FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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SENATE

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 539

Submitted Jointly by the Committees on Education, Arts and Culture and on Finance on _______ 2 7 2009____.

Re: House Bill No. 4413, taking into consideration Senate Bill No. 2902

Recommending its approval with amendments.

Sponsors: Senators MAR Roxas, Francis G. Escudero and Edgardo J. Angara

Mr. President:

The Committees on Education, Arts and Culture and on Finance to which was referred House Bill No. 4413, introduced by Representatives Uy (R.S), Villar, Lagman, Javier, and Remulla, entitled:

"AN ACT

CONVERTING THE TIBURCIO TANCINCO MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CALBAYOG CITY INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE TIBURCIO TANCINCO STATE UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE SAMAR STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JORGE, BOTH LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF WESTERN SAMAR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

taking into consideration Senate Bill No. 2902, introduced by Senator Francis G. Escudero, entitled:

"AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE CALBAYOG STATE UNIVERSITY BY INTEGRATING THE TIBURCIO TANCINCO MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CALBAYOG CITY AND THE SAMAR STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JORGE, BOTH LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF SAMAR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved with the followings amendments:

1. Omnibus Amendment: Change all "Tiburcio Tancinco State University" into "Northwest Samar State University" 2. On Page 2, Line 3, Section 3 is now entirely amended and shall read as follows: "SECTION 3. Curricular Offerings. – The University shall offer graduate, undergraduate, ladderized courses and short-term technical courses within its areas of specialization and according to its capabilities, as the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, particularly to meet the needs of the Province of Samar and Region VIII. PROVIDED, That no degree program shall be offered without the approval of the Commission on Higher Education before the same shall be approved by its Board.

The existing high school in San Jorge Campus shall be the high school laboratory of the Bachelor of Secondary Education under the supervision of the College of Teacher Education; PROVIDED, That the high school shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of SSCAF; PROVIDED, Further, That the University may operate a reasonably-size laboratory school to serve as feeders to college courses for campuses offering teacher education curriculum."

- 3. On Page 10, Delete Lines 12-14, and replace with: "The President of the University shall be assisted by the Vice-President/s, who shall be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President."
- 4. On Page 13, Line 20, insert a new section: "SECTION 22. CHED Monitoring and Evaluation. - The Commission on Higher Education shall conduct regular monitoring and evaluation to determine continuing compliance with the requirements on university status. In the event that the Commission finds that the University does not maintain compliance thereof, it shall submit the appropriate recommendation for the revocation of the University status to the Senate Committee on Education, Arts, and Culture, and the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education.
- 5. Renumber the subsequent sections accordingly.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

EDGARDO J. ANGARA *Chairperson* Committee on Finance *Member*, Committee on Education, Arts and Culture

MAR ROX

Chairperson Committee on Education, Arts and Culture *Member*, Committee on Finance

GREGORIO B. HONASAN II Vice Chair, Committee on Finance

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

Committee on Finance

FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

Culture

JOKER P. ARROYO Vice Chair, Committee on Finance

Members

Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

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PIA "COMPAÑERA" S. CAYETANO Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

Committee on Education, Arts and

MANUEL M. LAPID Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

RAMONE. REVILLA JR. Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

LOREN B. LEGARDA Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

Í. LACSON PAN e on Finance Committe

M.A. MADRIGAL Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance ALAN PETER S. CAYETANO Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

RØDOLFO G. BHÁZON

Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

MANNY VILLAR Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

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FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

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BENIGNO S. AQUINO III Committee on Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance

ANTONIO F. TRILLANES IV Committee on Finance

Ex-Officio Members

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA Presiderit Pro-Tempore

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Majority Leader

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AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR. Minority Leader

HON. JUAN PONCE ENRILE *President* Senate of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4413

BY REPRESENTATIVES UY (R.S.), VILLAR, LAGMAN, JAVIER AND REMULLA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 751

