

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 8551

Introduced by HON. RONALDO B. ZAMORA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to formally establish a campus of the Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) in the City of San Juan. If approved, the measure will help operationalize and substantiate Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, which provides that the *"State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all."*

PUP is one of Metro Manila's higher educational institutions renowned for catering to talented and deserving students from low-income families. The University traces its roots to 1904, with the establishment of the Manila Business School. In 1952, that institution was converted into the Philippine College of Commerce (PCC) through RA 778. In 1972, PCC was in turn converted into a chartered state university, and renamed Polytechnic University of the Philippines by Presidential Decree 1341. Since then, PUP has undergone progressive changes, including the enhancement of necessary infrastructure, and provision for ICT-based support systems. Today, as the University website emphasizes, PUP continues to work toward sustaining "its role as a worthy catalyst of change for the improvement and raising the quality of lives of its graduates and their families being the centerpiece of its mission as a state university."

In acknowledgment of the status and reputation of PUP as a center of quality and affordable tertiary education for and among deserving college students, the City of San Juan passed City Ordinance No. 6, Series of 2008, also known as "An Ordinance Establishing a PUP Campus in the City of San Juan, Metro Manila." A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was consequently signed between the local government unit and PUP itself. Said MOA was approved and ratified by the PUP Board of Regents on March 14, 2008, through Board Resolution 613, Series of 2008. Since then, the City of San Juan has been subsidizing the expenses and operations of PUP-San Juan.

To ensure the sustained operations and promote the steady improvement of PUP-San Juan, it is imperative to formally establish this campus through legislation, and source its yearly funding requirements from the National Government through the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

I enjoin all of my esteemed Colleagues in the 17th Congress to consider and promptly pass this proposed measure in earnest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronaldo B. Zamora".

RONALDO B. ZAMORA

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Seventeenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8551

Introduced by HON. RONALDO B. ZAMORA

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES- SAN JUAN
CAMPUS IN THE CITY OF SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA TO BE KNOWN AS "PUP-
SAN JUAN CAMPUS" APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "PUP- San Juan Campus Act."

SECTION 2. It is hereby declared by the State to provide accessible, quality and affordable education to all. The PUP System, since it was created, proves the same.

SECTION 3. The PUP - San Juan 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, particularly in order to meet the needs of the province and the region. The University Campus is also mandated to undertake research and extension services, and provide progressive leadership in these areas, includes the offering of post graduate degrees under the Open University System.

SECTION 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.

SECTION 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 origin.

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

SECTION 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 San Juan Campus.

SECTION 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

SECTION 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 San Juan Campus shall accomplish the following:

- a. Submit a five (5) year development plan, including its corresponding program budget, to the CHED, for appropriate recommendation to the DBM;

- b. Undergo a management audit in cooperation with the CHED;
- c. Accordingly set up its organizational, administrative as well as academic, structure, including the appointment/designation of University Campus key officials;

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

SECTION 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.

SECTION 12. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,