



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6704

BY REPRESENTATIVES YAP (ERIC), GO (M.), SUANSING (M.A.), EUDELA, RODRIGUEZ (R.), KHONGHUN, OLIVAREZ, DELOS SANTOS, PALMA, DAZA, TULFO (R.W.), SACDALAN, CARI, ADVINCULA, GULLAS, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, LARA, BORDADO, TUTOR, VERGARA, TAN (K.M.), ZAMORA (M.C.), DOMINGO, GALEOS, ORTEGA, GARCIA (D.), ROQUE, BUHADN, AGARAO, SUAN, LUMAYAG, CO-PILAR, HERNANDEZ, CAGAS, BALINDONG, AQUINO, GUINTU, SORIANO, VERZOSA, CARDEMA, GARDIOLA, ABALOS, PADIERNOS, CO (E.), SALCEDA, HARESCO, BRIONES, TY, CAMPOS, ROBES, LUISTRO, DAGOOC, CUA, COLADA, CHUNGALAO, BERNOS, LOYOLA, ATAYDE, CAJAYON-UY, CUARESMA, ALVAREZ (J.), MARIÑO, CRUZ (A.), BARBERS, REYES, ANG, KHO (R.), BASCUG, QUIMBO, MASTURA, GUTIERREZ, DE JESUS, TARRIELA, ROMULO, SINGSON-MEEHAN, PANOTES, PUMAREN, RODRIGUEZ (R.), PADUANO, ORDANES, SALIMBANGON AND ALVAREZ (M.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 260

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN THE BENGUET STATE UNIVERSITY LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA TRINIDAD, PROVINCE OF BENGUET, TO BE KNOWN AS THE BENGUET STATE UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE OF MEDICINE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Establishment.*** – There is hereby established a medical school in the Benguet
2 State University (BSU) located in the Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet, to be
3 known as the “*Benguet State University-College of Medicine*”.

4
5 **SEC. 2. *General Mandate.*** – The Benguet State University–College of Medicine,
6 hereinafter referred to as the “College”, shall primarily offer a Doctor of Medicine Program,
7 including an Integrated Liberal Arts and Medicine Program, consisting of basic science and clinical

1 courses, and using a learner-centered, competency-based, and community-oriented approach. The
2 primary goal of the College shall be to develop a corps of professional physicians to help strengthen
3 the healthcare system of the country, as well as to respond to the human resource development
4 needs of the Province of Benguet and the Cordillera Administrative Region.
5

6
7 The College is also mandated to undertake research and extension services and provide
8 progressive leadership in these areas.
9

10 **SEC. 3. Governance.** – The governance of the College shall be vested in the Board of
11 Regents of the BSU, hereinafter referred to as the Board, whose powers are defined under
12 Presidential Decree No. 2010, entitled “Converting the Mountain State Agricultural College in the
13 Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet, into a University, to be Known as the Benguet
14 State University, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, as amended, and other applicable laws and
15 regulations, unless otherwise provided or amended elsewhere in this Act.
16

17 **SEC. 4. Administration.** – The administration of the College shall be vested in the Dean of
18 the BSU insofar as may be authorized by its Board.
19

20 **SEC. 5. The College Dean.** – The College shall be headed by a Dean who shall be
21 appointed by the Board, subject to its guidelines on qualifications standards, and based on the
22 recommendation of the President, following a process of consultation with the constituents of
23 the College. The Dean shall render full-time service, serve a term of three (3) years, and may be
24 reappointed to another term.
25

26 Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the President of the BSU shall
27 constitute the Search Committee for the Deanship.
28

29 The powers and duties of the Dean of the College, in addition to those specifically provided
30 for in this Act, shall include those usually pertaining to the Office of the Dean of similar state
31 universities and colleges and those delegated by the President.
32

33 The salary of the Dean of the College shall be in accordance with Republic Act No. 11466,
34 otherwise known as the “Salary Standardization Law of 2019”, and such other laws amendatory
35 thereto, which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be comparable to that being received by the
36 Deans of similar educational institutions.
37

38 In case of vacancy in the Office of the Dean by reason of death, compulsory retirement,
39 resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the Dean to perform the functions of the office,
40 the Board shall, upon the recommendation of the President, designate an Officer-in-Charge of the
41 College, pending the appointment of a new Dean: *Provided*, That the Officer-in-Charge shall
42 serve only during the unexpired portion of the term.
43

44 The Dean of the College shall be assisted by a College Secretary, who shall be appointed
45 by the Board.
46

47 **SEC. 6. The Faculty.** – The Board shall, upon the recommendation by the President of
48 the BSU, appoint the faculty members of the College: *Provided*, That no political belief, gender
49 preference, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious opinion or affiliation
50 shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the College: *Provided*,

1 further, That said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines on qualification standards set
2 by the Board: *Provided, finally*, That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any
3 particular church or religious sect.
4

5 **SEC. 7. *Scholarship Programs and Admission.*** – The College shall provide scholarships
6 and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who qualify for
7 admission to the College. Students who have availed themselves of the scholarship program under
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10 Republic Act No. 11509, otherwise known as the “Doktor Para sa Bayan Act”, shall render a return
11 service in accordance with the said law. Students availing themselves of other nationally-funded
12 scholarship programs to complete the medicine degree program under the College may be required
13 to render a return service depending on the contract to be signed between the student and the
14 College.
15

16 No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of gender, religion, cultural
17 or community affiliation, physical disability, or ethnic origin.
18

19 **SEC. 8. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.*** – The College shall enjoy
20 academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to Paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV
21 of the Constitution.
22

23 **SEC. 9. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment or Supplies, and Detail of***
24 ***Personnel.*** – Upon the request of the Board, through the President of the BSU, the heads of the
25 bureaus and offices of the national government may loan or transfer to the college such
26 apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty therein
27 when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment, supplies or
28 services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public service.
29

30 The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the Dean of
31 the College, and the time so served shall be counted as part of their regular service.
32

33 **SEC. 10. *Assets, Liabilities, and Personnel.*** – All appropriations, assets, both real and
34 personal, personnel, and records of the College, as well as its liabilities or obligations, shall be
35 titled or named after the BSU.
36

37 All parcels of land belonging to the government to be occupied by the College shall be the
38 property of the BSU, and titled under its name: *Provided*, That should the BSU cease to exist or
39 be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the BSU, the
40 same shall revert to the Municipality of La Trinidad or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the
41 case may be.
42

43 **SEC. 11. *Duty and Tax Exemptions.*** – The importation by the College of medical books
44 or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical, laboratory or scientific
45 purposes shall, upon certification by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), be exempt
46 from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise
47 known as the “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act”.
48

49 All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to and used actually,
50 directly, and exclusively for educational purposes by the College, shall be exempt from donor’s
51 tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from gross income for purposes of

1 computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National
2 Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

3
4 **SEC. 12. *Suppletory Application.*** – The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise
5 known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form part of this Act.

6
7 **SEC. 13. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act
8 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

9
10 **SEC. 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the approval
11 of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue rules and regulations to
12 implement the provisions of this Act.

13
14 **SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is
15 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected are in full force
16 and effect.

17
18 **SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules
19 and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are amended, repealed,
20 or modified accordingly.

21
22 **SEC. 17. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
23 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,