



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4218



Introduced by Representative J. Mayo Z. Almario

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to convert the Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology in the City of Mati and all its satellite campuses located in the Province of Davao Oriental into a state university to be known as the Davao Oriental State University, and integrate therewith the Governor Generoso College of Arts, Science and Technology, located in the Municipality of Governor Generoso, Davao Oriental.

It has been a core part of the mission of the Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology to serve the people of Davao Oriental and neighboring provinces. Founded on December 13, 1989 by virtue of Republic Act No. 6807, Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology began as the Mati Community College in 1972, a local government-run community college which offered liberal arts and business-oriented programs.

From a modest beginning, the Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology has grown into a promising state college. It takes pride in its highly qualified and competent faculty, most of whom have specialized and advanced academic degrees. It has significantly contributed to the upliftment of the economic status of the people of Davao Oriental particularly Mati City by providing the youth the opportunity and venue to avail of quality education through their curriculum offerings in education, agricultural technology, agribusiness management, business administration, hotel and restaurant management, criminology, nursing, industrial technology management, information technology, biology, civil engineering and other relevant fields in accordance with national and global educational standards.

The Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology has continued to grow over time. It has been elevated from level 1 to level 3 state college status after complying with the accreditation standards set by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities in the Philippines, Inc. To cater to the ever-increasing number of the student population, it has established three extension campuses in the municipalities of Banaybanay, Cateel, and San Isidro, all located in the Province of Davao Oriental. It has also gained recognition for establishing relevant linkages and undertaking vigorous research and extension programs in nutrition, food production, health and sports development. It has continually produced thousands of graduates who are now productive members of society.

The conversion of Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology into a state university and integrating therewith the Governor Generoso College of Arts, Science and Technology is expected to provide a wide range of socio-economic benefits to the people of Davao Oriental and the neighboring provinces, to wit:

- 1) The unequivocal guarantees of free and equal access to quality education at all levels guaranteed by the Constitution can be vigorously pursued by a university which can provide the enormous benefits of education to remote communities and low-income families;
- 2) The university will be the premier institution of higher learning which can provide advanced professional and technical instruction for special purposes, advanced studies in education, agricultural technology, agri-business management, business administration, industrial technology, arts and sciences, health sciences, information technology, engineering and other relevant fields of study;
- 3) The university will be in a better position to introduce need-based research, extension services and production activities which complement the promotion of socio-economic progress in a healthy and conducive learning environment matching global changing opportunities; and
- 4) The university can help the people of Davao Oriental and neighboring provinces achieve their goal of becoming globally competitive.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is highly recommended.



J. MAYO Z. ALMARIO



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HOUSE BILL NO. _____

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AN ACT

1
2 CONVERTING THE DAVAO ORIENTAL STATE COLLEGE OF
3 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE CITY OF MATI AND ALL ITS
4 SATELLITE CAMPUSES LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF DAVAO
5 ORIENTAL INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE
6 DAVAO ORIENTAL STATE UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING
7 THEREWITH THE GOVERNOR GENEROSO COLLEGE OF ARTS,
8 SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
9 GOVERNOR GENEROSO, PROVINCE OF DAVAO ORIENTAL AND
10 APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
11

12 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in*
13 *Congress assembled:*
14

15 SECTION 1. *Conversion.* – The Davao Oriental State College of
16 Science and Technology in the City of Mati, including all of its existing satellite
17 campuses, namely: Banaybanay Campus in the Municipality of Banaybanay,
18 Cateel Campus in the Municipality of Cateel, and San Isidro Campus in the
19 Municipality of San Isidro, all located in the Province of Davao Oriental, is
20 hereby converted into a state university to be known as the Davao Oriental State
21 University, integrating therewith the Governor Generoso College of Arts,
22 Science and Technology located in the Municipality of Governor Generoso,
23 Province of Davao Oriental. The main campus of the Davao Oriental State
24 University, hereinafter referred to as the University, shall be in Mati City.

1 SEC. 2. *General Mandate.*— The University shall primarily provide
2 advanced education, higher technological, professional instruction and training
3 in the fields of education, agricultural technology, agri-business management,
4 business administration, industrial technology, arts and sciences, health
5 sciences, information technology, engineering and other relevant fields of study.
6 It shall also undertake research and extension services, and provide progressive
7 leadership in its areas of specialization.

