

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

By: *Francis G. Escudero*
Other of the Secretary

'12 SEP -3 P1:16

SENATE

S. No. **3263**

REF

BY: *Francis G. Escudero*

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Forensic science applies a broad spectrum of sciences to answer questions of interest to the legal system often in relation to a crime or civil action.

As such, forensic science is a specialized subject with unlimited applications and thus of inherent interest to the justice system. With this distinction, other countries have made strides in developing their forensic science capabilities and have begun reaping the rewards with better techniques in evidence gathering and airtight cases in litigation.

It is the intent of this bill, therefore, to create a Forensic Science Institute which shall promote, enhance, develop, and upgrade the forensic capability of the country.

Earnest passage of this bill is thus sought.



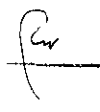
FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FORENSIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "Forensic Science
2 Institute Act."

3 **SEC.2. Creation and objective of the Institute.** - There is hereby created a
4 Forensic Science Institute in the University of the Philippines System with the
5 following objectives:
6

- 7 a. To promote research and development in the various fields of forensic
- 8 science and advance the search for truth;
- 9 b. To enhance the competence and capabilities of existing laboratories in
- 10 the country and prepare them for accreditation;
- 11 c. To develop a corps of professionals and prepare them for a career in
- 12 forensic science; and
- 13 d. To train and upgrade the technical, scientific and management skills of
- 14 personnel presently involved in forensic science so as to improve the
- 15 administration of justice.
- 16

17 **SEC. 3. Delegation of Authority to the Board of Regents.** - The
18 Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines System is hereby
19 authorized to establish the Forensic Science Institute under the direct
20 supervision of the Office of the President of the University, which shall
21 have a faculty and staff with expertise in the disciplines of biology,
22 chemistry, law, molecular biology, social sciences, statistics and other
23 pertinent disciplines, who may be drawn within the system or outside.
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26 **SEC. 4. Functions of the Institute.** - The Forensic Science Institute will
27 have the following functions:
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- 1 a. To provide competent, scientific and advance medical and technical
2 services for the detection and investigation of crimes;
3 b. To maintain a network of modern laboratories for the development
4 and adoption of analytical methods and procedures related to forensic
5 evidence;
6 c. To offer degree and non-degree programs to students inclined towards
7 the various areas of forensic science;
8 d. To undertake research in all fields of forensic science; and
9 e. To provide continuing education on modern scientific methods and
10 instrumentation and on validation of forensic evidence to technicians
11 and personnel laboratories, medical centers and educational
12 institutions.

13
14 **SEC. 5. Implementing Authority.** - The Board of Regents of the University
15 of the Philippines System is hereby mandated to formulate implementing
16 guidelines to carry out the provisions of this Act and to take appropriate steps to
17 ensure that the establishment of the Forensic Science Institute shall aim at the
18 speedy realization of the objectives and at the execution of the powers and
19 functions stated above. Towards this end, the Board shall determine the
20 structure, composition, and size of the Institute's faculty and staff.

21
22
23 **SEC. 6. Appropriations.** - The amount of Three Hundred Million Pesos
24 (P300,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the National
25 Treasury not otherwise appropriated to carry out the objectives and provisions
26 of this Act from its effectivity until the next fiscal year. Thereafter, such sums as
27 may be necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act shall be included in
28 subsequent annual General Appropriations Act under the University of the
29 Philippines System.

30
31 **SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, rules and regulations or part thereof
32 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed,
33 amended or modified accordingly.

34
35 **SEC. 8. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect upon its approval fifteen
36 (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspaper
37 of general circulation in the Philippines.

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39 *Approved,*