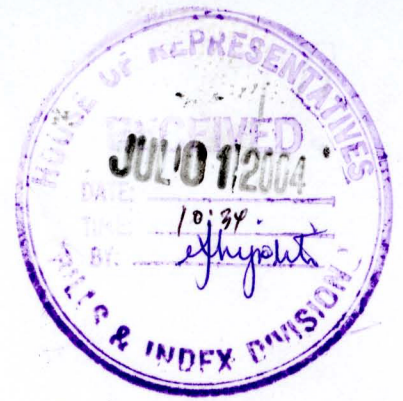


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 796



Introduced by Representative Abayon

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Overseas Shipping Act of 1995 (R.A. No. 1470) provides, among other things, the following:

“SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy - Shipping commands a transcendental position in the economic development and growth of a nation. One of the urgent needs of the Philippines is a well-balanced Philippine merchant marine (a) sufficient to carry the expanding international trade of the Philippines in time of peace, (b) capable of serving as a naval and military auxiliary in time of war and national emergency, (c) owned, operated under the Philippine flag by citizens of the Philippines, at least sixty percent(60%) of the capital of which is owned by the citizens of the Philippines, and (d) composed of the best equipped safest and most suitable types of modern vessels, and manned with trained and efficient Filipino officers and crews...”

The Philippines, being at the crossroad of the commercial routes of Southeast Asia, needs a strong merchant marine calls not only for an adequate and modernized fleet but also capable and well-trained men to handle them as well.

In view of the foregoing policies of the government and in order to meet the demands of the merchant marine industry for seamen, taking into account that the Philippines has been considered as the manning capital of the world, it is necessary that the San Jose Technical School be converted into a merchant marine college offering nautical curriculum leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation, Major in Navigation and Seamanship and Engine and Electrical Engineering. The prescribed curriculum will meet the requirements of an up-to-date program of nautical education and training which will be responsive to the demands of the Philippine maritime service.

The acquisition of a steam-powered training ship for the purpose of conducting a training cruise is very much needed. This training ship will be operated entirely by the officers of the college staff and by the midshipmen under training. It will constitute not only a modern training vessel for the actual exercise of sound nautical deck and engineering practices at sea, but will also provide an excellent laboratory for special practical instruction during the academic semesters.

The creation of San Jose Merchant Marine College Board shall govern the immediate management and operation of the academy.

Hence, approval of the bill is earnestly requested.


HARLIN CAST. ABAYON

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

13th Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 796

Introduced by Representative Abayon

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN JOSE TECHNICAL SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF NORTHERN SAMAR, INTO A MERCHANT MARINE SCHOOL, TO BE KNOWN AS SAN JOSE MERCHANT MARINE COLLEGE, CONFERRING THE DEGREES OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION, MAJOR IN NAVIGATION AND SEAMANSHIP, AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MARINE TRANSPORTATION, MAJOR IN STEAM ENGINE AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, PROVIDING FOR A MERCHANT MARINE COLLEGE BOARD DEFINING ITS POWERS AND DUTIES, 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. The San Jose Technical School in the Municipality of San Jose, Province of Northern Samar, is hereby converted into a merchant marine school, to be known as San Jose Merchant Marine College, which in addition to its present technical curricula, will offer a nautical curriculum leading to the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation, Major in Navigation and Seamanship, and Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation, Major in Steam Engine and Electrical Engineering.

SECTION 2. The main purpose of the San Jose Merchant Marine College is to produce efficient and well-trained merchant marine officers who can be compared with marine officers of progressive maritime countries sufficient to carry the expanding international trade in times of peace and capable of serving as a naval and military auxiliary in times of war and national emergency. The secondary purpose is to produce young men, well-trained in other fields of the merchant marine service, like marine surveyors, port supervisors, shipping office personnel, shipping management and others.

SECTION 3. The head of the institution shall be known as the Superintendent of the San Jose Merchant Marine College. He must at least be a master mariner and shall be

appointed by the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the San Jose Merchant Marine College Board. The powers and duties of the Superintendent, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of the president of the college.