8 SEC. 3. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.*— The
9 University shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy pursuant to
10 paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution of the Republic of the
11 Philippines.

12 SEC. 4. *Curricular Offerings.*— The University shall offer
13 undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate programs and short-term courses in
14 the fields of agriculture and environment studies, pure and applied sciences,
15 behavioral and social sciences, law, culture and arts, tourism and business-
16 related programs, nautical and maritime programs, industrial technology and
17 engineering, education and teacher training, communication and information
18 technology, health-related programs, developmental management and
19 leadership programs, agricultural technology, agri-business management,
20 business administration, health sciences and other degree courses within its
21 areas of specialization and according to its capabilities as the Board of Regents
22 may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, particularly in meeting the needs
23 of the Province of Davao Oriental and Region XI.

24 The University may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school under
25 its College of Education.

26 SEC. 5. *Administration.*— The University shall have the general powers
27 of a corporation set forth in Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, as amended, otherwise
28 known as the “*Corporation Code of the Philippines.*” The administration of the

1 University and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively
2 in the Board of Regents and the President of the University.

3 SEC. 6. *Governing Board.* – The governing body of the University shall
4 be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be
5 composed of the following:

6 a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED),
7 as chairperson;

8 b) The President of the University, as vice chairperson;

9 c) The chairperson of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture
10 of the Senate;

11 d) The chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical
12 Education of the House of Representatives;

13 e) The regional director of the National Economic and Development
14 Authority in Region XI;

15 f) The regional director of the Department of Science and
16 Technology in Region XI;

17 g) The president of the federation of faculty associations of the
18 University;

19 h) The president of the federation of student councils of the
20 University;

21 i) The president of the federation of alumni associations of the
22 University; and

23 j) Two (2) prominent citizens from the private sector who have
24 distinguished themselves in their profession or in the fields of specialization; as
25 members.

26 The Board shall appoint the two (2) prominent citizens from among a list
27 of at least five (5) qualified persons in the Province of Davao Oriental where the
28 University and its campuses are located, as recommended by the search
29 committee constituted by the President of the University, in consultation with

1 the Chairperson of the CHED and the other members of the Board, based on the
2 normal standards and qualifications for the position.

3 The term of office of the president of the federation of faculty
4 associations, the president of the federation of student councils and the president
5 of the federation of alumni associations shall be coterminous with their
6 respective terms of office, as set forth in their respective constitutions and
7 bylaws.

8 The two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years
9 from the date of appointment.

10 SEC. 7. *Powers and Duties of the Board of Regents.* – The Board shall
11 have the following specific powers and duties, in addition to its general powers
12 of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the board of
13 directors of a corporation under existing laws:

14 a) To promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the
15 declared State policies and the provisions of the Philippine Constitution on
16 education, agriculture, science and technology, as well as the policies, standards
17 and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722, otherwise known as the
18 “*Higher Education Act of 1994*,”

19 b) To promulgate rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be
20 necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;

21 c) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the
22 support of the University in the manner it may determine, in its discretion, in
23 order to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;

24 d) To import economic, technical and cultural books and publications;

25 e) To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal
26 properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose of the same when
27 necessary for the benefit of the University, and subject to the limitations,
28 directions and instructions of the donor, if any;

1 f) To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges including
2 matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as the Board may deem
3 proper to impose, after due consultations with the involved sectors. Such fees
4 and charges, including government subsidies and other income generated by the
5 University, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in any
6 authorized government depository bank, and all interests that shall accrue there
7 from shall form part of the same funds for the use of the University.

8 Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary
9 notwithstanding, any income generated by the University from tuition fees and
10 other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land
11 grants, shall be retained by the University, and may be disbursed by the Board
12 for instruction, research, extension or other programs or projects of the
13 University: *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific
14 purposes for which these are collected.

