



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4360

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BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLAFUERTE, VILLAR, LAGMAN, JAVIER, REMULLA  
AND ABANTE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 708

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AN ACT CONVERTING THE CAMARINES SUR STATE  
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PILI,  
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY  
TO BE KNOWN AS THE CENTRAL BICOL STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1           SECTION 1. *Conversion.* – The Camarines Sur State Agricultural  
2 College in the Municipality of Pili, Province of Camarines Sur is hereby  
3 converted into a state university to be known as the Central Bicol State  
4 University of Agriculture, hereinafter referred to as the University.

5           SEC. 2. *General Mandate.* – The University shall primarily provide  
6 both advanced instruction and research in agriculture and allied technological  
7 sciences including education, arts and related sciences. It shall also undertake  
8 extension and development programs, and provide the necessary instructional  
9 and research leadership in agricultural, environmental and technological  
10 development in the Bicol Region.

11           SEC. 3. *Curricular Offerings.* – The University shall offer  
12 undergraduate and graduate courses in the fields of agriculture, environmental

1 management, engineering, education, arts and sciences, and other degree  
2 courses within its areas of specialization and according to its capabilities, as  
3 the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives and in  
4 order to meet the needs of the Province of Camarines Sur and the Bicol  
5 Region.

6 The existing high school shall be transferred to the jurisdiction and  
7 supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd): *Provided*, That the high  
8 school shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of the  
9 University until the existing students shall have completed their high school  
10 education: *Provided, further*, That the University may operate a reasonably-  
11 sized laboratory school, if it has a College of Education.

12 SEC. 4. *Administration.* – The University shall have the general powers  
13 of a corporation set forth in Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, as amended, otherwise  
14 known as the “Corporation Code of the Philippines”. The administration of the  
15 University and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively  
16 in the Board of Regents and the President of the University.

17 SEC. 5. *The Governing Board.* – The governing board of the  
18 University shall be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board,  
19 which shall be composed of the following:

20 (a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED),  
21 Chairperson;

22 (b) The President of the University, Vice Chairperson;

23 (c) The Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture  
24 of the Senate, member;

25 (d) The Chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical  
26 Education of the House of Representatives, member;

27 (e) The Regional Director of the National Economic and Development  
28 Authority (NEDA), member;

- 1 (f) The Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture (DA),  
2 member;
- 3 (g) The President of the faculty association of the University, member;
- 4 (h) The President of the student council of the University, member;
- 5 (i) The President of the alumni association of the University, member;
- 6 and
- 7 (j) Two (2) prominent citizens from the private sector who have  
8 distinguished themselves in their profession or fields of specialization of the  
9 University, members.

10 The Board shall appoint the two (2) prominent citizens from among a  
11 list of at least five (5) qualified persons in the Province of Camarines Sur, as  
12 recommended by the search committee constituted by the University President,  
13 in consultation with the Chairperson of the CHED and other members of the  
14 Board, based on the normal standards and qualifications for the position.

15 The term of office of the President of the faculty association, the  
16 President of the student council and the President of the alumni association  
17 shall be coterminous with their respective terms of office, as set forth in their  
18 respective constitutions and bylaws.

19 The two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years  
20 from the date of appointment.

21 *SEC. 6. Promulgation and Implementation of Policies.* – The Board  
22 shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared State  
23 policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Philippine  
24 Constitution on education, agriculture, science and technology, as well as the  
25 policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722,  
26 otherwise known as the “Higher Education Act of 1994”.

27 *SEC. 7. Powers and Duties of the Board of Regents.* – The Board shall  
28 have the following specific powers and duties, in addition to its general powers

1 of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the board of  
2 directors of a corporation under existing laws:

3 (a) To promulgate rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry  
4 out the purposes and functions of the University;

5 (b) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the  
6 support of the University in the manner it may determine in its discretion, in  
7 order to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;

8 (c) To import duty-free economic, technical and cultural books and/or  
9 publications, upon certification by the CHED that such imported books and/or  
10 publications are for economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical,  
11 historical or cultural purposes, in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff  
12 and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended;

13 (d) To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal  
14 properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose of the same when  
15 necessary for the benefit of the University, and subject to the limitations,  
16 directions and instructions of the donor, if any.

