestry, especially in forest development;

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- d. To train and advance the technical, scientific, and management skills of forestry professionals in protecting and maintaining the ecological integrity of forests;
 - e. To organize and hold local, regional, or international fora, seminars, and conferences on best practices and developments in the field of forestry;
 - f. To provide a platform that will enable faculty development in the interdisciplinary field of forestry science; and
 - g. To provide environmental or technological services to clients in the agro-forestry or forestry industries as part of its industry engagement, subject to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10055, otherwise known as the "Philippine Technology Transfer Act of 2009".

16 All intellectual property rights derived from research and development activities under
17 this Act shall be subject to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10055, otherwise known as the
18 "Philippine Technology Transfer Act of 2009".
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20 **SEC. 4. Faculty and Staff.** – The Center shall have a minimum of seven (7) staff
21 composed of technical or research personnel, three (3) non-technical positions, and faculty
22 with expertise in the disciplines of forestry, botany, zoology, agriculture, and environmental
23 science, subject to the evaluation and approval of the Department of Budget and Management.
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25 **SEC. 5. Appropriations.** - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act
26 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
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28 **SEC. 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days upon the
29 effectivity of this Act, the Board of Regents of the University shall formulate the
30 implementing rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act and take appropriate
31 steps to speed up the realization of the objectives of this Act and the execution of the powers
32 and functions stated above.
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34 **SEC. 7. Separability Clause.** - If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is
35 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
36 remain in full force and effect.
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38 **SEC. 8. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and
39 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified
40 accordingly.
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42 **SEC. 9. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
43 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,