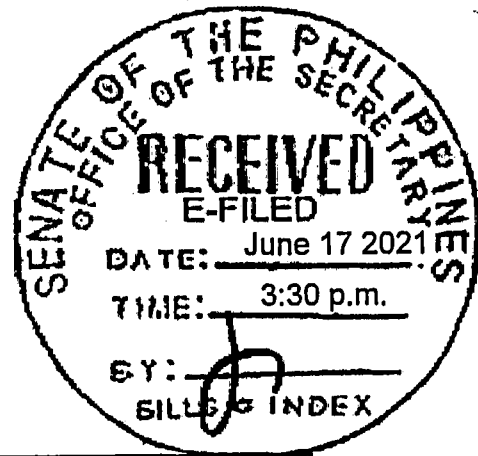


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



SENATE
S. B. No. 2295

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

AN ACT CONVERTING THE CAGAYAN DE ORO (BUGO) SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES (COBSAT) IN THE CITY OF CAGAYAN DE ORO, PROVINCE OF MISAMIS ORIENTAL, INTO A TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)-SUPERVISED AND ADMINISTERED SCHOOL TO BE KNOWN AS THE CAGAYAN DE ORO POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (COPI), AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

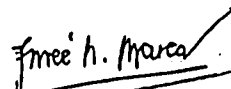
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution, Article XIV, Section 2, paragraph 1 provides that, "*The State shall: (1) Establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.*"

In 2001, TESDA identified Cagayan De Oro (Bugo) School of Arts and Trades (COBSAT) as a Center of Excellence in Automotive Technology. It was granted by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Quality System award giving bodies a Bronze Level Award in 2003. In 2009, the Asia Pacific Accreditation & Certification Commission (APACC) awarded the Bronze Category Accreditation to the school. To date, COBSAT is strengthening its ties with industry partners and local governments, as well as to establish an effective career development program for trainees, high school students, out-of-school youth, career shifters, and retired workers, by keeping abreast of job demands and opportunities in both the domestic and international markets.

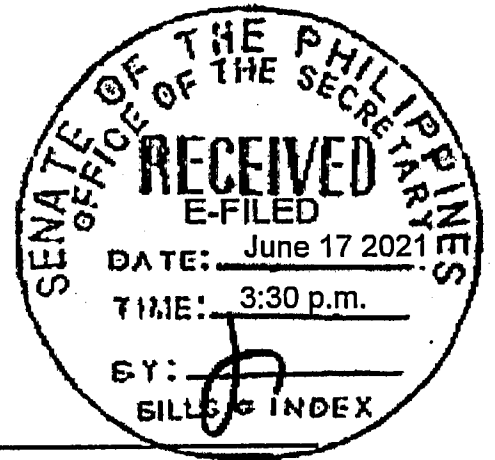
Hence, this bill seeks to convert the Cagayan de Oro (Bugo) School of Arts and Trades (COBSAT) located in Cagayan de Oro City, Province of Misamis Oriental, into Cagayan de Oro Polytechnic Institute (COPI) under the supervision of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). The conversion shall establish COPI as a globally competitive institution and will highly contribute to the economy of the City.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure earnestly sought.


IMEE R. MARCOS

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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 "*Cagayan de Oro*
2 *Polytechnic Institute (COPI) Act*".
3

4 **SEC. 2. Conversion.** – The Cagayan de Oro (Bugo) School of Arts and Trades
5 (COBSAT) located in City of Cagayan de Oro, Province of Misamis Oriental, is hereby
6 converted into the Cagayan de Oro Polytechnic Institute (COPI), and placed under the
7 supervision and administration of the Technical Education and Skills Development
8 Authority (TESDA).
9

10 **SEC. 3. General Mandate.** – The COPI shall restructure its technical-vocational
11 education and training (TVET) programs to effect a major curricular shift in response
12 to the demand of the local and international labor market for technical skills, and align
13 them with the standards of the industry.

14 To this end, the COPI shall upgrade its curricular standards as a tertiary TESDA-
15 polytechnic skills educational institution and provide higher level competency
16 qualifications for instructors in TESDA-registered TVET programs and certificate
17 courses. It shall provide a wide array of relevant skills trainings and trade specialization
18 courses to facilitate the acquisition by the citizenry of the necessary technical skills
19 that shall enhance their access to gainful employment, practical livelihood, and
20 entrepreneurial opportunities, and thus hasten the development of the host area and
21 the adjacent localities in the Province of Misamis Oriental into human resource and
22 productivity hubs.

