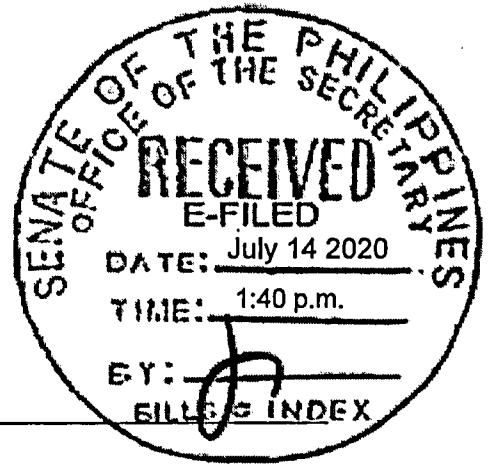


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE
S.B. No. **1691**



Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FOREST STUDIES AND
DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE CARAGA STATE UNIVERSITY
(CSU), DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFORE**

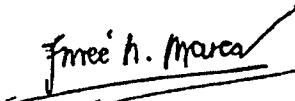
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Philippine Constitution, under Article XIV, Section 2 provides that, "*The State establish, maintain and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.*" The productivity of the country's forestry sector has been on a downward trend, but its contribution to the economy is still substantial in terms of gross value added, employment and export earnings.

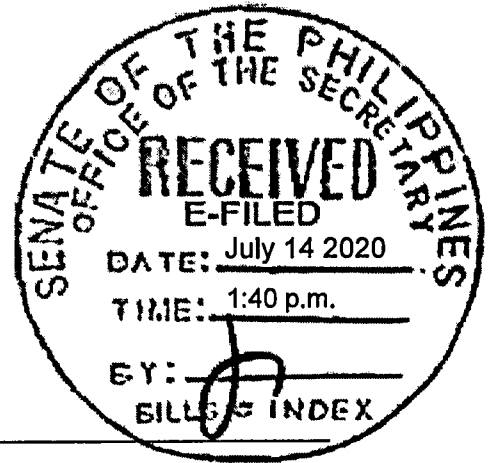
The Caraga State University (CSU) is located in the Timber City of the South, the City of Butuan, the regional center of the Caraga Region. Supplying about seventy percent (70%) of the country's log output, the region is known as the Timber Corridor of the Philippines. CSU is one of the leading forestry and agro-forestry schools in the country with its graduates topping and dominating the forestry licensure exams in the last five years. Apart from being the top university in these fields, its location is undoubtedly the most strategic for forestry research and development.

In order to foster a dynamic space for forest studies and advance the development of the forestry profession, this bill seeks to create the Forest Studies and Development Center in the Caraga State University which will provide vital research support for the restoration, protection, and sustainable management of Philippine forests. Moreover, this will pursue immediate and effective measures in rehabilitating our degraded forests.

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


IMEE R. MARCOS

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE
S.B. No. **1691**

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FOREST STUDIES AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER IN THE CARAGA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU), DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Forest Studies and
2 Development Center in the CARAGA State University Act.”

3 SEC. 2. *Location.* – The Forest Studies and Development Center shall be based
4 in the Caraga State University in Butuan City.

5 SEC. 3. *Delegation of Authority to the Board of Regents.* – The Board of Regents
6 of the Caraga State University is hereby authorized to establish the Forest Studies and
7 Development Center under the direct supervision of the Office of the President of the
8 University, which shall have a faculty and staff with expertise in the disciplines of
9 forestry, botany, zoology, agriculture, and environmental protection.

10 SEC. 4. *Creation and Objectives of the Center.* – There is hereby created a
11 Forest Studies and Development Center in the Caraga State University with the
12 following objectives:

- 13 a. To foster the restoration, protection, and sustainable management of
14 Philippine forests;
- 15 b. To develop and strengthen technical partnerships with relevant government
16 agencies, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, and other
17 stakeholders in the field of forestry;
- 18 c. To develop advocacies and competent professionals in the field of forestry;
- 19 d. To strengthen the research component including the publication of papers
20 and research findings in the field of forestry;
- 21 e. To train and advance the technical, scientific, and management skills of
22 forestry professionals to ensure the integrity of our forests;
- 23 f. To organize and hold local, regional, or international forums, seminars and
24 conferences on best practices and developments in the field of forestry.
25

1 SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of
2 this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations of the year following its
3 enactment into law and thereafter.

4 SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* –This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
5 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,