CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS Second Regular Session

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9521

BY REPRESENTATIVES BAÑAS-NOGRALES, PACQUIAO (R.), GO (M.), YAP (E.), SALCEDA, SUANSING (E.), TAMBUNTING, YAP (E.), NUÑEZ-MALANYAON, QUIMBO, PIMENTEL, ATIENZA, ARENAS, DELOSO-MONTALLA, PADIERNOS, ROMULO, NOGRALES, GARIN (S.), TAN (A.S.), SAVELLANO, GARIN (J.), BASCUG, SINGSON-MEEHAN, VIOLAGO, LACSON, DE VENECIA, GARCIA (P.J.), ESPINO, CHIPECO, SUANSING (H.), MACAPAGAL ARROYO, SALIMBANGON AND LAGON, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1016

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-GENERAL SANTOS CITY CAMPUS IN GENERAL SANTOS CITY, PROVINCE OF SOUTH COTABATO, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-GENERAL SANTOS CITY CAMPUS COLLEGE OF MEDICINE", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Establishment. –There is hereby established a medical school in the Mindanao State University (MSU)-General Santos City Campus located in General Santos City, Province of South Cotabato, to be known as the "MSU-General Santos City Campus College of Medicine".

Upon the effectivity of this Act, the current College of Medicine Extension Program offered by the MSU-Main Campus located in Marawi City, Province of Lanao Del Sur, shall be administratively transferred to the MSU-General Santos City Campus-College of Medicine.

SEC. 2. General Mandate. – The MSU-General Santos City College of Medicine, hereinafter referred to as the "College", shall primarily offer a Doctor of Medicine Program, including the Integrated Liberal Arts and Medicine (INTARMED) Program, consisting of basic science and clinical courses, and using learner-centered and competency-

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based approach. The primary goal of the College shall be to develop a corps of professional physicians to strengthen the healthcare system of the country, as well as to respond to the human resource development needs of the Province of South Cotabato and Region XII.

The College is also mandated to undertake research and extension services and provide progressive leadership in these areas.

SEC. 3. Governance. - Being an institution within the MSU System, the governance of the College shall be vested in the Board of Regents of the MSU, hereinafter referred to as the Board, whose powers are defined under Republic Act No. 3791, entitled "An Act to Amend Republic Act Numbered Thirteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven Providing for the Establishment of the University of Mindanao in Dansalan City, as Amended by Republic Act Numbered Eighteen Hundred and Nine-Three, so as to Change the Name of the University of Mindanao to Mindanao State University and to Grant a Permanent Site to the Said University," as amended by Republic Act No. 3868, entitled "An Act to Amend Certain Provisions of Republic Act Numbered Thirteen Hundred and Eighty-Seven, as Amended by Republic Act Numbered Eighteen Hundred Ninety-three, Relating to the Composition and Powers of the Board of Regents of the Mindanao State University, and for Other Purposes", and other applicable laws and regulations, unless otherwise provided or amended elsewhere in this Act.

SEC. 4. The College Dean. – The College shall be headed by a Dean who shall be appointed by the Board, subject to its guidelines on qualifications and standards, and based on the recommendation of the Chancellor, following a process of consultation with the constituents of the College. The Dean shall render full-time service, serve a term of three (3) years, and may be reappointed to another term.

Within six (6) months of the effectivity of this Act, the Chancellor of MSU-General Santos City Campus shall constitute the Search Committee for the Deanship.

The powers and duties of the Dean of the College, in addition to those specifically provided for in this Act, shall include those usually pertaining to the Office of the Dean of similar state colleges and those delegated by the Chancellor.

The salary of the Dean of the College shall be in accordance with Republic Act No. 11466 or the "Salary Standardization Law of 2019", and such other laws amendatory thereto, which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be comparable to that being received by the Deans of similar educational institutions.

In case of a vacancy in the Office of the Dean by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the Dean to perform the functions of the office, the Board upon the recommendation of the Chancellor, shall designate an Officer-in-Charge of the College, pending the appointment of a new Dean: *Provided*, That the Officer-in-Charge shall serve only during the unexpired portion of the term.

The Dean of the College shall be assisted by a College Secretary, who shall be appointed by the Chancellor.

SEC. 5. The Faculty. – The Board shall appoint, upon the recommendation of the Chancellor and the nomination by the President of the University, the faculty members of the College: Provided, That no political belief, gender preference, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the College: Provided, further, That said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications, and standards set by the Board: Provided, finally, That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

SEC. 6. Scholarship Programs and Admission. – The College shall provide scholarships and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to the College.

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

- SEC. 7. Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy. The College shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution.
- SEC. 8. Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment or Supplies and Detail of Personnel. Upon the request of the Board, through the President of the MSU, the heads of the bureaus and offices of the national government may loan or transfer to the College such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment, supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public service.

The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the Dean of the College, and the time so served shall be counted as part of their regular service.

SEC. 9. Assets, Liabilities and Personnel. – All existing appropriations, assets, both real and personal, personnel, and records of the MSU College of Medicine Extension Program in the General Santos City Campus, as well as its liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the College: Provided, That the positions, rights, and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the enactment of this Act shall be respected: Provided, further, That the employees currently holding the said positions shall remain in the same status until otherwise provided by the Board: Provided, finally, That the College shall upgrade or increase its human resource component as may be deemed appropriate by the Board.

All parcels of land belonging to the government that are occupied by the College are hereby declared the property of the MSU, and shall be titled under its name: *Provided*, That should the College ceases to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels

of land be no longer needed by the MSU, the same shall revert to the concerned local government unit or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

SEC. 10. Duty and Tax Exemptions. - The importation by the College of medical books or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical, laboratory or scientific purposes shall, upon certification by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the "Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA)";

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

- SEC. 11. Suppletory Application. The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997", shall form part of this Act.
- **SEC. 12.** *Parity Clause.* All other powers, functions, and privileges, responsibilities, and limitations under existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the College and its officials, whenever appropriate.
- **SEC. 13.** Appropriations. The amount necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- SEC. 14. *Implementing rules and Regulations*. –Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue the rules and regulations to fully implement the provisions of this Act.
- SEC. 15. Separability Clause. If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected are in full force and effect.
- SEC. 16. Repealing Clause. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are amended, repealed or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 17. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,