



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

Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

5547
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



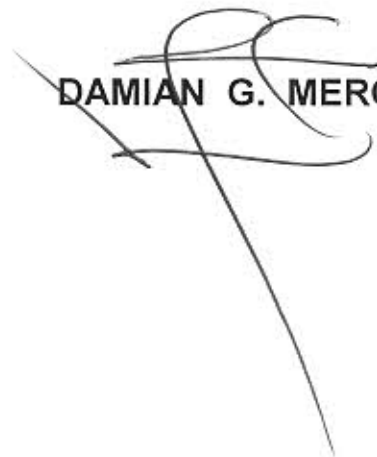
Introduced by Honorable Damian G. Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The denuded forests of Southern Leyte have been largely blamed for the spate of natural calamities in our province. The many years of abuse to the environment will certainly take years to restore.

The restoration efforts to reforest Southern Leyte will require technical expertise in the field of forestry. Since a forest restoration needs to be sustainable, it also needs a sustainable pool of technical individuals. One way of addressing this concern is to put up a forestry institution within the province. It will surely provide the technical forestry manpower for the area including those of nearby provinces.

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


DAMIAN G. MERCADO



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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF FORESTRY IN SOUTHERN LEYTE**

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

SECTION 1. *Establishment of a Forestry College.* There shall be established, a Forestry College in Southern Leyte.

SECTION 2. *Appropriations.* The funds needed for purposes of implementing this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the Commission on Higher Education as part of the yearly General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.* The Commission on Higher Education is hereby mandated to come up with the implementing rules and regulation for the purpose of ensuring the implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,