

(AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE)

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

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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, BUHAIN, 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
2 Benguet State University (BSU) located in the Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet,
3 to be 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
3 strengthen the healthcare system of the country, as well as to respond to the human resource
4 development needs of the Province of Benguet and the Cordillera Administrative Region.

5
6 The College is also mandated to undertake research and extension services and provide
7 progressive leadership in these areas.

8
9 **SEC. 3. Governance.** – The governance of the College shall be vested in the Board of
10 Regents of the BSU, hereinafter referred to as the Board, whose powers are defined under
11 Presidential Decree No. 2010, entitled “Converting the Mountain State Agricultural College in
12 the Municipality of La Trinidad, Province of Benguet, into a University, to be Known as the
13 Benguet State University, and Appropriating Funds Therefor”, [~~as amended,~~] and other
14 applicable laws and regulations, unless otherwise provided or amended elsewhere in this Act.

15
16 **SEC. 4. Administration.** – The administration of the College shall be vested in the Dean
17 of the [BSU] COLLEGE insofar as may be authorized by its Board.

18
19 **SEC. 5. The College Dean.** – The College shall be headed by a Dean who shall be
20 appointed by the Board, subject to [~~its guidelines on qualifications standards, and based on~~]
21 **THE GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS SET BY THE BOARD,**
22 **AND UPON** the recommendation of the President, following a process of consultation with
23 the constituents of the College. The Dean shall render full-time service, serve a term of three
24 (3) years, and may be 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
30 provided for in this Act, shall include those usually pertaining to the Office of the Dean of similar
31 state 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.
34 11466, otherwise known as the “Salary Standardization Law of 2019”, and such other laws
35 amendatory thereto, which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be comparable to that being
36 received by the Deans of similar educational institutions.

37
38 In case of vacancy in the Office of the Dean by reason of death, compulsory
39 retirement, resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the Dean to perform the functions of
40 the office, the Board shall, upon the recommendation of the President, designate an Officer-in-
41 Charge of the College, pending the appointment of a new Dean: *Provided*, That the Officer-
42 in-Charge shall 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

1 the BSU, appoint the faculty members of the College: *Provided*, That no political belief,
2 SEX, gender [preference,] cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious
3 opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of
4 the College: *Provided, further*, That said appointment shall be subject to the [~~guidelines on~~
5 ~~qualification standards~~] GUIDELINES, QUALIFICATIONS AND STANDARDS set by
6 the Board: *Provided, finally*, That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any
7 particular [~~church or religious sect~~] RELIGIOUS DENOMINATION.
8

9 **SEC. 7. *Scholarship Programs and Admission.*** – The College shall provide scholarships
10 and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who qualify for
11 admission to the College. Students who have availed themselves of the scholarship program
12 under Republic Act No. 11509, otherwise known as the “Doktor Para sa Bayan Act”, shall render
13 a return service in accordance with the said law. Students availing themselves of other nationally-
14 funded scholarship programs to complete the medicine degree program under the College may be
15 required to render a return service depending on the contract to be signed between the student
16 and the College.
17

18 No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of SEX, gender, religion,
19 cultural or community affiliation, physical disability, [ø] ethnic origin, OR ANY OTHER
20 FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION.
21

22 **SEC. 8. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.*** – The College shall enjoy
23 academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to Paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV
24 of the Constitution.
25

26 [~~SEC. 9. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment or Supplies, and Detail*~~
27 ~~*of Personnel.*~~— Upon the request of the Board, through the President of the BSU, the heads of
28 the bureaus and offices of the national government may loan or transfer to the college such
29 apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty therein
30 when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment, supplies or
31 services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public service.]
32

33 **SEC. 9. *LOAN OR TRANSFER OF SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT,***
34 ***AND DETAIL OF PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE.*** – HEADS OF NATIONAL
35 GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND INSTRUMENTALITIES MAY, UPON THE
36 REQUEST OF THE BOARD THROUGH THE PRESIDENT OF THE BSU, LOAN OR
37 TRANSFER SUPPLIES, APPARATUSES, OR EQUIPMENT, AND DETAIL
38 PERSONNEL TO THE COLLEGE: *PROVIDED*, THAT SUCH LOAN, TRANSFER OR
39 DETAIL SHALL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO PUBLIC SERVICE.
40

41 THE PERSONNEL TO BE DETAILED TO THE COLLEGE SHALL PERFORM
42 SUCH DUTIES AS MAY BE DEEMED REQUIRED BY THE DEAN OF THE
43 COLLEGE AND THE TIME SPENT FOR SUCH DUTIES SHALL BE COUNTED AS
44 PART OF THE DETAILED PERSONNEL’S REGULAR SERVICE.

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

3
4 **SEC. 10. *Assets, Liabilities, and Personnel.*** – All appropriations, assets, both real and
5 personal, personnel, and records of the College, as well as its liabilities or obligations, shall be
6 titled or named after the BSU.

7
8 All parcels of land belonging to the government to be occupied by the College shall be
9 the property of the BSU, and titled under its name: *Provided*, That should the BSU cease to
10 exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the
11 BSU, the same shall revert to the Municipality of La Trinidad or to the Republic of the
12 Philippines, as the case may be.

13
14 **SEC. 11. *Duty and Tax Exemptions.*** – The importation by the College of medical books
15 or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical, laboratory or scientific
16 purposes shall, upon certification by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), be exempt
17 from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10863,
18 otherwise known as the “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act”.

19
20 All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to and used
21 actually, directly, and exclusively for educational purposes by the College, shall be exempt
22 from donor’s tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from gross income
23 for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with the provisions of
24 the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

25
26 **SEC. 12. *COMPLIANCE WITH CHED REQUIREMENTS.*** – THE BSU, PRIOR
27 TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COLLEGE AND THE OFFERING OF NEW
28 AND REVISED COURSES AND PROGRAMS RELATED THERETO, SHALL
29 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE POLICIES, STANDARDS AND
30 GUIDELINES OF THE CHED.

31
32 **SEC. [12]13. *Suppletory Application.*** – The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292,
33 otherwise known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form part of
34 this Act.

35
36 **SEC. [13]14. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this
37 Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

38
39 **SEC. [14]15. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** –Within sixty (60) days from the
40 approval of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue rules and
41 regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

42
43 **SEC. [15]16. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this
44 Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected are in
45 full force and effect.

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

4
5 **SEC. [17]18. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
6 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,