17 Such donations shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall  
18 be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income in the  
19 computation of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with the provisions  
20 of the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended: *Provided,*  
21 That such donations shall not be disposed of, transferred or sold;

22 (e) To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges such as,  
23 but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as  
24 the Board may deem proper to impose, after due consultations with the  
25 involved sectors.

26 Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other  
27 income generated by the University, shall constitute special trust funds and  
28 shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all

1 interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same funds for the  
2 use of the University.

3 Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary  
4 notwithstanding, any income generated by the University from tuition fees and  
5 other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land  
6 grants, shall be retained by the University, and may be disbursed by the Board  
7 for instruction, research, extension or other programs/projects of the  
8 University: *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific  
9 purposes for which these are collected.

10 If, for reasons beyond its control, the University shall not be able to  
11 pursue any project for which the funds have been appropriated and allocated  
12 under its approved program of expenditures, the Board may authorize the use  
13 of said funds for any reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be  
14 necessary and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the  
15 University;

16 (f) To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school  
17 fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;

18 (g) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery,  
19 equipment and other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real  
20 property, including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;

21 (h) To appoint upon recommendation of the President of the  
22 University, Vice Presidents, deans, directors, heads of campuses, faculty  
23 members, and other officials and employees of the University;

24 (i) To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative  
25 officials and employees, subject to the provisions of the Revised Compensation  
26 and Position Classification System and other pertinent budget and  
27 compensation laws governing hours of service and such other duties and  
28 conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of

1 absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any provision of existing  
2 law to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in  
3 accordance with the requirements of due process of law;

4 (j) To approve the curricula, instructional programs and rules of  
5 discipline drawn by the Administrative and Academic Councils herein  
6 provided;

7 (k) To set policies on admission and graduation of students;

8 (l) To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their  
9 outstanding contribution in the fields of education, public service, arts, science  
10 and technology, agriculture or in any field of specialization within the  
11 academic competence of the University; and to authorize the awarding of  
12 certificates of completion of nondegree and nontraditional courses;

13 (m) To establish and absorb nonchartered tertiary institutions within  
14 the Province of Camarines Sur as branches and centers in coordination with the  
15 CHED, and in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management  
16 (DBM), and to offer therein programs or courses, to promote and carry out  
17 equal access to educational opportunities as mandated by the Constitution;

18 (n) To establish research and extension centers of the University  
19 where such will promote the development of the latter;

20 (o) To establish professorial chairs in the University and to provide  
21 fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving  
22 students;

23 (p) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided hereinabove to  
24 the President and/or other officials of the University as it may deem  
25 appropriate, so as to expedite the administration of the affairs of the  
26 University;

27 (q) To authorize an external management audit of the University, to be  
28 financed by the CHED, subject to the rules and regulations of the Commission

1 on Audit (COA); and to institute reforms, including academic and structural  
2 changes, on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;

3 (r) To collaborate with other governing boards of the state colleges  
4 and universities within the Province of Camarines Sur or the Bicol Region,  
5 under the supervision of the CHED and in consultation with the DBM, and  
6 work towards the restructuring of the University to become more efficient,  
7 relevant, productive and competitive;

8 (s) To enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the  
9 profitable development and management of the economic assets of the  
10 University, the proceeds from which shall be used for the development and  
11 strengthening of the University;

12 (t) To develop consortia and other economic forms of linkages with  
13 local government units, institutions and agencies, both public and private, local  
14 and foreign, in the furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the University;

15 (u) To develop academic arrangements for institutional capability  
16 building with appropriate institutions and agencies, public and private, local  
17 and foreign, and to appoint experts/specialists as consultants, part-time or  
18 visiting or exchange professors, scholars or researchers, as the case may be;

19 (v) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of  
20 transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual  
21 learning system, open or distance education and community laboratory for the  
22 promotion of greater access to education;

23 (w) To establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative  
24 decision-making and transparency within the University;

25 (x) To privatize, where most advantageous to the University,  
26 management of nonacademic services such as health, food, building or grounds  
27 or property maintenance and such other similar activities; and

1 (y) To extend the term of the President of the University beyond the  
2 age of retirement but not beyond the age of seventy (70), whose performance  
3 has been unanimously rated by the Board as outstanding based on the  
4 guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the Board, after unanimous  
5 recommendation by the search committee.

