

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 4415



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Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**  
2<sup>nd</sup> District, Ilocos Norte

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) was established on January 6, 1978 by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 1279. It was named in honor of the late father of President Ferdinand E. Marcos—Don Mariano R. Marcos, a father, a lawyer, an educator, and a legislator.

Over the years, MMSU has certainly lived up to its name. It was recognized by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as Center of Excellence (COE) in Teacher Education and Center of Development (COD) in Agriculture, Biology, Forestry and Information Technology. MMSU has also been chosen as one of the few National Universities for Agriculture and Fisheries Education in the entire Philippines.

If President Marcos were alive today, he would have been proud of what MMSU has achieved and become—*a university worthy of its name and a place from whence our leaders of the future will come, men and women who can thus rule others because they have learned the basic precept of learning first to rule themselves their emotions and their passions.*<sup>1</sup> A university that has grown tremendously. This was his dream that finally came to fruition.

A true university, he said, *is a school of discipline where the mind, the will and the spirit of men may be enabled to achieve and to create in the image of his maker; who are born or who live in this northern region who must rely on human, rather than material resources have need of this kind of university to transmit the virtues of the older generation to the young, to institutionalize the transmittal of this virtue—from one generation to the other.*<sup>2</sup>

In recognition of President Marcos' unparalleled vision and undying legacy, this bill seeks to rename Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) as Ferdinand E. Marcos State University (FEMSU)—*from one generation to the other*. A generation that has honored the father and is now ready to honor the son, similar to how a father passes the torch to his son.

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<sup>1</sup> Marcos, F. E. (1980). *Presidential speeches* (Vol. 8). [Manila: Office of the President of the Philippines].

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

This measure also seeks to expand the curricular offerings of the university, update and strengthen its governing board, thereby amending Presidential Decree No. 1279.

Staying true to President Marcos' legacy, the University envisions a premier Philippine university by 2028, guided by the value of knowledge, inclusiveness, professionalism, and spiritual and social responsibility. This shall be the Ferdinand E. Marcos State University.

In light of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.



**ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**

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**AN ACT RENAMING MARIANO MARCOS STATE UNIVERSITY (MMSU) AS FERDINAND E. MARCOS STATE UNIVERSITY (FEMSU), EXPANDING ITS CURRICULAR OFFERINGS AND STRENGTHENING ITS GOVERNING BOARD, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1279**

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

**SECTION 1.** Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) in the Province of Ilocos Norte is hereby renamed as the Ferdinand E. Marcos State University (FEMSU).

All references to Mariano Marcos State University in Presidential Decree No. 1279 are now referred to as Ferdinand E. Marcos State University.

The main campus of FEMSU shall remain in its current location in the City of Batac, Ilocos Norte.

**SECTION 2.** As a comprehensive state university, the Ferdinand E. Marcos State University (FEMSU), hereinafter referred to as the University, shall primarily provide advance and higher professional, technical and special instructions in education and technology, engineering and architecture, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, public administration and management, business and accountancy, economics and finance, tourism, hospitality and culinary management, creative industries, humanities, arts and sciences, information and communications technology, maritime education, law and legal management, medicine and health-related programs, peace and security programs and other related fields of study. It shall also undertake research and extension, as well as income generation programs, for the sustainable development of the Province of Ilocos Norte, the region and the country.

**SECTION 3.** The governing board of FEMSU shall be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as The Board, which shall be composed of the following:

- a. The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), as Chairperson;



- b. The President of Ferdinand E. Marcos State University, as Co-chairperson;
- c. The Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture of the Senate, as Member;
- d. The Chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education of the House of Representatives, as Member;
- e. The Regional Director of the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), as Member;
- f. The Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), as Member;
- g. The Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as Member;
- h. The President of the federation of alumni associations of the University, as Member;
- i. The President of the federation of student governments of the University, as Member;
- j. The President of the federation of faculty associations of the University, as Member;
- k. Three (3) prominent Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of duly recognized national or multinational corporations who have distinguished themselves in the fields of specializations of the University or who have entered into a partnership with the University, as Members; and
- l. Two (2) prominent academicians in the Philippines who have distinguished themselves in the fields of specialization of the University through their publication and track record in research, as Members.

The three (3) prominent CEOs and two (2) prominent academicians shall be chosen from among a list of at least five (5) qualified persons respectively, as recommended by the search committee of the University constituted by the University President, in consultation with the Chairperson of the CHED, based on normal standards and qualifications for the position.

The three (3) prominent CEOs and two (2) prominent academicians shall serve for a term of two (2) years and may be reappointed by the Board of Regents for another term.

**SECTION 4.** The University shall be headed by a President, who shall render full-time service. The President shall be appointed by the Board,

subject to the guidelines, qualifications and standards set by the Board, upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee: *Provided*, That in order to effect a transition for a comprehensive university, the incumbent President of the MMSU shall serve as the first President of FEMSU until the end of her current term.

**SECTION 5.** All assets, real and personal, personnel and records of MMSU, as well as the liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the University: *Provided*, That the positions, rights and security of tenure of the faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the renaming shall be respected: *Provided, further*, That the incumbents of the positions shall remain in the same status until otherwise provided for by the Board: *Provided, finally*, That the University shall also include an upgrade or increase in its human resource component.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the MMSU are hereby declared the property of the University and shall be titled under the new name: *Provided*, That should the University cease to exist or be abolished or should such parcels of land be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the concerned local government unit (LGU) or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

**SECTION 6.** Presidential Decree No. 1279 is hereby amended accordingly.

**SECTION 7.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,