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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. ______



Introduced by BAYAN MUNA Representative CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE

AN ACT

CONVERTING THE WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY(WVSU)-EXTENSION IN THE CITY OF HIMAMAYLAN, PROVINCE OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL, INTO A REGULAR CAMPUS OF THE WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE WEST VISAYAS STATE UNIVERSITY-HIMAMAYLAN CITY CAMPUS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

To make tertiary quality education more accessible to the people in Negros Occidental, as well as in neighboring towns and cities, this bill seeks to convert the West Visayas State University – Extension Campus at Himamaylan City into West Visayas State University Campus at Himamaylan City. This will help a lot of youth and students and their families having difficulties in sending their children to other colleges and universities in other areas.

Promoting a more affordable quality education in one of the poorest provinces in the country will help more students to finish tertiary education and provide more chances for them to be competent to be able to earn a living thereby contributing to the abatement of the overall deterioration of our citizens' moral fiber.

Education is a basic right clearly stated in our Constitution. But more and more of our youth are deprived of education, much less, quality education because education is becoming more commercialized. The government's intervention is most necessary especially if the youth, the so-called future of our nation, is being deprived of their basic right.

This Bill is the refiled version of House Bill 5123 approved during the 16th Congress by the House of Representatives.

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

Approved,

Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE Bayan Muna Party-List

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

SECTION 1. Conversion. - The West Visayas State University Extension in the City of Himamaylan, Province of Negros Occidental, is hereby converted into a regular campus of the West Visayas State University to be known as the West Visayas State University-Himamaylan City Campus (WVSU-HCC).

SECTION 2. Curricular Offerings. - The WVSU-HCC shall offer undergraduate and graduate degree programs in advanced education, higher technological, professional instruction and training in the fields of arts, science and technology, education, short-term technical-vocational education and training (TVET), and other related and relevant fields of study within its areas of specialization to meet the needs of the province and of the region. It shall also undertake research, extension services and production activities in support of the socioeconomic development of the province and of the region, and provide progressive leadership in its areas of specialization: Provided, That the WVSU-HCC shall retain its original primary mandate as an arts and science institution: Provided, further, That the WVSU-HCC shall offer master's and

doctorate degree programs and courses related to food production.

SECTION 3. Board of Regents. - The governance of the WVSU-HCC shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents (BOR) created under Presidential Decree 2019 and Republic Act No. 8292 that govern the WVSU. All policies, rules and regulations approved by the WVSU-BOR shall be applied to WVSU-HCC.

SECTION 4. The Campus Administrator. - The administration of the WVSU-HCC shall be the responsibility of the Campus Administrator who shall be appointed by the WVSU President and confirmed by the WVSU-BOR.

The Campus Administrator shall serve on a full-time basis and shall hold office for a term of three (3) years. The Campus Administrator shall be eligible for reappointment for another term: Provided, That the Campus Administrator shall not be over sixty-two (62) years old at the time of appointment to qualify for reappointment or term extension: Provided, further, That the Campus Administrator shall not have reached the age of seventy (70) years old. He shall have at least an academic rank of associate professor and at least three (3) years of experience as Department Chair, Director or Vice-President of a College/Unit.

In case of vacancy in the Office of the Campus Administrator by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity to perform the functions of the office, the WVSU President shall designate a new Campus Administrator.

SECTION 5. Powers and Duties of the Campus Administrator. — The powers and duties of the Campus Administrator of the WVSU-HCC shall be similar to the powers and duties of the Campus Administrators in other WVSU campuses.

The Campus Administrator of the WVSU-HCC shall represent the WVSU-HCC in the Administrative Council and Academic Council of the University.

SECTION 6. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel. – All assets, real and personal, personnel and records of the WVSU-Extension in Himamaylan City, as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the WVSU-HCC.

The positions, rights and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the conversion into a regular campus shall be respected.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the WVSU-Extension in Himamaylan City are hereby transferred to the WVSU-HCC, and shall be titled under that name: *Provided*, That should the campus or the University cease to exist or to be abolished or should such parcels of land aforementioned be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the local government units (LGUs) concerned.

SECTION 7. Appropriations. — The amount necessary to carry out the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's funding of the West Visayas State University (WVSU) — Extension provided by the City of Himamaylan, Negros Occidental. The City of Himamaylan shall continue to provide the same funding to the WVSU—Extension School corresponding to the funding given before the same is integrated into the WVSU until such time that the full funding requirement of the WVSU—Himamaylan City Campus is included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 8. Development Plan, Management Audit, Organizational/Administrative/Academic Structure. — Within the period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the approval of this Act, the WVSU-HCC shall accomplish the following:

(a) Submit a five (5)-year development plan, including its corresponding program budget to the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), for corresponding recommendation to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM);

(b) Undergo a management audit in cooperation with the CHED;

(c) Set up its organizational, administrative, as well as academic structure, including the appointment/designation of WVSU-HCC officials; and

(d) Establish at least two (2) separate degree-granting units, one of which is in the arts and sciences and another at the graduate level.

SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within one hundred (120) days from the approval of this Act, the Board of the WVSU, in consultation with the CHED, shall promulgate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. — All parts of Presidential Decree No. 2019 and other laws or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act shall be deemed repealed or modified, accordingly.

SECTION 11. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 12. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,