

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

13TH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **903**



Introduced by **Honorable Rolex T. Suplico**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill hopes to convert the Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College in Estancia, Iloilo, into a State University to be known as Central Philippines State Polytechnic University (CPSPU), and to integrate a CHED-supervised government college - the Leon Ganzon Polytechnic College in Balasan, Iloilo. Both institutions are situated in the 5th District of the province of Iloilo, in the Western Visayas. The new State University, the Central Philippines State Polytechnic University shall serve Northern Iloilo, Southern Masbate, Eastern Capiz, and Northern Negros, including the island barangays therein.

The main campus of Central Philippines State Polytechnic University is Estancia. Because according to Dr. David L. Szanton, an American Social Scientist in his book, Estancia in Transition, Estancia is a major production and marketing center for the commercial fisheries industry in Central Philippines.

THE CENTRAL PHILIPPINES STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY

The conversion of the Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College, and the integration of Leon Ganzon Polytechnic College, a CHED-supervised government college both in Northern Iloilo into the Central Philippines State Polytechnic University (CPSPU) is in response to the need for a balance geographical state university system in the country. Accordingly, in northern Philippines there is University of Northern Philippines in Laoag, Ilocos Norte; in eastern Philippines, there is University of Eastern Philippines in Catarman, Samar, and in the southern Philippines, there is University of Southeastern Philippines in Davao City. So there is a need for a state university, which shall serve a geographical area called Central Philippines.

In addition, the conversion of NIPSC and the integration of Leon Ganzon Polytechnic College, a CHED-polytechnic supervised government college into a state polytechnic university in Central Philippines will effect economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the delivery of proactive yet responsive higher education to the rural areas, in terms of close tie-ups of programs with the needs of industries, business and professions. At present, there is only one polytechnic university in the country, and this is the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP), and is situated in Manila. The proposed Central Philippines State Polytechnic University (CPSPU) shall adhere closely to

the British traditions of Polytechnic System in terms of the following features: (Temporosa, NIPSC Journal vol. 1 no.1, 1995)

- 1.) Offers programs in varied disciplines having strong orientations to the needs of professions, business, and industries;
- 2.) It is primarily a teaching university; it shall offer ladderized degree programs;
- 3.) Research and consultancy are undertaken to support teaching rather as its prime activity.
- 4.) Extension is undertaken to provide close-tie ups with industries, commerce, and professions;
- 5.) Internship, practicum/field work of student is a requirement of all courses of study;
- 6.) Involvement of practitioners from industries, commerce and professions in curriculum development;
- 7.) Participation of industries/professions in the decision making through the Technical Advisory Boards; for OJT/internship/practicum, and;
- 8.) Cooperation and industries, business and professions in professional and vocational counseling and placement of graduates.

Brief Background of NIPSC

The Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College or NIPSC was established in 1956 as the Western Visayas branch of the Philippine Institute of Fisheries Technology. It was one of the oldest fisheries schools in the country. It was converted into state college in 1983, under B.P. Blg. 500. In 1991, it integrated the former Barotac Viejo Natural Agricultural College in Barotac Viejo, Iloilo under RA 6741.

While Leon Ganzon Polytechnic College was a former national high school in Balasan, Iloilo, and was converted in 1994, under RA No. 7515.

NIPSC as a state college has been operating for the past fifteen years. It offers thirteen (13) degree programs, five (5) technical courses, and five graduate programs. These are:

A. Undergraduate

1. Bachelor of Science in Fisheries
2. Bachelor of Science in Agriculture
3. Bachelor in Agricultural Technology
4. Bachelor in Business Management
5. Bachelor in Computer Technology
6. Bachelor in Industrial Technology
7. Bachelor in Industrial Education
8. Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering
9. Bachelor in Secondary Education
10. Bachelor in Elementary Education

11. Bachelor in Civil Technology
12. Bachelor of Science in Office Administration
13. Bachelor in Civil Engineering

B. Technical Courses

1. Midwifery
2. Diploma in Computer Secretarial
3. Diploma in Fishery Technology
4. Diploma in Agricultural Technology
5. Diploma in Industrial Technology

C. Graduate Programs

1. Master of Arts in Education
2. Master of Arts in Teaching
3. Master in Professional Studies in Education
4. Master in Agricultural Development
5. Master in Agricultural Development

All these courses are under the instructional programs composing of three (3) schools, and eleven (11) departments of the state college.