AN ACT CONVERTING THE TIBURCIO TANCINCO MEMORIAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN CALBAYOG CITY INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS THE TIBURCIO TANCINCO STATE UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE SAMAR STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JORGE, BOTH LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF WESTERN SAMAR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. Conversion/Integration. - The Tiburcio Tancinco 2 Memorial Institute of Science and Technology in Calbayog City is hereby 3 converted into a state university to be known as the Tiburcio Tancinco State 4 University, hereinafter referred to as the University, integrating therewith the 5 Samar State College of Agriculture and Forestry in the Municipality of San б Jorge, both located in the Province of Western Samar. The main campus of the 7 University shall be in Calbayog City. 8 SEC. 2. General Mandate. - The University shall primarily provide

9 advanced education, higher technological, professional instruction and training

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in trade, fishery, agriculture, science, education, commerce, engineering,
 forestry, nautical courses and other related fields. It shall also undertake
 research and extension services, and provide progressive leadership in its areas
 of specialization.

SEC. 3. Curricular Offerings. - The University shall offer graduate 5 courses leading to the degrees of Doctor of Education, Doctor of Management, 6 Master of Arts in Industrial Education, Master in Public Administration, 7 Master in Library Administration, Master of Arts in Vocational Education, 8 9 Master of Arts in Education, Master in Technician Education; undergraduate 10 courses particularly those leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Science in 11 Civil Engineering, Industrial Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical 12 Engineering, Marine Engineering, Mining Engineering, Chemical Engineering, 13 Architecture, Commerce, Agriculture, Fishery, Forestry, Nautical and other 14 general courses in various fields of specialization and according to its capabilities, as the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its 15 objectives, in order to meet the needs of the Province of Western Samar and 16 17 Region VIII.

18 The existing high schools shall be transferred to the jurisdiction and 19 supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd): *Provided*, That the high 20 schools shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of the 21 University until its students, who are currently enrolled, shall have completed 22 their high school education: *Provided*, *further*, That the University may operate 23 a reasonably-sized laboratory school, if it has a College of Education.

SEC. 4. Administration. – The University shall have the general powers of a corporation set forth in Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, as amended, otherwise known as the "Corporation Code of the Philippines". The administration of the University and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents and the President of the University.

SEC. 5. The Governing Board. - The governing board of the 1 University shall be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, 2 which shall be composed of the following: 3 (a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), 4 5 Chairperson; (b) The President of the University, Vice Chairperson; 6 (c) The Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture 7 8 of the Senate, member; 9 (d) The Chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education of the House of Representatives, member; 10 11 (e) The Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), member; 12 (f) The Regional Director of the Department of Science and 13 Technology (DOST), member; 14 15 (g) The President of the federation of faculty associations of the 16 University, member; 17 (h) The President of the federation of supreme student councils of the 18 University, member; (i) The President of the federation of alumni associations of the 19 20 University, member; and 21 (j) Two (2) prominent citizens from the private sector who have 22 distinguished themselves in their profession or fields of specialization of the 23 University, members. 24 The Board shall appoint the two (2) prominent citizens from among a 25 list of at least five (5) qualified persons in Calbayog City or the Province of 26 Western Samar, as recommended by the search committee constituted by the 27 University President, in consultation with the Chairperson of the CHED and other members of the Board, based on the normal standards and qualifications 28 for the position. 29

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The term of office of the President of the federation of faculty 1 associations, the President of the federation of supreme student councils and 2 3 the President of the federation of alumni associations shall be coterminous with their respective terms of office, as set forth in their respective constitutions and 4 5 bylaws. б The two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years 7 from the date of appointment. 8 SEC. 6. Promulgation and Implementation of Policies. - The Board 9 shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared State 10 policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Philippine 11 Constitution on education, agriculture, science and technology, as well as the 12 policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722, 13 otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994". 14 SEC. 7. Powers and Duties of the Board of Regents. - The Board shall 15 have the following specific powers and duties, in addition to its general powers 16 of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the board of 17 directors of a corporation under existing laws: -18 (a) To promulgate rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be 19 necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the University; 20 (b) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the 21 support of the University in the manner it may determine in its discretion, in 22 order to carry out the purposes and functions of the University; 23 (c) To import duty-free economic, technical and cultural books and/or 24 publications, upon certification by the CHED that such imported books and/or 25 publications are for economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical, 26 historical or cultural purposes, in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff 27 and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended; 28 (d) To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal 29 properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose of the same when

1 necessary for the benefit of the University, and subject to the limitations,

2 directions and instructions of the donor, if any.

