



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7397

BY REPRESENTATIVES CABREDO, GO (M.), SALCEDA, MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, TY, LUISTRO, ORDANES,
DAGOOC, SALO, MAGSINO, VERGARA, CRUZ (A.), ROBES, CALDERON, ROMULO, CARI, CO (E.) AND
BORDADO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 379

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING IN THE CITY OF LIGAO, PROVINCE OF ALBAY, A COLLEGE OF
VETERINARY MEDICINE OF THE BICOL UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS
THE BICOL UNIVERSITY-COLLEGE OF VETERINARY MEDICINE, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Establishment.*** – There is hereby established a College of Veterinary Medicine
2 in the Bicol University, to be located in the City of Ligao, Province of Albay, which shall be known
3 as the “*Bicol University-College of Veterinary Medicine*”.

4
5 **SEC. 2. *General Mandate.*** – The Bicol University (BU)-College of Veterinary Medicine,
6 hereinafter referred to as the “College”, shall primarily offer a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
7 (DVM) Program. The program shall be a six-year course consisting of a two-year preparatory
8 veterinary medicine curriculum, including general education courses, and a four-year professional
9 veterinary medicine curriculum consisting of basic animal sciences, and veterinary medical
10 sciences, and using learning competency-based standards and outcomes-based approach. The
11 primary goal of the College shall be to develop a corps of professional veterinary physicians who
12 are adept in the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and control of animal diseases, including terrestrial
13 and aquatic animals.

14
15 **SEC. 3. *Implementation.*** – The implementation of the DVM program shall be in accordance
16 with Republic Act No. 5521, entitled “An Act Establishing the Bicol University, Defining its
17 Powers, Functions, and Duties, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes”, and
18 existing provisions of the Bicol University Code of 2016, particularly Chapter II, Section 4, which
19 allows the Bicol University, through its Board of Regents, to promulgate and implement programs,
20 projects and activities in accordance with state policies on education, other pertinent provisions of
21 the Philippine Constitution, as well as the policies, standards and the thrust of the Commission on
22 Higher Education (CHED).

1 **SEC. 4. Compliance with CHED Requirements.** – The provisions of this Act notwithstanding,
2 the establishment of the College shall become effective only upon the determination and declaration
3 by the CHED, based on the recommendation of a panel of experts constituted for the purpose, that the
4 BU has complied with the policies, standards, and guidelines of the CHED Memorandum Order No.
5 01, series of 2018, for the establishment of a College of Veterinary Medicine and the offering of a
6 DVM Program: *Provided*, That the panel may issue such recommendation when the BU has
7 substantially complied with the minimum requirements for the program.
8

9 **SEC. 5. Scholarship Programs and Admission.** – The College shall provide scholarships and
10 other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to
11 the College. Students who have availed themselves of the scholarship program under Republic Act
12 No. 11509, otherwise known as the “Doktor Para sa Bayan Act”, shall render a return service in
13 accordance with the said law. Students availing themselves of other nationally-funded scholarship
14 programs to complete the veterinary medicine degree program under the College may be required to
15 render a return service depending on the contract to be signed between the student and the College.
16

17 No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of gender, religion, cultural or
18 community affiliation, physical disability, or ethnic origin.
19

20 **SEC. 6. Duty and Tax Exemptions.** – The importation by the College of medical, scientific,
21 and technical books or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical,
22 laboratory or scientific and technical purposes shall, upon certification by the CHED, be exempt from
23 customs duties in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the
24 “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act”.
25

26 All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to and used actually,
27 directly, and exclusively for educational purposes by the College, shall be exempt from donor’s tax
28 and the same shall be considered as allowable deductions from gross income for purposes of
29 computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal
30 Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.
31

32 **SEC. 7. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall
33 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
34

35 **SEC. 8. Suppletory Application.** – The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known
36 as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form part of this Act.
37

38 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared
39 invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force
40 and effect.
41

42 **SEC. 10. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules and
43 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are amended, repealed, or
44 modified accordingly.
45

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

Approved,