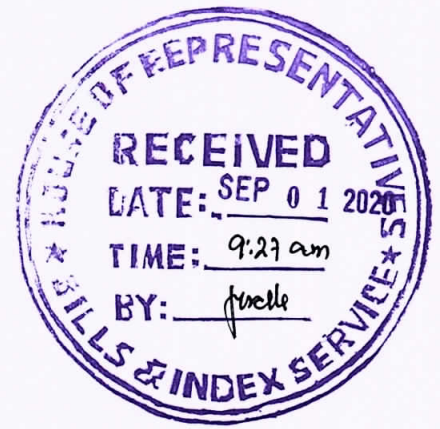


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7558



Introduced by Representatives Ria Christina G. Fariñas
and Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to create CHED Provincial Office in the City of Laoag, Province of Ilocos Norte. This aims to extend all programs and projects of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Central Office to the province for faster and more efficient implementation of programs and projects in all Higher Educational Institutions in the whole province of Ilocos Norte.

In virtue of Republic Act No. 7722 or the "Higher Education Act of 1994," CHED is mandated to protect, foster and promote the right of citizens to affordable quality education at all levels and take appropriate steps to ensure that education shall be accessible. Since the establishment of CHED, it has provided programs and projects aimed at enhancing the quality of higher education as well as providing equal opportunities to all students who are financially burdened but would still like to be given the chance to gain educational degrees.

Presently, the nearest CHED office from the first district of Ilocos Norte is the Regional Office located in San Fernando, La Union which would take at least four (4) hours of travel time. Some of our constituents have raised concerns in relation to their programs and projects, however, due to distance, students have experienced difficulty following up their student subsidies or financial assistances. They would normally ask assistance from our district office to relay it to CHED.

With the approval of this bill, this will not only provide faster and more efficient implementation of all programs and projects of the commission but would further benefit all students of Ilocos Norte in addressing their concerns and improving their services.


RIA CHRISTINA G. FARIÑAS


RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A PROVINCIAL OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION AND HIGHER EDUCATION
(CHED) IN THE CITY OF LAOAG TO BE KNOWN AS CHED-ILOCOS NORTE PROVINCIAL
OFFICE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "CHED-Ilocos Norte Provincial Office Act".

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – In accordance with Sections 1 and 4 of Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, it is the policy of the State to 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. It further recognizes the complementary roles of public and private institutions in the educational system and shall exercise reasonable supervision and regulation of all educational institutions.

Sec. 2. Establishment. - There is hereby established a Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Provincial Office in the City of Laoag, Province of Ilocos Norte, under the supervision of CHED, to be known as the CHED-Ilocos Norte Provincial Office, which shall be established in a highly accessible location in the City of Laoag.

Sec. 3. General Mandate. - The CHED-Ilocos Norte Provincial Office, herein referred to as 'Office', shall be the extension of the Central Office and the Regional Office of Region 1

primarily to deliver all programs and projects in the City of Laoag and its neighboring municipalities and provinces to further enhance the quality of education for all higher educational institutions established within Ilocos Norte.

Sec. 4. Organizational Structure. - Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the CHED, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall determine the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the Office. The organizational structure and staffing pattern shall be submitted to the Commissioner of CHED, to the Regional Director of Region 1 and to the Secretary of DBM for approval.

The Commissioner of CHED shall immediately include in CHED's system the operationalization of CHED-Laoag Provincial Office.

Sec. 5. Administration. - The Office shall be headed by a Provincial Director, under the supervision of CHED, who shall render full-time service and be responsible for its administration and operation.

The Provincial Director shall be appointed by the Regional Director of Region 1, with the approval of the Commissioner of CHED in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Civil Service Commission and the qualification requirements for such office.

Sec. 6. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act, CHED shall prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec. 8. Repealing Clause. - All provisions of existing laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

Sec. 9. Separability Clause. – If any portion of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions not affected thereby.

Sec. 10. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,