

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 725



Introduced by Representatives Ron P. Salo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine Public Safety College (PPSC) was created pursuant to Section 6 of Republic Act 6975 and mandated to be the premier educational institution for the training, human resource development, and continuing education of all the uniformed personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP). In its 25 years of existence, it has provided mandatory career training and higher and continuing education to 572,882 PNP, BFP, BJMP and other public safety and law enforcement personnel. Through a systematic and progressive delivery of programs and courses administered by its six constitutive units, namely, the NPTI, PNPA, NPC, NFSTI, NFTI and the NJMPTI, it has contributed to the human resource development, professionalization and organizational growth of the interior, public safety and criminal justice institutions.

Indeed, the context and the challenge by which PPSC was created 25 years ago have become broader and more complex. In the 21st century environment, public safety and security issues and concerns are wide-ranging, sophisticated and daunting. Pandemics, natural disaster, climate change, transnational organized crimes, terrorism and violent extremism, cybercrime, protection of critical infrastructures, biosafety hazards and other emerging threats expand the domains of public safety and bring into fore a more comprehensive and integrative homeland security orientation for the country.

It is in this light that the need to strengthen the Philippine Public Safety College and elevate its status as the premier and specialized professional training and higher educational institution for public safety and homeland security is paramount and necessary. The need for a more advanced and responsive and effective structure that caters strategically to the overall capacity and competency building and knowledge resource requirements of the public safety, law enforcement and homeland security institutions is fully supported.

This is further echoed by the National Security Policy (NSP) 2017-2022 that directs PPSC, alongside with other educational institutions, to exercise, aside from its existing mandate, to be primarily responsible for training competent policy analysts, security planners and intelligence officers and for training future generations of national security leaders and managers.

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



RON P. SALO
KABAYAN Partylist

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**AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SAFETY COLLEGE AS
THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND
SECURITY EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RESEARCH**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College Charter.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College is hereby declared as the national institution for public safety and homeland security education, training and research.

The State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of public safety and homeland security education, training and research relevant to the needs of the country in the context of the 21st century public safety and security challenges. Toward this end, the State shall strengthen the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College, as a national institution responsible for the training and education of public safety, law enforcement and homeland security personnel, practitioners, managers and leaders and for strategic knowledge generation, strategic and policy studies and capacity building for public safety and homeland security.

SEC. 3. Objectives. – As the national institution for public safety and homeland security education, training and research, the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College shall:

- a) Serve as the lead institution for the mandatory training, human resource development and continuing education for all police, fire and jail personnel and other public safety and security personnel and practitioners particularly the delivery of cadetship to capstone courses and programs;
- b) Professionalize the personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) and other public safety, law enforcement and security

sector institutions in respect to their functions and responsibilities as provided for by law;

- c) Lead in setting academic standards in the development of competencies and capacities in but not limited to: Public Safety and Homeland Security Leadership and Management, Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice System, Cybersecurity, Community Policing, Forensic Science, Counter-Terrorism and Insurgency, Civil Defense and Emergency Preparedness, Crisis Management, Contingency Planning, Fire Engineering and Safety, Corrections and Rehabilitation Management, Border Security, Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law, and Related Fields in Public Safety And Homeland Security; and
- d) Serve as the institution for higher learning and graduate programs by providing advanced and strategic studies for public safety professionals and practitioners, especially those who are serving in the interior, civil defense, criminal justice and local government sectors;

SEC. 4. Composition of the Philippine Public Safety College. – The Philippine Public Safety College shall be composed of the present Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA), the National Fire Training Institute (NFTI), the National Jail Management and Penology Training Institute (NJMPTI), the National Police Training Institute (NPTI) and its Regional Training Centers, the National Police College (NPC), the National Forensic Science Training Institute (NFSTI) and other institutes or special training, research and program centers as may be created by law or by the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 5. Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy as a National Institution. – To provide greater flexibility and independence, the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College shall exclusively determine its instructional, research and extension thrusts, plans, policies, programs and standards, and on the basis of such determination, the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College, through the Board of Trustees, shall recommend its annual budget to the President of the Republic of the Philippines and Congress.

SEC. 6. The Board of Trustees. –

- a) The governance of the Philippine Public Safety College is hereby vested in the Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of the following:
 - 1) The Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, as Chairperson;
 - 2) The President of the Philippine Public Safety College, as Vice Chairperson;
 - 3) The Chief of the Philippine National Police, as Member;
 - 4) The Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection, as Member; and

- 5) The Chief of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, as Member.
- b) *Compensation.* – The Members of the Board shall serve without compensation other than reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in attendance to meetings of the Board or other official business authorized by the Board.
- c) *Meetings; Quorum.* – The Board shall convene regularly at least once every semester. The Chairperson or the majority of the Board may call a special meeting whenever necessary; Provided, that the members are notified in writing at least ten (10) days prior to said meeting. Provided, further, That the notice shall contain a brief description of the agenda items to be discussed.

