

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

Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6541



Introduced by Honorable Lucy Torres-Gomez

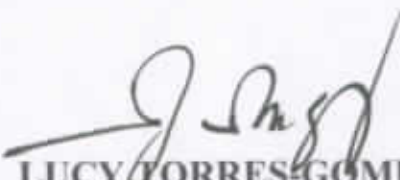
EXPLANATORY NOTE

On June 4, 2013, President Benigno S. Aquino III approved into law Republic Act No. 10599, entitled "*An Act Converting the Palompon Institute of Technology in the Municipality of Palompon, Province of Leyte Into A State University to be Known as the Palompon Polytechnic State University, Integrating Therewith the Marcelino R. Veloso National Polytechnic College in the Municipality of Tabango, Province of Leyte and Appropriating Funds Therefor.*"

In a report rendered by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), however, on the status of implementation of recent legislation establishing or converting schools into state universities and colleges, it was indicated that the "Palompon Institute of Technology (PIT) might not be able to have substantial compliance with the CHED's requirements before the January 2016 deadline". A proposed legislation therefore was filed during the Sixteenth Congress to extend the deadline for compliance of the PIT with CHED's requirements. Although approved in the House of Representatives, said bill however was not acted upon in the Senate for lack of material time.

This amendatory bill seeks to recalibrate the period of compliance by the school as far as the operational requirements for a university provided under Sec. 25 of RA 10599 by doing away altogether with a fixed but arbitrary time frame for such compliance. This is in recognition of the solid accomplishments of PIT in the field of education and as engine of progress for the local economy. Among others, the school boasts of maritime education programs that are not only accredited with the CHED and the MARINA but are also ISO-certified. It has also posted high passing percentages among its graduates in board examinations.

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



LUCY TORRES-GOMEZ

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AN ACT
EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE OF THE
PALOMPON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WITH THE
REQUIREMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER
EDUCATION FOR CONVERSION INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY,
THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10599, ENTITLED
“AN ACT CONVERTING THE PALOMPON INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PALOMPON,
PROVINCE OF LEYTE INTO A STATE UNIVERSITY TO BE
KNOWN AS THE PALOMPON POLYTECHNIC STATE
UNIVERSITY, INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE MARCELINO
R. VELOSO NATIONAL POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF TABANGO, PROVINCE OF LEYTE AND
APPROPRIATING FUND THEREFOR”

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

SECTION 1. Section 25 Of Republic Act No. 10599, known as
“An Act Extending The Deadline For Compliance Of The Palompon
Institute Of Technology With The Requirements Of The Commission On
Higher Education For Conversion Into A State University, Thereby
Amending Republic Act No. 10599, Entitled “An Act Converting The
Palompon Institute Of Technology In The Municipality Of Palompon,
Province Of Leyte Into A State University To Be Known As The
Palompon Polytechnic State University, Integrating Therewith The

Marcelino R. Veloso National Polytechnic College In The Municipality Of Tabango, Province Of Leyte And Appropriating Fund Therefor”, shall be amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 25. *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 its 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

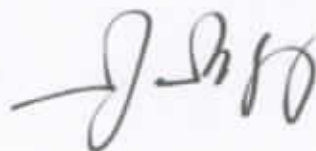
“(f) Relevant academic policies, system and processes.

“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, 2016].

SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, proclamations, issuances or ordinances that are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. S. 10' or similar, written in a cursive style.