


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 JUL -2 P6:2

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 554

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The celebration of the Centennial Year of the Philippine Normal University carries not only historical basis but tremendous national significance. Created by Act No. 74 of the Philippine Commission, the Philippine Normal School was formally opened on September 1, 1901 as the first institution of higher learning organized after the American occupation of the Philippines. The Philippine Normal School was converted into the Philippine Normal College when Republic Act No. 416 was enacted into law on June 18, 1949 and became the Philippine Normal University through the passage of Republic Act No. 7168 on January 11, 1992.

This bill seeks to establish a national system of teacher training and development which will provide all teachers opportunities for in-service training programs in: (1) using information and communication technology (ICT) to improve the teaching and learning processes; (2) continuing professional education and development by strengthening teacher competencies in various field of specializations, (3) introducing innovative strategies and modalities of teaching and learning, (4) benchmarking and establishing institutional linkages and networking, and (5) other advocacy and promotions strategies.

This bill also seeks to create a national educational policy research program to provide the necessary support mechanism for the implementation of the national teacher training and development system. It is hoped that with the passage of this bill, school teachers all over the country will become learning facilitators who are able to teach using information and communication technology to enhance pupil learning outcomes.

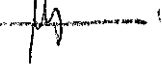
In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT

ELEVATING THE PHILIPPINE NORMAL UNIVERSITY TO BECOME THE COUNTRY'S NATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR TEACHER EDUCATION, ESTABLISHING A SYSTEM OF NATIONAL TEACHER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title - This Act shall be known as the "*Philippine Normal University (PNU) Modernization Act of 2007.*"

SEC 2. Declaration of Policy - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to give priority to the continuing professional training and development of all Filipino teachers and utilize fullest potentials of the country's teaching force to increase access to, promote equity in and improve the quality of basic education. The State shall likewise give priority to educational research and development, to innovations and alternative systems and their utilization and application to teacher training and development.

SEC 3. National University - The PNU with branches in the Municipality of Prosperidad in the Province of Agusan del Sur, Municipality of Alicia in the Province of Isabela, Cadiz City in the Province of Negros Occidental, and an extension in the Municipality of Lopez in the Province of Quezon is hereby elevated to become the country's national university for teacher education.

SEC 4. National Teacher Training and Development - There is hereby established a system of National Teacher Training and Development to provide school heads and school teachers in the country opportunities for continuing professional education and development as well as ensure the smooth induction and integration of graduates to the teaching service.

For this purpose a National Teacher Training and Development (NTTD) Program is hereby established in the Philippine Normal University to offer in-service training and development for teachers, school heads and administrators. The NTTD program shall be formulated, organized and implemented in consultation with the Department of Education (Deped), the Teacher Education

Council (TEC), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and other appropriate agencies and shall include among others the following areas of training and development:

- a) Information and communication on technologies as tools to improve the teaching and learning and decision-making processes;
- b) Competencies in various fields of specialization such as educational leadership in administration, management and supervision and educational evaluation and assessment;
- c) Innovative strategies and alternative modalities of teaching and learning such as open and flexible learning and distance education.

The following objectives shall guide the implementation of the NTTD program:

- a) To identify the priority areas for teacher training and development taking into account the new directions and challenges for teacher education especially in the Asia Pacific region;
- b) To determine desired competencies to be acquired, develop the training and development curriculum preferably modularized and ladderized, prepare the course materials and establish the measurement and evaluation criteria;
- c) To conduct the teacher training and development courses utilizing suitable approaches and wide-ranging technologies including information and communication technology for open and flexible learning and distance education;
- d) To serve as a learning resource center providing current, up-to-date and significant information on policies and practices on teacher education and teacher training and development programs of countries across the region and the world;
- e) To provide technical assistance, training and extension services to institutions who desire to participate in the implementation of the university's national teacher training and development program.

SEC 5. Educational Policy Research and Development. - There shall be established a program for Educational Policy Research and Development (EPRD) which shall have the following objectives:

- a) To establish and maintain a database of educational policies and significant issues of the country's education system as well as the educational systems of other countries especially in the Asia Pacific region;
- b) To create and test different models of teacher education, address key factors in successful teacher education programs and determine which model would best achieve the country's educational goals;

- c) To promote among the country's teacher education institutions a culture of research and encourage the active involvement and participation of their faculty in research work and development studies;
- d) To define, promote and implement a research agenda that will support among others the implementation of the university's national teacher training and development program;
- e) To collaborate with national, regional and international research organization; especially those which have the greatest influence on implementing new approaches to teacher education, training and development; and
- f) To provide assistance and advice to national policy-makers and decision makers in planning, implementing and evaluating reforms in teacher education including the licensing of professional teachers.

SEC 6. *Modernization Plan* - For the purpose of upgrading and maintaining a high degree of academic excellence in providing teacher education, in research and extension services, in advance studies and in other relevant fields, a modernization plan for the PNU shall be prepared to meet the challenges of the new millennium.

The university modernization plan shall enhance curricular programs to make them relevant and responsive to the needs of society and address the educational needs of communities. The modernization plan shall include a program for staff development as well as for the upgrading of services, facilities and equipment in the University.

SEC 7. *Initial and Continuing Appropriation* - For the initial implementation of this Act, the amount of One Hundred Million Pesos (P100,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated. Said amount shall be equally funded from the net income of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) and the Philippine National Oil Corporation (PNOC).

For the succeeding six (6) years, the amount of Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000.00), which shall be equally funded by the PCSO and the PNOC, shall be provided to the PNU. Thereafter, the amount necessary to sustain the program shall be included in the annual appropriations of the PNU.

SEC 7. *Repealing Clause* - All laws, decrees, executive issuance, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 9. *Separability Clause* - The provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be separable, and in the event one or more of such provisions are held unconstitutional, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SEC 10. *Effectivity Clause*- This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,