23 Priority admission to the COPI, including availment of scholarships, grants-in-
24 aid and student financial assistance, shall be given to the most economically
25 disadvantaged students, out-of-school youths, persons with disabilities, and
26 indigenous peoples in the City Cagayan de Oro and the adjacent localities to ensure

1 their development into productive, self-reliant and globally competitive skilled labor
2 assets.

3 The COPI shall serve as a TESDA-accredited assessment center for acquired
4 competencies in TVET programs in the Province of Misamis Oriental. It shall also
5 provide teachers' training and curriculum design assistance to the secondary schools
6 offering the technical-vocational livelihood track under the K to 12 Program in
7 coordination with the Department of Education the TESDA, and the Department of
8 Labor and Employment (DOLE).

9
10 **SEC. 4. Curricular Offerings/Training Programs.** – The COPI shall offer TESDA-
11 registered TVET program, undergraduate certificate courses, and short-term courses
12 and modular trainings in preferred technical-vocational skills. It shall aim to meet the
13 competency requirements under Level V of the Philippine Qualifications Framework
14 (PQF), which is the Diploma Level in TVET.

15 To this end, the DOLE, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department
16 of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of
17 the Interior and Local Government (DILG), National Economic and Development
18 Authority (NEDA), business-industry partners, and other relevant agencies and
19 instrumentalities, both local and international, shall provide the necessary assistance
20 so the COPI can produce skilled manpower to supply the needs of a robust and
21 inclusive economy.

22 The COPI may establish research and technology hubs, technology
23 development farms; satellite or extension training centers, promote mobile training
24 programs, and strengthen linkages with industry partners and the academe.

25 It shall also adopt the use of innovative training modes such as information
26 technology-assisted instruction, dual learning system, open or distance education,
27 community laboratory, virtual and blended learning modes, and such other
28 instructional programs that shall allow local residents greater access to TVET program
29 offerings of the COPI.

30 Course completion at the COPI shall be credited through skills competency
31 assessment under National Certification Levels III to V. When applicable, TVET
32 competency shall qualify for academic degree recognition under the ladderized
33 interface system for tertiary education, provided that the requirements of the
34 Commission on Higher Education are complied with.

35 The COPI shall offer skills development for higher competency qualifications in
36 areas relating to technical industrial education, trade technology, tourism, agricultural
37 technology, business literacy, and innovation in TESDA-registered skills courses as
38 follows:

- 39 a) Skills training in industrial technology and hard trades such as metal and
40 steelwork, machine fabrication and operation, heavy equipment
41 operation, automotive mechanical assembly, refrigeration and air
42 conditioning, electronics, and operation of power tools and equipment
43 for both medium skills grade and industrial purposes;
- 44 b) Tourism and hospitality-related courses relating to hotel, restaurant and
45 tourism development management;

- 1 c) Agriculture and aquaculture-related trainings and skills development in
2 such areas as farming technology, fishing operations technology,
3 backyard farming and home-based aquaculture and propagation
4 innovations, mechanized farming, fishing tools and equipment
5 operation, agribusiness, agri-aqua trade technology and innovations,
6 and relevant training seminars for farmers and fisherfolk to encourage
7 entrepreneurship and thus increase their productivity;
- 8 d) Livelihood skills development courses for preferred skills employment
9 and small-scale entrepreneurship, including practical skills education in
10 arts and crafts, workmanship and design, high-speed sewing,
11 dressmaking and tailoring, horticulture, livestock raising and breeding,
12 food processing technology, home technology, culinary arts and
13 commercial cooking, cosmetology, and health and wellness training;
- 14 e) Basic business literacy training in financial management, marketing,
15 practical accountancy, bookkeeping, office procedures, business
16 processes and application procedures including registration, licensing,
17 documentation, business patent and intellectual property regulation,
18 business financing and investment opportunities sourcing, import-export
19 accreditation, online home-based business operation, and social media
20 business marketing;
- 21 f) Technical-vocational occupation and trades skills such as carpentry,
22 masonry, plumbing, welding, practical electricity and installation,
23 automotive servicing, electronics servicing, personal computer servicing,
24 and such other relevant practical skills courses;
- 25 g) Computer literacy and information technology-related skills, basic
26 computer operation, web development, digital animation, game
27 development, and computer-aided design application;
- 28 h) Social communication skills and language proficiency courses in English
29 and other languages for business process outsourcing employment and
30 overseas job placement;
- 31 i) Seminars on personality development, career counseling, job placement,
32 and work ethic and values; and
- 33 j) Other preferred skills and trades training that may be needed by the
34 people of Cagayan de Oro City and the adjacent localities to enhance
35 their capacities for practical livelihood, gainful employment, and
36 entrepreneurial activities.
- 37

