

Senate Secretary

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE

s.B. No. 1225



Introduced by SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

AN ACT

INTEGRATING THE PINTUYAN NATIONAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PINTUYAN, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, INTO THE SOUTHERN LEYTE STATE UNIVERSITY (SLSU) SYSTEM, TO BE KNOWN AS THE SLSU-PINTUYAN CAMPUS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution mandates the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all. With the enactment of Republic Act (R.A.) No. 10931, otherwise known as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, free tuition and exemption from other fees in state universities and colleges (SUCs), and local universities and colleges (LUCs) in the Philippines are now provided to qualified Filipinos. It is intended to give underprivileged Filipino students the chance to complete their tertiary education which responds to three national goals: (1) to educate the youth to become active and productive members of society; (2) to meet and match industry demand with a competent and globally competitive workforce; and (3) to increase the quality of human capital and productivity vis-à-vis national

and economic progress.1

By virtue of the enactment of R.A. No. 9261 on March 7, 2004, two state colleges in the province of Southern Leyte namely Southern Leyte State College of Science and Technology (SLSCST) and Tomas Oppus Normal College (TONC) were integrated to become the Southern Leyte State University. It has five campuses: the Main Campus in Sogod, the Tomas Oppus Campus, the Bontoc Campus, the San Juan Campus, and the Hinunangan Campus and Maasin City Campus.² The Municipality of Pintuyan, Southern Leyte has a national vocational high school but has no institution that caters to tertiary education. The integration of the Pintuyan National Vocational High School into the Southern Leyte State University system will address the absence of a tertiary institution in Pintuyan, Southern Leyte which will make tertiary education accessible to Pintuyan residents as mandated by the Constitution.³

This bill seeks to integrate a vocational national high school into a regular campus which shall be headed by a Campus Administrator. The minimum requirements of the Commission on Higher Education for its operation shall be fully complied with and the provisions of R.A. No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997", shall form part of this Act. All assets, personnel and records of the integrated campus, as well as its liabilities, shall be named after the state university and should the campus cease to exist, it shall revert to the concerned local government unit of the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be. The

¹ Jorge, Ching. "Commentary: Tertiary Education Challenges." *Inquirer.Net*, September 2, 2011. https://opinion.inquirer.net/11189/tertiary-education-

challenges#:~:text=First%2C%20it%20aims%20to%20educate,competent%20and%20globall y%20competitive%20workforce.

² Southern Leyte State University, Official website

See https://southernleytestateu.edu.ph/index.php/en/home-slsu/the-university/university-history

³ Explanatory Note, House Bill No. 5150 by Rep. Rufus Rodriguez, 18th Congress

local government shall provide assistance to carry out the provisions of this Act until such time that the amount necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the integrated campus shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

WIN GATCHALIAN

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

Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "Southern Leyte State University-Pintuyan Campus Act".

Sec. 2. The Pintuyan National Vocational High School in the Municipality of Pintuyan, Province of Southern Leyte, is hereby integrated into the Southern Leyte State University (SLSU) System as a regular campus, to be known as the SLSU-Pintuyan Campus, hereinafter referred to as the Campus. It shall be under the direct supervision of the SLSU.

Sec. 3. The Board of Regents of the SLSU, hereinafter referred to as the Board, shall be authorized to determine the structure, composition, and size

of the faculty and staff of the Campus.

Sec. 4. The SLSU President shall have overall supervision and management of the Campus, which shall be headed by a Campus Administrator who shall render full-time service and be appointed or designated by the Board upon the recommendation of the search committee and the President, subject to the guidelines, qualifications and standards set by the Board.

Sec. 5. All assets, real and personal, personnel, and records of the Pintuyan National Vocational High School located in the Municipality of Pintuyan, Province of Southern Leyte, as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the SLSU System. The positions, rights, and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to their integration into the SLSU System shall be respected.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the Pintuyan National Vocational High School are hereby transferred to the SLSU System, and shall be titled under its name: *Provided*, That should the Campus or the SLSU System cease to exist or be abolished, or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the local government units concerned.

Sec. 6. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Board shall issue the implementing rules and regulations to carry out its provisions.

Sec. 7. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act, including the organizational structure and the creation of plantilla positions for the faculty and staff of the Campus, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

The Municipality of Pintuyan shall provide the same assistance until such time that the amount necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Campus shall be included in the annual GAA.

Sec. 8. If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 9. All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, administrative orders, rules and regulations, issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Sec. 10. Notwithstanding the non-issuance of the IRR, this Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,