While LGPC is offering 3 degree programs and several technical courses. The conversion of NIPSC and the integration of a CHED-supervised government college in Northern Iloilo is urgently desired to enable the administration of those institutions to expand, diversify, and strengthen its technological, undergraduate, graduate programs to meet the demand for a comprehensive manpower skills both for land, and marine-based industries of the country, and for global competitiveness.

The proposed Central Philippines State Polytechnic University (CPSPU), in addition, to its present programs shall provide balance emphasis/shift for the development of professionals and highly skilled manpower for marine-based industries, and science technology such as; marine biology, marine ecology, port/harbor management, (containerized cargo handling) marine resources management, marine engineering and transportation, (boat building) marine economics, marine products processing, and marketing and computer technology to be responsive to the strategic of its service area -- the Central Philippines.

Estancia has the only pier facing the Visayas Sea. Its pier can be consequently expanded and develop into a minor transshipment area for communities situated in the Visayas Sea.

The proposed State Polytechnic University will also develop Estancia as an alternative growth center in the province of the Iloilo (Panay News vol. xiii no. 28 Feb. 24, 1994). Thus, it is expected to decongest Iloilo City - the capital city of the province for a more balance growth and development.

The 1987 Philippine Constitution commits the state to establish and maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the goals of national development. It further directs that all educational institutions shall aim to develop scientific, technological, and vocational efficiency, inculcate nationalism, and international understanding, and if we must have another, it is global competitiveness.

With tremendous faith in education, we can prepare particularly the youth, to face the 21st century, if we make higher education as an instrument and corner stone of our hope, and struggle for industrialization, global competitiveness, and progress.

There is no doubt in our minds that countries have gone through from agricultural, industrial technology, and information societies have used higher education as instrument for their development.

Thus, there is an increasing demand for education, especially for higher education throughout the world -- even both highly developed and developing countries of U.S., Japan, Germany, UK, France, Italy, Canada, Singapore, and South Korea, China, have continuing demand for better work and career opportunities.

Even President Bill Clinton of U.S. has recognized the situation, and has called for national policy to allow all American youth to receive at least two year of college education, regardless of economic circumstances. This is a bold and farsighted pronouncement, and is needed by today's youth if they have to be prepared for the jobs of tomorrow.

In the Philippines, particularly in Northern Iloilo, we cannot do less. We have to prepare our youth for economic recovery and global competitiveness. We have to prepare our youth for economic recovery and global competitiveness. We hope to do this through the conversion of the present Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College and the integration of Leon Ganson Polytechnic College into a geographical state university in Central Philippines to be known as the **CENTRAL PHILIPPINES STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY**. This is the best way to bridge the gap of educational opportunities in higher education in Central Philippines, and the growing demand for competitive higher education in the 21st century.

According to Dr. Claudio Prieto, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Higher Education Programs, US, Department of Education in his speech during the world Congress in Higher Education in Manila, 1998.

... "In the past success in laying the foundation for the new technological economy, higher education has become an indefensible element of economic progress."

The Philippines cannot do less it has to prepare the youth for global competitiveness, particularly in human resources development. It would be our conceded strategic resource or advantage.

In the light thereof, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested


HON. ROLEX T. SUPLICO
Congressman, 5th District of Iloilo

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

13TH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 903

Introduced by **Honorable Rolex T. Suplico**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE NORTHERN ILOILO POLYTECHNIC STATE COLLEGE
IN ESTANCIA, ILOILO INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY, AND INTEGRATING
THE LEON GANZON POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE, IN BALASAN ILOILO, TO
BE KNOWN AS THE CENTRAL PHILIPPINES STATE POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY OR (CPSPU)

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

SECTION 1. The Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College with main campus in the municipality of Estancia, Iloilo, a marketing center of the commercial fisheries industry in Central Philippines, is hereby converted into a State University to be known as the Central Philippines State Polytechnic University, hereinafter referred to as the State University.