38 **SEC. 5. Compliance with TESDA Requirements.** – The provisions of this Act
39 notwithstanding, the conversion of the COBSAT into the COPI shall become
40 operational only upon the issuance by the TESDA of a formal recommendation and
41 certificate of compliance attesting that the COPI has satisfactorily complied with the
42 minimum standards of quality it has prescribed governing the following : a) standard
43 procedures and guidelines for the conversion and operation of a TESDA polytechnic
44 institute; b) operational sustainability of the COPI in terms of licensed faculty trainers
45 and personnel, equipment, training and laboratory facilities, instructional materials,
46 and other standard requirements of a TESDA-accredited and supervised school; c)

1 sustainable funding source and regular allocation of budgetary requirement for
2 TESDA-operated schools; d) full alignment of the training programs offered with the
3 minimum standards of competency-based quality technical vocational technology skills
4 and the needs of the host area and adjacent localities served within the context of the
5 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) integration and the PQF for TVET;
6 and e) compliance with such other TESDA conditionalities and standards, as may be
7 necessary and applicable, on the conversion of the COBSAT.

8
9 **SEC. 6. Administration.** – The COPI shall be headed by a School Superintendent
10 under the supervision of the TESDA, who shall render full-time service and be
11 responsible for its administration and operation. The School Superintendent shall be
12 appointed by the TESDA Director General in accordance with the rules and regulations
13 of the Civil Service Commission and the qualification requirements for such office.

14 The School Superintendent shall enter into agreement with locally-based
15 private and public counterpart agencies or instrumentalities and persons, and seek
16 such assistance as may be necessary to effectively implement this Act, subject to the
17 approval of the TESDA Director General.

18 The academic and administrative staff of the COPI shall be organized following
19 the staffing pattern of TESDA for such type of schools, pursuant to existing laws, rules
20 and regulations, and the position classification and compensation of the Department
21 of Budget and Management (DBM).

22 Pursuant to existing laws and promulgations, the COPI shall likewise establish
23 its governing board thereafter.

24
25 **SEC. 7. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.** – All assets, fixed and movable,
26 personnel, records and documents, as well as the liabilities or obligations of the
27 COBSAT, shall be transferred to the COPI: Provided, That the positions, rights and
28 security of tenure of faculty and personnel therein employed prior to its conversion
29 into the COPI, shall not be impaired, pursuant to existing laws.

30 All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the defunct
31 COBSAT are henceforth declared property of the COPI and shall be titled under that
32 name: *Provided*, That, should the COPI cease to exist or such aforementioned parcels
33 of land be no longer needed by the COPI, the same shall revert to the concerned local
34 government unit (LGU), or to the City of Cagayan de Oro, Province of Misamis Oriental.

35
36 **SEC. 8. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the initial funding of the
37 operations of COPI shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of
38 COBSAT. Thereafter, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
39 Appropriations Act.

40
41 **SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within ninety (90) days after
42 the approval of this Act, the TESDA shall, in coordination with the DOLE, DTI, DOST,
43 DA, the DBM, DILG, NEDA, the concerned LGUs, and such other relevant agencies and
44 industry-business partners of the host locality, prepare and issue the necessary rules
45 and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

1 **SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason, any section or provision of
2 this Act shall be deemed unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions
3 hereof shall not be affected and shall remain in force and in effect.
4

5 **SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, decrees, instructions,
6 rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act are
7 repealed or amended accordingly.
8

9 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
10 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,