15 If, for reasons beyond its control, the University shall not be able to
16 pursue any project for which the funds have been appropriated and allocated
17 under its approved program of expenditures, the Board may authorize the use of
18 said funds for any reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary
19 and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the University;

20 g) To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school
21 fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;

22 h) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery,
23 equipment and other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real property,
24 including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;

25 i) To appoint upon recommendation of the President of the
26 University, vice presidents, deans, directors, heads of campuses, faculty
27 members and other officials and employees of the University;

28 j) To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative
29 officials and employees, subject to the provisions of the Revised Compensation

1 and Position Classification System and other pertinent budget and compensation
2 laws governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may
3 deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under such
4 regulations as it may promulgate, any provision of existing law to the contrary
5 notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in accordance with the
6 requirements of due process of law;

7 k) To approve the curricula, instructional programs and rules of
8 discipline drawn by the Administrative Council and Academic Council herein
9 provided;

10 l) To set policies on admission and graduation of students;

11 m) To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their
12 outstanding contribution in the fields of education, public service, arts, science
13 and technology, agriculture or in any field of specialization within the academic
14 competence of the University; and to authorize the awarding of certificates of
15 completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses;

16 n) To establish and absorb non-chartered tertiary institutions within
17 the Province of Davao Oriental as branches and centers in coordination with the
18 CHED, and in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management
19 (DBM), and to offer therein programs or courses, to promote and carry out
20 equal access to educational opportunities as mandated by the Constitution;

21 o) To establish research and extension centers of the University where
22 such will promote the development of the University;

23 p) To establish professorial chairs in the University and to provide
24 fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving
25 students;

26 q) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided for hereinabove
27 to the President or other officials of the University as it may deem appropriate,
28 so as to expedite the administration of the affairs of the University;

1 r) To authorize an external management audit of the University, to be
2 financed by the CHED, subject to the rules and regulations of the Commission
3 on Audit; and to institute reforms, including academic and structural changes,
4 on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;

5 s) To collaborate with other governing boards of the state colleges
6 and universities within the Province of Davao Oriental or Region XI, under the
7 supervision of the CHED and in consultation with the DBM, and work towards
8 the restructuring of the University to become more efficient, relevant,
9 productive and competitive;

10 t) To enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the
11 profitable development and management of the economic assets of the
12 University, the proceeds from which shall be used for the development and
13 strengthening of the University;

14 u) To develop consortia and other economic forms of linkages with
15 local government units (LGUs), institutions and agencies, both public and
16 private, local and foreign, in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of
17 the University;

18 v) To develop academic arrangements for institutional capability
19 building with appropriate institutions and agencies, public and private, local and
20 foreign, and to appoint experts or specialists as consultants, part-time or visiting
21 or exchange professors, scholars or researchers, as the case may be;

22 w) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of
23 transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual
24 learning system, open or distance education and community laboratory for the
25 promotion of greater access to education;

26 x) To establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative
27 decision-making and transparency within the University;

1 y) To privatize, where most advantageous to the University, the
2 management of non academic services such as health, food, building or grounds
3 or property maintenance and such other similar activities; and

4 z) To extend the term of the President of the University, whose
5 performance has been unanimously rated as outstanding and upon unanimous
6 recommendation by the search committee, beyond the age of retirement but not
7 beyond the age of seventy (70).

8 **SEC. 8. Meetings of the Board.** – The Board shall regularly convene
9 once every three (3) months. Whenever necessary, the chairperson of the Board
10 may call, upon three (3) days' prior written notice to the members, a maximum
11 of two (2) special meetings within the same period.

12 A quorum of the Board shall consist of majority of all its members
13 holding office at the time of the meeting: *Provided, however,* That the
14 chairperson of the Board or the President of the University is among those
15 present in the meeting.

16 In the absence of the Chairperson of the CHED, a duly designated CHED
17 commissioner shall represent the Chairperson of the CHED in the meeting, with
18 all the rights and responsibilities of a regular member: *Provided,* That during
19 this meeting, the President of the University as vice chairperson shall be the
20 presiding officer: *Provided, further,* That this provision notwithstanding, the
21 Chairperson of the CHED is hereby authorized to designate a CHED
22 commissioner as the regular chairperson of the Board, in which case said CHED
23 commissioner shall act as the presiding officer.

24 In case the chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and
25 Culture and House Committee on Higher and Technical Education shall not be
26 able to attend the Board meeting, they may duly designate their respective
27 representatives to attend the meeting, who shall have the same rights and
28 responsibilities as a regular member of the Board.

1 The members of the Board shall not receive any salary but shall be
2 entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either in
3 their attendance to meetings of the Board or in connection with other official
4 business authorized by resolution of the Board, subject to existing laws and
5 regulations.