SEC. 2. The Leon Ganzon Polytechnic College in the municipality of Balasan, Iloilo is hereby integrated in the State University, to be known as the (CPSPU) Balasan Campus. While the existing NIPSC Barotac Viejo Campus shall be renamed CPSPU Barotac Viejo Campus.

SEC. 3. The State University shall be comprehensive polytechnic university and shall primarily provide higher professional, technological and other special instructions for special purposes, promote research and extension, advanced studies, and progressive leadership in education, science, arts services and technology and other fields as may be relevant to the development of both marine-based industries and land-based resources of its service area, and the country.

SEC. 4. Central Philippines State Polytechnic University (CPSPU) as a comprehensive polytechnic university shall offer varied courses in the different disciplines through occupation oriented baccalaureate ladder type curriculums and graduate programs that are closely linked with the needs of industries, business, and professions.

SEC. 5. In addition to the present offerings of the integrated institutions, the State University shall offer undergraduate, graduate and short term courses that shall provide the needed professionals and manpower skills in education for rural development, to effect appropriate social and technological changes for the marine-based industries, and in order to accelerate the development of the service area, and the country such courses in marine technology, marine resources and ecology management, harbor/port & business

management, marine technology & engineering & marine transportation and economics, rural enterprises organization and community development, rural-based health, and education, industrial technology, food processing, computer and information technology, eco-tourism, agriculture and related courses, and others which the Board of Regents may deem necessary in order to serve the needs of the service area and the country.

SEC. 6. The State University shall continue to operate a reasonably sized laboratory schools within its campuses. In addition, the State University shall adopt CHED-supervised government colleges in the service area to serve as branches/campuses.

SEC. 7. The governing body of the University System shall be the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of the following:

- a) The chairman of the Commission of Higher Education (CHED), Chairman;
- b) The President of the State University, Vice Chairman;
- c) The chairman of the Committee on Higher Education and Culture of the Senate, member;
- d) The Chairman of the Committee on Education and Culture of the house of Representatives, member
- e) The Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) where the main campus is located, member;
- f) The president of the Federation of Faculty Associations of the State University member;
- g) The president of the Federation of the Student Councils of the State University member;
- h) The president of the Alumni Association of the State University, member: and
- i) Two (2) prominent citizens who have distinguished themselves in their professions or fields of specialization of the institution concerned chosen from among a list of at least five (5) persons qualified in the city or the province where the State University is located, as recommended by the search committee constituted by the State University President, in consultation with the chairman of the CHED, based on the normal standards and qualifications for the position, members.

The chairman of the Commission on Higher Education, the president of the State University, the education committees, Chairman of the Senate and the House of Representatives, and the Regional director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) shall have an ex-officio term of offices.

The term of office of the president of the faculty association, the federation of student councils and the president of the alumni association, shall be conterminous with their respective terms of office.

The two (2) prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years. For the purpose of the provision of this section, the associations of faculty, alumni, and student

councils in each campus of the State University shall organize themselves to form their respective federations, which in turn shall elect their federation officials.

In case of vacancy in the office of the president, the Vice President for Academic Affairs of the State University shall be designated by the board to serve for the unexpired term only.

SEC. 8. The board shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared policies on education and other pertinent provision of the Philippine constitution on education, science and technology, arts, culture and sport, as well as the policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722.

SEC. 9. The State University shall have the general powers of a corporation as set forth in the corporation law. The administration of the State University and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents and the president of State University insofar as authorized by the Board.