A majority of all members of the Board holding office at the time the meeting is called shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside over the meeting.

In no case shall any and all members of the Board appoint representatives to act on their behalf: Provided, That the members of the Board coming from Congress may participate and vote through teleconferencing or equivalent verifiable means of communication.

SEC. 7. Powers and Duties of the Board of Trustees. – The administration of the Philippine Public Safety College and the exercise of its corporate powers are vested in the Board of Trustees.

The Board shall exercise the following specific powers and duties:

- a) Define in general terms the thrust of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College and adopt broad policy guidelines to ensure their implementation;
- b) Formulate and implement such academic and non-academic programs, curricula and standards for degree and non-degree courses of study, including the conduct of distance and online education and training programs for public safety professionals and practitioners, especially those who are serving in the interior, law enforcement, civil defense and local government sectors;
- c) Set policies on admission, graduation and discipline of students;
- d) Approve the graduation of students and grant of honors in degree programs for Bachelor of Science in Public Safety, Master in Public Safety Administration, Master in Crisis and Disaster Risk Management and other degree programs that may be hereinafter prescribed by law or approved by the Board;

- e) Grant and confer academic degrees, diplomas and proficiency certificates for degree and non-degree courses;
- f) Establish research and extension centers of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College to promote the development of the latter and provide for adequate guidelines on the protection, utilization and commercialization of intellectual creations owned by the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College;
- g) Establish professorial chairs and council of fellows programs and provide for the maintenance or endowment of such chairs;
- h) Provide local and international fellowships, scholarships and grants and to award the same to eminent persons, faculty, staff and students, based on merit;
- i) Create a culture of excellence and quality service through multi-sectoral linkages, both local and international, faculty and staff development studies
- j) Approve academic arrangements for institutional capacity building with appropriate agencies, public or private, local or foreign, and appoint experts/specialists as consultants, or visiting or exchange professors, scholars or researchers;
- k) Use all incomes generated by the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College and its constitutive institutions at its discretion; Provided, that all such disbursements shall be for the professional growth and development, health, welfare and other benefits of faculty members and other personnel; the acquisition, construction, maintenance and repair of urgently needed instructional and auxiliary facilities, equipment, buildings and other infrastructure, and such other expenditures necessary for the attainment of its purpose under this Act; Provided, further, that such income shall not be used to augment appropriations for personal services expenditures;
- l) Authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery, equipment and other facilities and support systems, and acquire real and movable properties, including the necessary supplies, materials and equipment;
- m) Authorize an external management audit of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College and institute reforms, including academic and structural changes, on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;
- n) Approve joint ventures with business and industry for the profitable development and management of the economic assets of the Philippine Public Safety College, the proceeds of which shall be used for its development and strengthening;
- o) Approve consortia and other forms of linkages with local government units, institutions and agencies, both public and private, local and foreign, in

furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College; and

- p) Exercise such other powers as may be necessary and proper to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. The President of the Philippine Public Safety College. – The President of the Philippine Public Safety College is the chief academic officer, head of the College faculty and the chief executive officer of the Philippine Public Safety College. The President of the Philippine Public Safety College shall exercise the powers specifically provided for in this Act, those determined by the Board, those which pertaining to the office of the president of a college, and those which are related or necessary to its functions.

The President of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College must be at least forty (40) years of age, a holder of a Doctoral Degree in Public Safety, Public Administration, National Security Administration and who have gained meaningful work experience in school administration or any branch of the criminal justice system shall be given preference in the appointment.

The President of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the Board and shall hold office for a single term of four (4) years unless sooner removed from office or incapacitated to discharge the duties of the office.

Provided, that the incumbent PPSC President, unless sooner removed from office or incapacitated to discharge the duties of the office, shall continue to serve under this Charter for a fresh four (4) year term.

SEC. 9. The Secretary of the College and of the Board of Trustees. – There shall be a Secretary of the College appointed by the Board, who shall also be the Secretary of the Board, and who will keep such records of the College as may be designated by the Board.

SEC. 10. The Vice-Presidents of the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College, Duties and Functions. – There shall be appointed a Vice-President for Administration and a Vice-President for Academic Affairs who shall assist the President in the administration and operation of the Philippine Public Safety College.

Both the Vice-Presidents for Administration and Academic Affairs shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the President of the Philippine Public Safety College. They shall hold office for a term of four (4) years, unless sooner removed for cause as provided under existing civil service laws, rules and regulations, or are incapacitated to discharge the duties of the office. They must be at least thirty-five (35) years of age on the date of assumption of office, members of the Philippine Bar or holders of Master's Degree in Criminology, Public Safety, Public Administration, National Security Administration, Sociology or related

disciplines. Those who have gained reasonable work experience in any branch of the criminal justice system shall be given preference in the appointment.

