



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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 25



Introduced by Representative NIKO RAUL S.J. DAZA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that “*The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.*”

Furthermore, Section 4, paragraph 1 of the same Article affirms that “*The State recognizes the complementary roles of public and private institutions in the educational system and shall exercise reasonable supervision and regulation of all educational institutions.*”

In keeping with these constitutional directives, this bill aims to improve the delivery of educational services and make them more accessible to the people of Northern Samar. At present, residents are compelled to travel around six (6) to seven (7) hours just to reach Tacloban City, the regional center where the nearest CHED satellited office is located—a journey which poses a significant challenge, particularly for students and families who are in dire need of assistance.

Education plays a critical role in national development and in empowering the youth to become productive members of society. As such, it is essential that government services related to education, particularly those offered by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), be within easier reach of students in remote provinces.

This proposed bill seeks to address that need by facilitating more direct and convenient access to CHED services for the people of Northern Samar. These services include, but are not limited to, applications and follow-ups for student financial assistance, grants, and other educational programs.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

NIKO RAUL S.J. DAZA

Representative, 1st District of Northern Samar



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**"AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER
EDUCATION (CHED) IN THE PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** There shall be established a provincial office of the Commission on Higher
2 Education (CHED) in the Province of Northern Samar, to be known as the CHED-Northern Samar
3 Provincial Office, which shall exercise jurisdiction over the said province and shall be headed by a
4 provincial director. The CHED-Northern Samar Provincial Office shall be located in the Municipality
5 of Cataraman, Province of Northern Samar.

6 **SEC. 2.** Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the CHED, in coordination with
7 the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall determine the organizational structure and
8 staffing pattern for the CHED-Northern Samar Provincial Office. The said organizational structure
9 and staffing pattern shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the CHED and the Secretary of the DBM
10 for approval.

11 **SEC. 3.** The Chairperson of the CHED shall immediately include in the CHED's programs
12 the operationalization of the CHED-Northern Samar Provincial Office.

13 **SEC. 4.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the
14 annual General Appropriations Act.

15 **SEC. 5.** The CHED shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
16 implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from approval.

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

24 *Approved,*