SEC. 10. The Board shall have the following specific powers and duties in addition to the general powers of administration and the exercise of all powers granted to the board of directors of a corporation under existing laws;

(a) To enact rules and regulations not contrary to law, as may be necessary to Carry out the purposes and functions of the State University;

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

(c) To import duty-free, subject to existing laws, essential commodities, materials and equipment for educational or technological programs, provided such commodities, materials and equipment are not available locally at a comparable price;

(d) To receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose the same when necessary for the benefit of the State University and subject to the limitations, directions and instructions of the donor existing laws on tax exemptions;

(e) To fix tuition fees and other necessary school charges, as such out not limited to matriculation fees, graduations fees and laboratory fees as the Board may deem proper to impose, after due consultations with the involved sectors;

Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other income generated by the State University, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all interests that shall accrue there from shall form part of the same funds for the use of the University system.

Any Provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, any income generated by the University from tuition fees and other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land grants, shall be retained by the State University, and may be disbursed by the Board for instruction, research, extension, or other programs/projects of the State University. Provided, that all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific purpose for which they are collected.

If, for reason beyond its control the State University shall not be able to pursue any projects for which funds have been appropriated and allocated under its approved program of expenditures, the board may authorize the use of said funds for any reasonable purpose which in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the State University;

(f) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery, equipment, and other facilities and the purchase and acquisition of real and personal properties including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;

(g) To appoint, upon the recommendation of the president of the State University, Vice presidents, chancellors, Deans, Directors, Heads of Departments, faculty members and other officials and employees;

(h) To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees subject to the provisions of the revised compensation and position classification system and other pertinent budget and compensation; laws governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under such regulations as it promulgate, any provisions of existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in accordance with the requirements of due process of law;

(i) To approve the curricula, instructional programs and rules of discipline drawn by the administrative and academic councils as hereinafter provided;

(j) To confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation; to award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of outstanding contribution in the fields of education or in any field of specialization of the State University; and to authorize the awarding of certificates for completion of non-degree and nontraditional courses;

(k) To establish branches with the service area if and when it becomes essential and necessary where there is no existing school offering similar programs or courses to promote and carry out equal access in educational opportunity as mandated by the constitution. The State University shall negotiate for the donation of properties, real or personal, from the municipalities and local government units for such purpose, and;

(l) To establish chairs in the State University and to provide fellowship for qualified faculty members and administrative staff and scholarships to deserving students.

SEC. 11. The Board of Regents shall convene regularly at least once every two (2) months. The chairman of the Board of Regents may, upon three (3) days prior written notice, call a special meeting wherever necessary.

A quorum of the board shall consist of a majority of all members holding office at the time of the meeting. Provided, however, that the chairman of the CHED, who is the chairman of the board or the president of the State University is among those present in the meeting.

In the absence of the chairman of the CHED, a commissioner of the CHED duly designated by him, shall represent him in the meeting. Provided, that during this meeting, the president of the State University, as Vice Chairman shall be the presiding officer.

The members of the board shall not receive any salary but shall be entitled to reimbursements for actual and necessary expenses incurred either in their attendance to meetings of the board or in connection with other official business authorized by resolution of the board, subject to pertinent existing laws and regulations.

SEC. 12. It shall be the concern of the Board of Regents of the State University to develop the distinctive competence of each campus, supportive of its mandate and purposes.

Towards this end an Institutional Development Planning Center shall be established to take charge of the responsibility to develop long-term/strategic plans of the State University. The center shall be headed by the Director, Planning and Development who shall be designated by the University President, subject to confirmation by the Board of Regents.

SEC. 13. The State University shall be headed by a president who shall render full-time service. He shall be appointed by the board upon the recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. He shall hold office for a term of four (4) years, subject to reappointment for another term.

The incumbent president of Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College shall serve as the first president of the Central Philippines State Polytechnic University until he reached the compulsory retirement age subject to the provisions of RA 8292 on the matter.

In case of vacancy in the office of the president by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the president to perform the functions of his office the Vice President for Academic Affairs shall act as interim president until the appointment of a regular president.