- a) The Vice-President for Administration shall assist the PPSC President in supervising the College services, physical facilities, and administrative support system for all operations of the Philippine Public Safety College. He shall perform other related activities in coordination with the Vice-President for Academic Affairs and such other functions as may be delegated by the PPSC President.
- b) The Vice-President for Academic Affairs shall assist the PPSC President in the implementation of the educational and institutional development plans and in achieving academic excellence through quality instruction. He shall perform other related matters in coordination with the Vice-President for Administration and such other functions as may be delegated by the PPSC President.

SEC. 11. Vacancy in the Office of the President. – In case the President of the Philippine Public Safety College is unable to perform or discharge his or her duties and responsibilities due to death, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity, the Board shall designate any of the Vice-Presidents who shall temporarily act as the President until a new President shall have been appointed and qualified or the incapacity ceases. In case of new appointment, the newly appointed President shall only serve the unexpired term.

In case of official leave, the President of the Philippine Public Safety College shall designate a Vice-President who shall serve as the Officer-in-Charge until the return of the incumbent President;

SEC. 12. Curricular Offerings. – The Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College shall offer a Bachelor of Science in Public Safety Program, post-graduate programs in Public Safety Administration, Crisis and Disaster Risk Management, Forensic Science and other advanced programs that may be authorized by law or by the Board, mandatory career courses as required for promotion under existing laws, rules and regulations and such other courses as may be prescribed by law or authorized by the Board.

SEC. 13. The Faculty. – There shall be a Faculty in the PPSHSC whose plantilla positions shall be subject to the approval of its Board of Trustees.

SEC. 14. The Heads of Constitutive Units and Regional Training Centers. – The heads of the Constitutive Units and Regional Training Centers shall be designated by the Board, upon recommendation of the PPSC President and with the consent of the chief of the Bureau from which the officer belongs in case uniformed personnel is designated. The duly designated heads of Constitutive Units and Regional Training Centers shall serve for a period not exceeding two (2) years unless sooner removed, retired from the service or becomes incapacitated to discharge the duties of the office.

SEC. 15. Land Grants and Other Real Properties of the College. – The State shall support the Philippine Public Safety and Homeland Security College through general appropriations and other financial benefits, and in kind, through land grants and donations and use of other real properties. To carry out the intent of these grants, income derived from the development of all land grants and real properties shall be used to further the ends of the PPSHSC, as may be decided by the Board; Provided, that such income shall not be used to augment appropriations for personal services expenditures.

Parcels of land, as well as all real property and facilities, presently used and occupied by the PPSHSC are hereby declared reserved for the continuing use and utilization of the PPSHSC. The absolute ownership of the PPSHSC over landholdings already ceded to it by law, decree or Presidential issuance, including those covered by original and transfer certificates of title in the name of the PPSC and their future derivatives are hereby confirmed. Where the issuance of the proper certificates of title is yet pending for these landholdings, the appropriate government office shall expedite the issuance thereof within six (6) months from the date of effectivity of this Act; Provided, that all registration requirements necessary for the issuance of the said titles have been submitted and complied with.

Any plan to generate revenue from other sources, land grants and other real properties entrusted to the PPSC shall be consistent with the academic mission and orientation of the PPSC; Provided, that such programs, projects or mechanisms shall be approved by the Board; Provided further, that funds generated from such programs, projects or mechanisms shall not be meant to replace, in part or in whole, the annual appropriations provided by the national government to the PPSHSC.

SEC. 16. Tax Exemptions. – The PPSHSC shall be entitled to the following tax and exemption privileges:

- a) All income received by the College System shall be exempt from income tax pursuant to Section 30 (1) of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended;
- b) Equipment and supplies used directly and exclusively for educational purposes by the College System shall be entitled to exemption from value-added tax and customs duties on its importation;
- c) Gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same shall be considered allowable deductions from gross income in the computation of the income tax of the donor, in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended;
- d) Importation of economic, technical and cultural books or publications shall be exempt from customs duties, in accordance with the provisions of the Traffic and Customs Code of the Philippines, as amended;

SEC. 17. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to initially implement the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the

PPSC. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the PPSHSC shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 18. Annual Report. – The PPSHSC shall submit an annual report to Congress containing its financial statements, including a statement of assets and liabilities, income derived from tuition fees and other revenue sources, contracts and investments entered into pursuant to Section 19 hereof and programs of expenditure. All accounts and disbursements of the PPSHSC shall be audited by the Commission on Audit.

SEC. 19. Separability Clause. – If for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Act shall be declared or held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 20. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Board of Trustees shall issue the implementing rules and regulations ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 21. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 22. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the official gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.