

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6159



Introduced by Representative Roman T. Romulo
Lone District of Pasig City

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On June 4, 2013, Republic Act No. 10596 was signed into law converting the Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology (MINS CAT) in the Municipality of Victoria, Province of Oriental Mindoro into a state university to be known as the Mindoro State University (MINSU).

However, the said law expressly states that the establishment or conversion of MINS CAT into a state university shall become effective only upon the determination and declaration by the CHED, based on the recommendation of a panel of experts, that it has complied with the requirements for a university status. The CHED, through its regional office, shall regularly provide technical assistance to the institution and monitor compliance with the requirements of the Commission.

Further, the CHED shall designate a panel of experts who shall prepare a recommendation to the Chairperson of the CHED, on whether the institution has substantially complied with the requirements for the grant of university status.

The following are the operational requirements for a university that must be complied with by MINS CAT:

- (a) Level III accreditation or equivalent under CHED policies for at least four of its undergraduate programs, one in liberal arts and one in the sciences, and two of its graduate programs;
- (b) Ratio of qualified full-time faculty with requisite degrees to number of students;
- (c) Adequate library and laboratories;
- (d) Research and development output of practical and commercial application to the community;

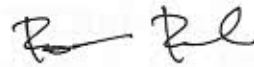
(e) Relevant linkages and outreach programs that are of service to the community; and

(f) Relevant academic policies, systems and processes.

A perusal further of the said law provides for a January 1, 2016 deadline for MINSCAT to comply with the abovementioned requirements otherwise, it shall remain as a state college.

Follow up reports submitted to the Committee on Higher and Technical Education on the status of conversion reveals that there has already been substantial compliance on the part of MINSCAT. However, since we are fast approaching the January 1, 2016 deadline, there is a need to extend said period to ensure that MINSCAT is given the opportunity to fully comply with all requirements and so as not to waste the time and resources spent by the college administration in trying to meet the conditions set forth by RA No. 10596.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this proposed bill is earnestly sought.



ROMAN T. ROMULO

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AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NUMBER 10596, ENTITLED, "AN ACT CONVERTING THE MINDORO STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF VICTORIA, PROVINCE OF ORIENTAL MINDORO INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE KNOWN AS MINDORO STATE UNIVERSITY (MINSU) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR" THEREBY EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONVERSION TO JANUARY 1, 2018

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

Section 1. – Section 26 of Republic Act No. 10596 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 26. Compliance With CHED Requirements. – The provisions of this Act notwithstanding, the establishment or conversion of the institution into a state university shall become effective only upon the determination and declaration by the CHED, based on the recommendation of a panel of experts, that the institution has complied with the requirements for a university status. The CHED, through its regional office, shall regularly provide technical assistance to the institution and monitor compliance with the requirements of the Commission.

The CHED shall designate a panel of experts who shall prepare a recommendation to the Chairperson of the CHED, on whether the institution has substantially complied with the requirements for the grant of university status.

The following are the operational requirements for a university:

(a) Level III accreditation or equivalent under CHED policies for at

least four (4) of its undergraduate programs, one (1) in liberal arts and one (1) in the sciences, and two (2) of its graduate programs;

(b) Ratio of qualified full-time faculty with requisite degrees to number of students;

(c) Adequate library and laboratories;

(d) Research and development output of practical and commercial application to the community;

(e) Relevant linkages and outreach programs that are of service to the community; and

(f) Relevant academic policies, systems and processes.

The institution shall retain its status prior to the effectivity of this Act, unless in the meantime it is able to comply with the requirements provided herein, within a period not exceeding January 1, 2018."

Section 2. All laws, decrees, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

APPROVED,