Such donations shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall
be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income in the
computation of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with the provisions
of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended: *Provided*,
That such donations shall not be disposed of, transferred or sold;

8 (e) To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, such as, 9 but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as 10 the Board may deem proper to impose, after due consultations with the 11 involved sectors.

12 Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other 13 income generated by the University, shall constitute special trust funds and 14 shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all 15 interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same funds for the 16 use of the University.

17 Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary 18 notwithstanding, any income generated by the University from tuition fees and 19 other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land 20 grants, shall be retained by the University, and may be disbursed by the Board 21 for instruction, research, extension or other programs/projects of the 22 University: *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific 23 purposes for which these are collected.

If, for reasons beyond its control, the University shall not be able to pursue any project for which the funds have been appropriated and allocated under its approved program of expenditures, the Board may authorize the use of said funds for any reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the University; (f) To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school

2 fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;

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3 (g) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery,
4 equipment and other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real
5 property, including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;

6 (h) To appoint, upon recommendation of the President of the
7 University, Vice Presidents, deans, directors, heads of campuses, faculty
8 members and other officials and employees of the University;

9 (i) To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees, subject to the provisions of the Revised Compensation 10 11 and Position Classification System and other pertinent budget and compensation laws governing hours of service and such other duties and 12 13 conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of 14 absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any provision of existing 15 law to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in 16 accordance with the requirements of due process of law;

(j) To approve the curricula, instructional programs and rules of
discipline drawn by the Administrative and Academic Councils herein
provided;

(k) To set policies on admission and graduation of students;

(1) To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their
 outstanding contribution in the fields of education, public service, arts, science
 and technology, agriculture or in any field of specialization within the
 academic competence of the University; and to authorize the awarding of
 certificates of completion of nondegree and nontraditional courses;

26 (m) To establish and absorb nonchartered tertiary institutions within the
27 Province of Western Samar as branches and centers in coordination with the
28 CHED, and in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management

1 (DBM), and to offer therein programs or courses to promote and carry out

2 equal access to educational opportunities as mandated by the Constitution;

3 (n) To establish research and extension centers of the University where
4 such will promote the development of the latter;

5 (o) To establish chairs in the University and to provide fellowships for
6 qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving students;

7 (p) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided hereinabove to 8 the President and/or other officials of the University as it may deem 9 appropriate, so as to expedite the administration of the alfairs of the 10 University;

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

(r) To collaborate with other governing boards of the state colleges and
universities within the Province of Western Samar or Region VIII, under the
supervision of the CHED and in consultation with the DBM, and work towards
the restructuring of the University to become more efficient, relevant,
productive and competitive;

20, (s) To enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the
21 profitable development and management of the economic assets of the
22 University, the proceeds from which shall be used for the development and
23 strengthening of the University;

(t) To develop consortia and other economic forms of linkages with
local government units (LOUs), institutions and agencies, both public and
private, local and foreign, in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of
the University;

(u) To develop academic arrangements for institutional capabilitybuilding with appropriate institutions and agencies, public and private, local

visiting or exchange professors, scholars, researchers, as the case may be;
(v) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of
transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual
learning system, open or distance education and community laboratory for the
promotion of greater access to education;

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7 (w) To establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative
8 decision-making and transparency within the University;

9 (x) To privatize, where most advantageous to the University,
10 management of nonacademic services such as health, food, building or grounds
11 or property maintenance and such other similar activities; and

12 (y) To extend the term of the President of the University beyond the 13 age of retirement but not beyond the age of seventy (70), whose performance 14 has been unanimously rated by the Board as outstanding based on the 15 guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the Board, after unanimous 16 recommendation by the search committee.

