

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )**



24 MAY 16 A8:16

**SENATE**

**Senate Bill No. 2682**

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by **Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN THE SULTAN KUDARAT STATE  
UNIVERSITY, PROVINCE OF SULTAN KUDARAT, TO BE KNOWN AS THE  
SULTAN KUDARAT STATE UNIVERSITY – COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As the world slowly recovers from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Philippines is left to address the issues that were highlighted during its peak, most pressing of which is the lack of health workers and allied medical professionals in the country. The World Health Organization recommends that there should be one doctor for every one thousand individuals to ensure the provision of adequate healthcare services. Still, as of 2022, data from the Department of Health shows that one doctor of medicine serves about forty thousand people in the country.

The government continuously endeavors to address this shortage by passing laws such as the Doktor Para sa Bayan Act, which provides scholarships to students who wish to pursue a profession in the medical field.

In line with the endeavor to make medical education accessible to more students, this bill seeks to establish a College of Medicine in Sultan Kudarat University. This aims to bring quality medical education closer to aspiring students in the Mindanao region. The hope of this measure is that the establishment of medical schools in the region will attract and encourage more students to pursue the study of medicine and eventually join the country's medical workforce.

This bill also hopes that the establishment of this medical school will pave the way for creating a center of excellence in the medical field in Mindanao.

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

**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Sultan*  
2           *Kudarat State University College of Medicine Act*".  
3

4           **SEC. 2. Establishment** – There is hereby established a medical school  
5           in Sultan Kudarat State University in the Province of Sultan Kudarat to be known  
6           as the Sultan Kudarat State University – College of Medicine, hereinafter known  
7           as the College.

8           **SEC. 3. Mandate.** – The College shall primarily offer a Doctor of  
9           Medicine Program which shall be at least a four (4) year baccalaureate program  
10          consisting of the basic science and clinical course. Its primary goal shall be to  
11          produce professional physicians to strengthen the health care system of our  
12          country.

13          **SEC. 4. Governance.** – The Governing Board as provided under Section  
14          5 of Republic Act 9966, is hereby mandated to be the highest policy-making  
15          body in the implementation of this Act.

16          **SEC. 5. Compliance with CHED requirements.** – The provision of  
17          this Act notwithstanding, the establishment of this college shall, upon the  
18          determination and declaration by the CHED in compliance with CHED  
19          Memorandum Order No. 18, Series of 2016.

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

23          **SEC. 7. Tax Exemption.** – The importation of science and technical  
24          books and publications, scientific and technical equipment for the use of the  
25          College, upon certification by the CHED shall be exempt from custom duties in  
26          accordance with the provisions of Custom Modernization and Tariff Act (R.A.  
27          10863).

1 All grants, bequests, endowments, donations and contributions made to the  
2 College for its direct, actual and exclusive use shall be exempt from donor's tax and  
3 the same shall be allowed deductions from the gross income of the donor for purposes  
4 of computing the taxable income of the donor.

5 **SEC. 8. Supplementary Application.** -The provisions of Republic Act No.  
6 8292, also known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997", shall  
7 form part of this Act.

8 **SEC. 9. Appropriation.** – The amount necessary to carry out the  
9 provision of this Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act

10  
11 **SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days  
12 from the approval of this Act, the Governing Board, in consultation with the CHED,  
13 shall issue rules and regulations to fully implement the provisions of this Act.

14 **SEC. 11. Parity Clause.** – All other powers, functions, and privileges,  
15 responsibilities and limitations under existing laws shall be deemed granted to or  
16 imposed upon the College and its official, whenever appropriate.

17 **SEC. 12. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared  
18 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall  
19 remain in full force and effect.

20 **SEC. 13. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, executive and administrative  
21 orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the foregoing provisions are  
22 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

23 **SEC. 14. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
24 publication in the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation.  
25

*Approved,*