6 SEC. 9. *President of the University.* – The University shall be headed by
7 a President, who shall render full-time service and who shall be appointed by
8 the Board, subject to the guidelines, qualifications and standards set by the
9 Board, upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. The
10 President of the University shall have a term of four (4) years and shall be
11 eligible for reappointment for another term: *Provided*, That in order to effect a
12 smooth transition to a state university, the incumbent President of the Davao
13 Oriental State College of Science and Technology shall serve as the first
14 President of the University.

15 Within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of office of the
16 incumbent President of the University, the Board shall constitute the Search
17 Committee for the Presidency.

18 In case of vacancy in the Office of the University President by reason of
19 death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of
20 the President to perform the functions of the office, the Board shall designate an
21 officer-in-charge of the University within six (6) months from the date of
22 vacancy, pending the appointment of a new President. The successor or the
23 officer-in-charge shall serve only the unexpired portion of the term.

24 The powers and duties of the President of the University, in addition to
25 those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the
26 Office of the President of similar universities, and those delegated by the Board.

27 The salary of the President of the University shall be in accordance with
28 the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System and shall be

1 comparable to that being received by the presidents of similar educational
2 institutions.

3 The President of the University shall be assisted by a Vice President for
4 Academic Affairs and a Vice President for Administration, who shall be
5 appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President of the
6 University.

7 SEC. 10. *Secretary of the University.* – The Board shall appoint a
8 Secretary, who shall serve as such for both the Board and the University and
9 shall keep all records and proceedings of the Board. The Secretary of the
10 University shall serve upon each member of the Board the appropriate notice of
11 the Board meetings.

12 SEC. 11. *Treasurer of the University.* – The Treasurer of the Philippines
13 shall be the *ex officio* Treasurer of the University.

14 SEC. 12. *Administrative Council.* – There shall be an Administrative
15 Council consisting of the President of the University as chairperson, vice
16 presidents, deans, directors and other officials of equal rank as members, whose
17 duty is to review and recommend to the Board the policies governing the
18 administration, management and development planning of the University.

19 SEC. 13. *Academic Council.* – There shall be an Academic Council to be
20 composed of the President of the University, who shall act as chairperson, and
21 all academic staff with the rank of at least assistant professor, as members.

22 The Academic Council shall have the power to review and recommend
23 the curricular offerings and rules of discipline of the University, subject to the
24 approval of the Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission of
25 students, as well as for their graduation and conferment of degrees, subject to
26 review and approval by the Board through the President of the University. It
27 shall have the disciplinary power over students of the University and shall
28 formulate academic policies and rules and regulations on discipline, subject to
29 the approval of the Board.

1 SEC. 14. *Faculty*. – No political beliefs, gender preference, cultural or
2 community affiliation or ethnic origin, and religious opinion or affiliation shall
3 be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the University:
4 *Provided*, That the appointment shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications
5 and standards set by the Board: *Provided, further*, That no member of the
6 faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

7 SEC. 15. *Scholarship Program and Admission*. – The University shall
8 provide a scholarship program and other affirmative action programs to assist
9 poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to the University.

10 No student shall be denied admission to the University by reason of sex,
11 religion, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin.

12 SEC. 16. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment,*
13 *Supplies and Detail of Personnel*. – The heads of the bureaus and offices of the
14 national government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon the request
15 of the President of the University, such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may
16 be needed by the University, and to detail employees for duty therein when, in
17 the judgment of the head of the bureau or office, such apparatus, equipment,
18 supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment
19 to public service.

20 The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them
21 by the President of the University, and the time so employed shall be counted as
22 part of their regular services.

23 SEC. 17. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel*. – All assets, real and
24 personal, personnel and records of the Davao Oriental State College of Science
25 and Technology, including those of the extension campuses in the
26 municipalities of Banaybanay, Cateel and San Isidro, and of Governor Generoso
27 College of Arts, Science and Technology, as well as liabilities or obligations,
28 are hereby transferred to the University. The positions, rights and security of

1 tenure of faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws
2 prior to the conversion into a University shall be respected.

3 All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the Davao
4 Oriental State College of Science and Technology and its campuses in the
5 municipalities of Banaybanay, Cateel and San Isidro, and by the Governor
6 Generoso College of Arts, Science and Technology in the Municipality of
7 Governor Generoso are hereby declared to be property of the University and
8 shall be titled under that name: *Provided*, That should the University cease to
9 exist or be abolished or should such parcels of land aforementioned be no
10 longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the LGUs concerned.

