

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon Ctiy

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 165

Introduced by HON. FELICIANO R. BELMONTE, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Barangay Krus na Ligas (KNL) is a community in Diliman, Quezon City that has been in existence as early as the Spanish occupation of the Philippines. During the 1896 Philippine Revolution, the area was used as a retreat place of Andres Bonifacio and the Katipuneros. Numerous other documents indicate the history and existence of KNL as early as the 19th Century, preceding even the establishment of the University of the Philippines (U.P.).

In 2 April 1949, President Elpidio Quirino sold a large parcel of land to the University of the Philippines for one peso, which included the KNL area. Various petitions have been made by the residents to protect their lands, but the right of ownership remained with U.P.

From 1975 to 1981, the administration of the University of the Philippines took the initiative to resolve twenty-six (26) cases involving U.P. and the residents of KNL. On 28 July 1979, then U.P. President Onofre D. Corpuz recognized the need to address the issue concerning the ownership of land due to the growing number of residents of Krus na Ligas and the U.P. Community. A number of U.P. Administrations have also shown resolve to transfer ownership of Krus na Ligas to its legitimate residents, including an attempt to donate the KNL estate to the Local Government of Quezon City. Unfortunately, these efforts have not come into fruition.

Through the years, the UP Administration and the UP Community have manifested their willingness to recognize the rights of the people of Barangay KNL, and to

transfer to the qualified residents of KNL the ownership over the properties upon which they have built their homes and raised their families for generations.

The precepts of social justice that are enshrined in the 1987 Constitution compel us to give the highest and utmost priority to enact this law in order to fully and finally protect and recognize the rights of the people of Barangay KNL to the land over which they have long resided.

Having been approved on Third Reading in the Sixteenth Congress, the immediate passage of the bill is earnestly sought.


FELICIANO BELMONTE, JR.

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AN ACT

AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PARCELS OF LAND IN BARANGAY KRUS NA LIGAS, QUEZON CITY TO ITS LEGITIMATE AND QUALIFIED RESIDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9500, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES CHARTER OF 2008"

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

SECTION 1. Section 23 of Republic Act No. 9500 or "The University of the Philippines Charter of 2008" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 23. Safeguards on Assets Disposition. – The preservation of the value of the assets of the national university shall be of primordial consideration.

"The sale of any existing real property of the national university shall be prohibited: *Provided*, That the Board may alienate real property donated after the effectivity of this Act if the terms of the donation specifically allow it[.]; **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT AS A MATTER OF SPECIFIC EXCEPTION, BARANGAY KRUS NA LIGAS, QUEZON CITY IS HEREBY DECLARED AS A DISPOSABLE ASSET FOR SALE OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY FOR HOUSING AND URBAN SETTLEMENT PURPOSES ONLY, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7279,**

OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING ACT OF 1992", AS AMENDED: *PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE*, THAT ONLY LEGITIMATE RESIDENTS OF BARANGAY KRUS NA LIGAS WHOSE LONG-STANDING RESIDENCE IN THE AREA CAN SUFFICIENTLY BE ESTABLISHED BY AUTHENTICATED DOCUMENTARY AND TESTIMONIAL EVIDENCE ARE QUALIFIED TO BECOME BUYERS OF PARCELS OF LAND IN BARANGAY KRUS NA LIGAS: *PROVIDED, FINALLY*, THAT FOR PURPOSES OF EVALUATING THE LEGITIMACY OF APPLICANTS, ONLY THOSE WHO BY THEMSELVES, OR THROUGH THEIR PREDECESSORS-IN-INTEREST, HAVE BEEN IN CONTINUOUS POSSESSION AND OCCUPATION OF THE SAME PARCELS OF LAND IN THE CONCEPT OF OWNER SINCE TIME IMMEMORIAL, OR FOR A PERIOD OF NOT LESS THAN THIRTY (30) YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, AND UNCONTESTED BY ANY OTHER RESIDENT OF THE SAME PARCELS OF LAND, SHALL HAVE THE OPTION TO SECURE TITLE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.

"x x x."

SEC. 2. *Supplementary Application of the Urban Development and Housing Act.* - Republic Act No. 7279, otherwise known as the "Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992", shall have supplementary application to the housing and urban settlement components of this Act.

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - An interagency committee headed by the local government of Quezon City and composed of the University of the Philippines, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council and the Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act, including the determination of the actual metes and bounds and the process of valuation of the area of Krus na Ligas: *Provided*, That the area covered under Transfer Certificate of Title (TCT) No. RD 57197 (192690) shall already be deemed included and part of Krus na Ligas: *Provided, further*, That the total area shall not exceed a maximum of twenty-five (25) hectares: *Provided, finally*, That the total area shall not include any currently existing vital facility of the University of the Philippines.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is declared invalid and unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,