The powers and duties of the president of the State University, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of the president of similar universities, and those delegated by the Board.

The salary of the president of the State University shall be in accordance with the Revised Compensation and Position Classification System and shall be comparable to that being received by the presidents of similar educational institutions of like enrollment and standing.

The incumbent president of the State University at the time this Act shall take effect, whose term may be terminated, shall be entitled to full retirement benefits under existing laws.

SEC. 14. There shall be an administrative council of the State University consisting of the president of the State University, as chairman; the Vice Presidents, Chancellors, Deans, Directors, and other officials of equal rank, as members, whose duty shall be implement policies governing the administration, management and development planning of the State University, subject to the approval of the Board.

SEC. 15. There shall be an academic council with the president of the State University as chairman and all the members of the instructional staff with the rank of not lower than assistant professors as members.

The academic council shall have the power to prescribe the curricula and rules of discipline of the State of University, subject to the approval of the Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission of the State University as well as for graduation and the conferring of degrees, subject to the review of the Board. The council likewise have the power to recommend students to be recipients of degrees.

Through the president of the State University or his duly authorized representative, the council shall have disciplinary power over the students within the limits prescribed by the rules of discipline as approved by the board.

SEC. 16. No religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the State University. Provided, however, that no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

SEC. 17. No student shall be denied admission to the State University by reason of gender, nationality, religion, or political affiliation.

SEC. 18. No member of the faculty of the State University shall attempt directly or indirectly, under penalty of dismissal by the Board of Regents, influence students or any person in the State University towards any ideology, political or otherwise, which agitates the overthrow of the duly constituted government.

SEC. 19. The incumbent superintendent(s) of institution(s) integrated under this Act shall continue to serve as designated Chancellor(s) of their respective campus. CPSPU BVC shall be also headed by a designated Chancellor.

SEC. 20. The treasurer of the Philippines shall be the ex-officio treasurer of the State University and all accounts and expenses thereof shall be audited by the Commission on Audit or his duly authorized representative.

SEC. 21. On or before the fifteenth (15th) day of the second month after the opening of the regular classes each year, the board shall submit to both Houses of Congress and the Commission on Higher Education, an annual report setting forth the conditions, progress and needs of the State University.

SEC. 22. All assets, fixed and movable, personnel and records of the Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College, and Leon Ganson Polytechnic College, as well as liabilities or obligations, of the same are hereby transferred to the State University.

SEC. 23. The heads of bureaus and offices of the national government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon request of the president of the State University, such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by the State University and to detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgment of the bureau or office, such apparatus, equipment, supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment of the public service. The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the president of the University system, and the time so employed shall be counted as part of their regular services.

SEC. 24. It shall be the continuing policy of the State University to accept the affiliation and/or integration within its operation of any existing CHED-supervised government colleges whose programs can contribute largely and effectively to the attainment of its objectives. Provided, however, that in case of integration, the Chairman of the CHED is hereby authorized to determine and approve the affiliation and/or

integration of the specific existing CHED-supervised government college. In such case, all funds, properties and other assets, as well as obligations of the integrated shall be transferred to the State University.

SEC. 25. The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997", shall form an integral part of this Act and together with this Act shall serve as the governing charter of the State University.

SEC. 26. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Northern Iloilo Polytechnic State College, and the Leon Ganson Polytechnic College.

Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Central Philippines State Polytechnic University shall be included in the next Annual General Appropriations Act. Provided that budget/appropriations of **each** integrated institutions shall be purposely spent for the respective campus(s), and **the** university president shall not realign the said budgets without the approval of the Board of Regents.

SEC. 27. If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby, shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 28. All provisions of law inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 29. Immediately after the approval of this Act, the institutions concerned are hereby permitted to use the name of **CENTRAL PHILIPPINES STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY**. However, in order to have a systematic and rational **implementation** of the provisions of this Act, the Board of Regents shall require the **university president** to submit a Five-year Strategic Plan of the state university.

SEC. 30. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the official gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes first.

Approved,