SECTION 4. The government of said college is hereby vested in the San Jose Merchant Marine College Board, which shall be composed of the following: The Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry who shall be ex-officio of the Board; a representative of the Philippine Navy; the Chairman of the Board of Marine Inquiry; the Chairman of the Board of the Marine Examination for Deck Officers; the Chairman of the Board of the Marine Examination for Marine engineers; the President of the United Harbor Pilots Association of the Philippines; the President of the Filipino Ship Owners' Association; the President of the Philippine Marine Officers Guild; the Representative of the First District of Northern Samar; and the Superintendent of the College, as members.

Members of the Board shall serve without compensation, but shall be entitled to per diem as provided under existing laws and actual transportation expenses authorized by a resolution of the board.

SECTION 5. The Board shall have the following powers and duties, in addition to its general powers and administration:

- (a) To confer the degree of Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation, Major in Navigation and Seamanship, and Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation, Major in Steam Engine and Electrical Engineering to successful candidates for graduation;
- (b) To appoint, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of the College instructors, professors, and other employees of the college; to fix their compensation, hours of service and other duties as it may deem proper; to remove them from office for cause after an investigation and hearing and after, in the opinion of the Board, there is just cause for his removal;
- (c) To approve the curricula and rules of discipline drawn up by the College Council as hereunder provided:
- (d) To provide fellowships for the faculty members and scholarships to students showing special evidence of merits;
- (e) To provide rules for its government, and to enact for the government of the College such general ordinance and regulations, not contrary to law, as are consistent with the purpose of the College as defined in Section 2 of this Act;
- (f) To receive in trust legacies, gifts, donations of real and personal property of all kinds and to administer the same for the benefit of the College for aid to any cadet, in accordance with the directions and instructions of the donor; and in default thereof, in such manner as the College Board may, in its discretion, determine; and

- (g) To receive and appropriate such sums as may be provided by law for the support of the College.

SECTION 6. A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of all the members. All processes against the Board shall be served on the Superintendent of the College or Secretary thereof.

SECTION 7. On or before the fifteenth (15) of June of each year; the Board shall file with the President of the Philippines a detailed report, setting forth the progress, condition, and needs of the College.

SECTION 8. There shall be a College Council consisting of the Superintendent and all instructors and professors of the College. The Council shall have the power to prescribe the curricula and rules of discipline, subject to the approval of the Board. It shall fix the requirements for admission to the college as well as for graduation and the receiving of a degree. The council alone shall have the power to recommend students or others to be recipients of degrees. Through the Superintendent, it shall have disciplinary power over the students within the limits prescribed by the rules of discipline approved by the Board.

SECTION 9. The body of instructors and professors of the College shall constitute the faculty of the College, with the Superintendent of the College as the Presiding Officer. in the appointment of professors or instructors of the College, no religious test shall be applied, nor shall the religious opinions or affiliations of the faculty of the College be made a matter of examination or inquiry: Provided, however, that no instructor or professor in the College shall inculcate sectarian tenets, nor attempt either directly or indirectly, under penalty of dismissal by the Board, to influence students or attendants at the College for or against any particular church or religious sect.

SECTION 10. Professors and other regular instructors in the College shall be exempt as such from any civil service examinations or regulations as a requisite for appointment.

SECTION 11. There shall be a Secretary of the College appointed by the Board. He shall be the Secretary of the Board as well as the College, and shall keep such records of the College as maybe designated by the Board.

SECTION 12. Graduates of the San Jose Merchant Marine College who are holders of a bachelor of Science degree in Marine Transportation, Major in Navigation and Seamanship, shall be exempted from taking the Third Mate Examination and those who are holders of a Bachelor of Science in Marine Transportation, Major in Steam Engine and Electrical Engineering, shall be exempted from taking the Fourth Steam Engineers' Examination.

SECTION 13. In order not to interrupt the smooth functioning of the curriculum of the San Jose Technical School, the present officers and faculty as well as the other personnel, shall be absorbed by the new College. Salaries of this personnel shall be adjusted at the discretion of the Board within the limits available for appropriation.

SECTION 14. In addition to the unexpected balance of the appropriations of the San Jose Technical School, the necessary amount is hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the College, including the acquisition of a modern steam powered training ship to supplement classroom instructions, shall be included in the general Appropriations Act.

SECTION 15. Any provision of law, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 16. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,