

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6387



Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution, Section 1, Article XIV provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all."

The Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) is a government educational institution governed by Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997. It provides quality but affordable education to all deserving students.

Section 11 of the Presidential Degree No. 1341 or the Charter Creating the Polytechnic University of the Philippines provides that "It shall be the concern of the University to disperse its programs in the countryside through a system of regional branches." Establishing a Polytechnic University of the Philippines - Quezon City campus fulfills this intention. By virtue of this legislative measure, the expenses for the operations of PUP- Quezon City campus shall be charged to the National Government's yearly General Appropriation Act (GAA) and provide sufficient funds for promoting growth and modern facilities that will help the students develop their knowledge and skills and, consequently, ensure a better future for themselves.

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

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Winnie Castelo".

WINNIE CASTELO

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"AN ACT ESTABLISHING A POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES - QUEZON CITY CAMPUS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "PUP- Quezon City Campus Act".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby declared by the State to provide accessible, quality, and affordable education to all. The Polytechnic University of the Philippines System, since it was created has proven the same.

SEC. 3. The PUP Quezon City Campus shall offer graduate, undergraduate, and short term technical courses within the areas of specialization and according to its capabilities, as the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, particular in order to meet the needs of the city and the region. The University Campus is also mandated to undertake research and extension services, and provides progressive leadership in these areas, includes the offering of post graduate degrees under the Open University System.

SEC. 4 The University shall have the general powers of a corporation set forth in the Corporation Law. The administration of the University and the exercise of its powers shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Regents of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines.

SEC. 5. The University Campus shall provide a scholarship program and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students to qualify for admission to the University.

No student shall be denied admission to the University Campus by reason of sex, religion, cultural, or community affiliation or ethnic region.

SEC. 6. The University Campus shall enjoy academic freedom. University Campus faculties, staff, and students' religious belief shall be respected at all times.

SEC. 7. On or before the fifteenth of the second month after the opening of the regular class each year, the Board shall file with both Houses of Congress a detailed report on the progress, conditions, and needs of the PUP Quezon City Campus.

SEC. 8. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the PUP shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. In coordination with the Polytechnic University of the Philippines, within a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the approval of this Act, the PUP Quezon City Campus shall accomplish the following:

- a) Submit a five (5) year development plan, including its corresponding budget, to the Commission of Education (CHED), for appropriate recommendation to the Department of Budget and Management;
- b) Undergo a management audit in cooperation with CHED;
- c) Accordingly, set up its organizational, administrative, as well as academic structure, including the appointment and/ or designation of the key officials of the campus;

SEC. 10. The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997" shall be an integral part of the implementation of this Act and together shall serve as the governing charter of the University.

SEC. 11. All other powers, functions, privileges, responsibilities, and limitations to state universities and/ or its official under existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the University and/or its officials whenever appropriate.

SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or section of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions and sections not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, or issuances, or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,