SEC. 8. Meetings of the Board – The Board shall regularly convene at
least once every quarter. However, the Chairperson of the Board may, upon
three (3) days' prior written notice, call a maximum of two (2) special
meetings whenever necessary.

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

In the absence of the Chairperson of the CHED, a Commissioner of the CHED, duly designated by him/her, shall represent him/her in the meeting with all the rights and responsibilities of a regular member: *Provided, however*, That during this meeting, the President of the University as Vice Chairperson shall be the Presiding Officer: *Provided, further*, That this *proviso*

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and foreign, and to appoint experts/specialists as consultants, part-time or

1 notwithstanding, the Chairperson of the CHED is hereby authorized to designate a CHED Commissioner as the regular Chair of the Board, in which 2 3 case said CHED Commissioner shall act as the Presiding Officer. In case the Chairpersons of the Congressional Committees on Education 4 5 shall not be able to attend the Board meeting, they may duly designate their 6 respective representatives to attend the said meeting, who shall have the same 7 rights and responsibilities as a regular member of the Board. 8 The members of the Board shall not receive any salary but shall be 9 entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either in their attendance to meetings of the Board or in connection with other official 10 11 business authorized by resolution of the Board, subject to existing laws and 12 regulations. 13 SEC. 9. The University President. - The University shall be headed by 14 a President, who shall render full-time service. He/She shall be appointed by 15 the Board, subject to the guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the 16 Board, upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. He/She 17 shall have a term of four (4) years and shall be eligible for reappointment for 18 another term: Provided, That in order to effect a smooth transition to a state 19 university, the incumbent President of the. Tiburcio Tancinco Memorial 20 Institute of Science and Technology, if qualified, shall serve as the first 21 President of the University. 22 Within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of office of the 23 incumbent President of the University, the Board shall constitute the Search 24 Committee for the Presidency (SCP). 25 In case of vacancy in the Office of the President by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the

compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the *President to perform the functions of his/her office, the Board shall have the*authority to designate an Officer-in-Charge of the University pending the
appointment of a new President.

1 In case of vacancy in the Office of the President as mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph, his/her successor or the Officer-in-Charge 2 3 shall serve only the unexpired portion of the term. 4 The powers and duties of the President of the University, in addition to 5 those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the б office of the president of similar universities, and those delegated by the 7 Board. 8 The salary of the President of the University shall be in accordance with 9 the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System and shall be 10 comparable to that being received by the Presidents of similar educational 11 institutions. 12 The President of the University shall be assisted by a Vice President for 13 Academic Affairs and a Vice President for Administration, who shall be 14 appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President. 15 SEC. 10. Heads of University Campuses. - Campus Directors shall 16 head the University campuses and they shall render full-time service. They 17 shall be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the search committee 18 and the University President, subject to the guidelines, qualifications and/or 19 standards set by the Board: Provided, That the incumbent college 20 administrators of the extension campuses shall serve as Campus Directors of 21 their respective campuses. 22 SEC. 11. The Administrative Council. - There shall be an 23 Administrative Council consisting of the President of the University as 24 Chairperson, Vice Presidents, deans, directors and other officials of equal rank 25 as members, whose duty is to review and recommend to the Board the policies 26 governing the administration, management and development planning of the 27 University. 28 SEC. 12. The Academic Council. - There shall be an Academic Council 29 to be composed of the President of the University, who shall act as