6 SEC. 8. *Meetings of the Board.* – The Board shall regularly convene at  
7 least once every quarter. However, the Chairperson of the Board may, upon  
8 three (3) days' prior written notice, call a maximum of two (2) special  
9 meetings whenever necessary.

10 A quorum of the Board shall consist of majority of all its members  
11 holding office at the time of the meeting: *Provided, however,* That the  
12 Chairperson of the Board or the President of the University is among those  
13 present in the meeting.

14 In the absence of the Chairperson of the CHED, a Commissioner of the  
15 CHED, duly designated by him/her, shall represent him/her in the meeting with  
16 all the rights and responsibilities of a regular member: *Provided, however,*  
17 That during this meeting, the President of the University as Vice Chairperson  
18 shall be the Presiding Officer: *Provided, further,* That this *proviso*  
19 notwithstanding, the Chairperson of the CHED is hereby authorized to  
20 designate a CHED Commissioner as the regular Chair of the Board, in which  
21 case said CHED Commissioner shall act as the Presiding Officer.

22 In case the Chairpersons of the Congressional Committees on Education  
23 shall not be able to attend the Board meeting, they may duly designate their  
24 respective representatives to attend the said meeting, who shall have the same  
25 rights and responsibilities as a regular member of the Board.

26 The members of the Board shall not receive any salary but shall be  
27 entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred, either in  
28 their attendance to meetings of the Board or in connection with other official



1 business authorized by resolution of the Board, subject to existing laws and  
2 regulations.

3 SEC. 9. *The University President.* – The University shall be headed by  
4 a President, who shall render full-time service. He/she shall be appointed by  
5 the Board, subject to the guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the  
6 Board, upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. He/she  
7 shall serve for a term of four (4) years and shall be eligible for reappointment  
8 for another term: *Provided,* That in order to effect a smooth transition to a state  
9 university, the incumbent President of the Camarines Sur State Agricultural  
10 College shall *ipso facto* become the first President of the University.

11 Within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of office of the  
12 incumbent President of the University, the Board shall constitute the Search  
13 Committee for the Presidency (SCP).

14 In case of vacancy in the Office of the President by reason of death,  
15 compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the  
16 president to perform the functions of his/her office, the Board shall have the  
17 authority to designate an Officer-in-Charge of the University pending the  
18 appointment of a new President.

19 In case of vacancy in the Office of the President as mentioned in the  
20 immediately preceding paragraph, his/her successor or the Officer-in-Charge  
21 shall serve only the unexpired portion of the term.

22 The powers and duties of the President of the University, in addition to  
23 those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the  
24 Office of the President of similar universities, and those delegated by the  
25 Board.

26 The salary of the President of the University shall be in accordance with  
27 the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System and shall be

1 comparable to that being received by the Presidents of similar educational  
2 institutions.

3 The President of the University shall be assisted by a Vice President for  
4 Academic Affairs and a Vice President for Administration, who shall be  
5 appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President.

6 SEC. 10. *The Administrative Council.* – There shall be an  
7 Administrative Council consisting of the President of the University as  
8 Chairperson, Vice Presidents, deans, directors and other officials of equal rank  
9 as members, whose duty is to review and recommend to the Board the policies  
10 governing the administration, management and development planning of the  
11 University.

12 SEC. 11. *The Academic Council.* – There shall be an Academic Council  
13 to be composed of the President of the University, who shall act as  
14 Chairperson, and all the academic staff with the rank of at least an assistant  
15 professor, as members.

16 The Academic Council shall have the power to review and recommend  
17 the curricular offerings and rules of discipline of the University, subject to the  
18 approval of the Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission of  
19 students as well as for their graduation and the conferment of degrees, subject  
20 to review and/or approval by the Board through the President of the  
21 University. It shall have the disciplinary power over students of the University  
22 and shall formulate academic policies and rules and regulations on discipline,  
23 subject to the approval of the Board.