11 SEC. 18. *Tax Exemption on Importation and Donations.* – The
12 importation of economic, technical and cultural books or publications, which is
13 for economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical, historical or
14 cultural purposes, made by the University upon certification by the CHED, shall
15 be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff
16 and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended.

17 Donations in any form to the University shall be exempt from the donor's
18 tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from the gross
19 income in the computation of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with
20 the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

21 SEC. 19. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the
22 provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations
23 of the Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology. The
24 Municipality of Governor Generoso shall continue to provide financial
25 assistance to the Governor Generoso College of Arts, Science and Technology
26 until such time that its full funding requirement as integrated to the University is
27 included in the annual General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such sums as
28 may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the University
29 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1 SEC. 20. *Development Plan, Management Audit and Academic*
2 *Structure.* – Within the period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the
3 approval of this Act, the University shall accomplish the following:

- 4 a) Submit a five-year development plan, including its corresponding
5 program budget to the CHED, for corresponding recommendation to the DBM;
6 b) Undergo a management audit in cooperation with the CHED; and
7 c) Set up its organizational, administrative as well as academic
8 structure, including the appointment of the key officials of the University.

9 SEC. 21. *Filing of Report.* – On or before the fifteenth day of the second
10 month after the opening of the regular classes each year, the Board shall file
11 with the Office of the President of the Philippines through the Chairperson of
12 the CHED, and with both Houses of Congress, a detailed report on the progress,
13 conditions and needs of the University.

14 SEC. 22. *Suppletory Application.* – The provisions of Republic Act No.
15 8292, otherwise known as the “*Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997*,”
16 shall be an integral part of this Act and shall serve as part of the governing
17 charter of the University.

18 SEC. 23. *Compliance with CHED Requirements.* – The provisions of
19 this Act notwithstanding, the conversion of the institution into a state university,
20 shall become effective only upon the determination and declaration by the
21 CHED, based on the recommendation of a panel of experts it shall constitute for
22 the purpose, that the institution has complied with the requirements for a
23 university status based on CHED Memorandum Order No. 46, series of 2012
24 (Policy-Standard to Enhance Quality Assurance in Philippine Higher Education,
25 through an Outcomes-Based and Typology-Based Quality Assurance):
26 *Provided*, That the panel may issue such recommendation when the institution
27 has substantially complied with the requirements for the grant of university
28 status.

1 The following operational requirements for a university as established by
2 the CHED shall be complied with:

3 a) Faculty members who possess relevant degrees in their areas of
4 specialization as required by the CHED, and who must have participated in
5 research and development activities in their respective disciplines, as evidenced
6 by refereed publications and other scholarly outputs;

7 b) A comprehensive range of degree programs in all levels, from
8 basic post-secondary to doctoral programs;

9 c) Viable research programs in specific (disciplinal and
10 multidisciplinary) areas of study that produce new knowledge as evidenced by
11 refereed publications, citations, inventions and patents, among others;

12 d) Comprehensive learning resources and support structures (e.g.
13 libraries, practicum laboratories, relevant educational resources and linkages
14 with the relevant disciplinal and professional sectors) to allow students to
15 explore basic, advance and even cutting edge knowledge in a wide range of
16 disciplines or professions;

17 e) Active and ongoing linkage and affiliation with other research
18 institutions in various parts of the world that would ensure that the research
19 activities of the university are functioning at current global standards; and

20 f) Outreach activities that allow the students, faculty and research
21 staff to apply the new knowledge they generate to address specific social
22 development problems broadly defined.

23 The institution shall retain its status prior to the effectivity of this Act,
24 unless in the meantime it is able to comply with the requirements provided
25 herein, within a period not later than January 1, 2020.

26 SEC. 24. **Parity Clause.** – All other powers, functions and privileges,
27 responsibilities and limitations to state universities and their officials under
28 existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the University and its
29 officials, whenever appropriate.

1 SEC. 25. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty(60) days
2 from the effectivity of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED,
3 formulate the guidelines to fully implement the provisions of this Act.

4 SEC. 26. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is
5 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not
6 affected shall remain in full force and effect.

7 SEC. 27. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive
8 orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of
9 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

10 SEC. 28. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

12 Approved,