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Chairperson, and all academic staff with the rank of at least an assistant J 2 professor, as members The Academic Council shall have the power to review and recommend 3 the curricular offerings and rules of discipline of the University, subject to the 4 appropriate action by the Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission 5 of students, as well as for their graduation and conferment of degrees, subject 6 7 to review and/or approval by the Board through the President of the University. It shall have the disciplinary power over students of the University 8 and shall formulate academic policies and rules and regulations on discipline, 9 30 subject to the approval of the Board. 11 SEC. 13. The Secretary of the University. - The Board shall appoint a secretary, who shall serve as such for both the Board and the University and 12 13 shall keep all records and proceedings of the Board. He/She shall serve upon 14 each member of the Board the appropriate notice of the Board meetings. .15 SEC. 14. The Treasurer of the University. - The Treasurer of the Philippines shall be the ex officio treasurer of the University. 16 17 SEC. 15. The Faculty. - No political beliefs, gender preference, 18 cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, and religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of 19 20 the University: Provided, That said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the Board: Provided, further, 21 That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular church 22 23 or religious sect. 24 SEC. 16. Scholarship Program/Admission - The University shall provide a scholarship program and other affirmative action programs to assist 25 26 poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to the University.

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

SEC. 17. Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy. – The 1 University shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant 2 to paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution of the Republic of 3 the Philippines. 4 SEC. 18. Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus/Equipment/Supplies 5 and Detail of Personnel - The heads of the bureaus and offices of the national 6 government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon the request of the 7 President of the University, such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be 8 needed by the University, and to detail employees for duty therein when, in the 9 judgment of the head of burcau or office, such apparatus, equipment, supplies 10 or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to the 11 12 public service. The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them 13 by the President of the University, and the time so employed shall be counted 14 15 as part of their regular services. 16 SEC. 19. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel. - All assets, real and 17 personal, personnel and records of the Tiburcio Tancinco Memorial Institute of 18 Science and Technology and the Samar State College of Agriculture and 19 Forestry, as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the 20 University. The positions, rights and security of tenure of faculty members and 21 personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the conversion into a 22 University shall be respected. 23 All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the 24 Tiburcio Tancinco Memorial Institute of Science and Technology and the 25 Samar State College of Agriculture and Forestry are hereby declared to be 26 property of the University, and shall be titled under that name: Provided. That 27 should the University cease to exist or be abolished or should such parcels of

28 land aforementioned be no longer needed by the University, the same shall

29 revert to the LGUs concerned.

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1 SEC. 20. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the this Act shall be charged against the current year's 2 provisions of appropriations of the Tiburcio Tancinco Memorial Institute of Science and 3 Technology and the Samar State College of Agriculture and Forestry, except 4 5 the sums needed to continue the operations of the existing high schools. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and 6 7 maintenance of the Tiburcio Tancinco State University shall be included in the 8 annual General Appropriations Act. 9 SEC. 21. Development Plan, Management Audit, Organizational/ 10 Administrative/Academic Structure. - Within the period of one hundred twenty 11 (120) days after the approval of this Act, the University shall accomplish the 12 following:

(a) Submit a five (5)-year development plan, including its
corresponding program budget to the CHED, for corresponding
recommendation to the DBM;

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

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17 (c) Accordingly set up its organizational, administrative as well as
18 academic structure, including the appointment of the key officials of the
19 University.

SEC. 22. Filing of Report. – On or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the second (2nd) month after the opening of the regular classes each year, the Board shall file with the Office of the President of the Philippines through the Chairperson of the CHED, and with both Houses of Congress a detailed report on the progress, conditions and needs of the University.

SEC. 23. Suppletory Application. - The provisions of Republic Act No.
8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997",
shall be an integral part of this Act and shall serve as part of the Governing
Charter of the University.

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SEC. 24. Parity Clause. - All other powers, functions and privileges,] responsibilities and limitations to state universities and/or their officials under 2 3 existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the University 4 and/or its officials whenever appropriate, SEC. 25. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Board, in 5 consultation with the CHED, shall formulate the guidelines to fully implement 6 7 the provisions of this Act. 8 SEC, 26. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any part or provision 9 of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or 10 provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect. 11 SEC. 27. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive 12 orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of 13 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. 14 SEC. 28. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after 15

its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation. Approved,