24 SEC. 12. *The Secretary of the University.* – The Board shall appoint a  
25 Secretary, who shall serve as such for both the Board and the University and  
26 shall keep all records and proceedings of the Board. He/she shall serve upon  
27 each member of the Board the appropriate notice of the Board meetings.

1           SEC. 13. *The Treasurer of the University.* – The Treasurer of the  
2 Philippines shall be the *ex officio* treasurer of the University.

3           SEC. 14. *The Faculty.* – No political beliefs, gender preference,  
4 cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, and religious opinion or  
5 affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of  
6 the University: *Provided, however,* That said appointment shall be subject to  
7 the guidelines, qualifications and/or standards set by the Board: *Provided,*  
8 *further,* That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular  
9 church or religious sect.

10          SEC. 15. *Scholarship Program/Admission.* – The University shall  
11 provide a scholarship program and other affirmative action programs to assist  
12 poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to the University.

13          No student shall be denied admission to the University by reason of sex,  
14 religion, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin.

15          SEC. 16. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.* – The  
16 University shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant  
17 to paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution of the Republic of  
18 the Philippines.

19          SEC. 17. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus/Equipment/Supplies*  
20 *and Detail of Personnel.* – The heads of the bureaus and offices of the national  
21 government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon the request of the  
22 President of the University, such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be  
23 needed by the University, and to detail employees for duty therein when, in the  
24 judgment of the head of bureau or office, such apparatus, equipment, supplies  
25 or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to the  
26 public service. The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as  
27 required of them by the President of the University, and the time so employed  
28 shall be counted as part of their regular services.

1           SEC. 18. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.* – All assets, real and  
2 personal, personnel and records of the Camarines Sur State Agricultural  
3 College, as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the  
4 University. The positions, rights and security of tenure of faculty members and  
5 personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the conversion into a  
6 University shall be respected.

7           All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the  
8 Camarines Sur State Agricultural College are hereby declared to be property of  
9 the University and shall be titled under that name: *Provided*, That should the  
10 University cease to exist or be abolished or should such parcels of land  
11 aforementioned be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to  
12 the national government.

13           SEC. 19. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the  
14 provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations  
15 of the Camarines Sur State Agricultural College, except the sums needed to  
16 continue the operations of the existing high school. Thereafter, such sums as  
17 may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Central  
18 Bicol State University of Agriculture shall be included in the annual General  
19 Appropriations Act.

20           SEC. 20. *Development Plan, Management Audit, Organizational/  
21 Administrative/Academic Structure.* – Within the period of one hundred twenty  
22 (120) days after the approval of this Act, the University shall accomplish the  
23 following:

24           (a) Submit a five (5)-year development plan, including its  
25 corresponding program budget to the CHED, for corresponding  
26 recommendation to the DBM;

27           (b) Undergo a management audit in cooperation with the CHED; and

1 (c) Accordingly set up its organizational, administrative as well as  
2 academic structure, including the appointment of the University key officials.

3 SEC. 21. *Filing of Report.* – On or before the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the  
4 second (2<sup>nd</sup>) month after the opening of the regular classes each year, the  
5 Board shall file with the Office of the President of the Philippines through the  
6 Chairperson of the CHED, and with both Houses of Congress a detailed report  
7 on the progress, conditions and needs of the University.

8 SEC. 22. *Suppletory Application.* – The provisions of Republic Act  
9 No. 8292, otherwise known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of  
10 1997”, shall be an integral part of this Act and shall serve as part of the  
11 Governing Charter of the University.

12 SEC. 23. *Parity Clause.* – All other powers, functions and privileges,  
13 responsibilities and limitations to state universities and/or their officials under  
14 existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the University  
15 and/or its officials, whenever appropriate.

16 SEC. 24. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Board, in  
17 consultation with the CHED, shall formulate the guidelines to fully implement  
18 the provisions of this Act.

19 SEC. 25. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part or provision  
20 of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or  
21 provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

22 SEC. 26. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive  
23 orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of  
24 this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

25 SEC. 27. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
26 its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,