



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9630



Introduced by Representatives JONATHAN KEITH T. FLORES, JOSE MANUEL F. ALBA, JOSE MARIA R. ZUBIRI JR., and LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Bukidnon State University (BukSu) has established itself as an institution of excellence in healthcare education. Notably, BukSu has earned the distinction of being the Top Performing Nursing School in the Philippines, boasting two topnotchers and a 100% passing rate after the Professional Regulation Commission's May 2023 Philippine Nurses Licensure Exam.

It is evident that the University has remained firm on its mandate to provide equitable, accessible, and quality education, particularly for marginalized communities in Northern Mindanao. Through the years, the University has been proactive in improving its status in the medical field and producing more medical professionals in the country.

The establishment of a College of Medicine in BukSu is a monumental step toward advancing the study of medicine in the country considering that it would be the first medical school in the Province of Bukidnon. Likewise, the College is envisioned as an inclusive learning environment that will enable students, especially those from Bukidnon's Indigenous People (IP) communities, to excel academically and emerge as leaders in the medical field.

Thus, this bill seeks to establish a College of Medicine in Bukidnon State University - Main Campus located in Malaybalay City, Province of Bukidnon. Furthermore, said medical school shall be known as the "Bukidnon State University — College of Medicine".

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

JONATHAN KEITH T. FLORES
2nd District of Bukidnon

JOSE MARIA R. ZUBIRI JR.
3rd District of Bukidnon

JOSE MANUEL F. ALBA
1st District of Bukidnon

LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE
4th District of Bukidnon



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Introduced by Representatives JONATHAN KEITH T. FLORES, JOSE MANUEL F. ALBA, JOSE MARIA R. ZUBIRI JR., and LAARNI LAVIN ROQUE

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN BUKIDNON STATE UNIVERSITY -
MAIN CAMPUS IN MALAYBALAY CITY, PROVINCE OF BUKIDNON,
TO BE KNOWN AS THE "BUKIDNON STATE UNIVERSITY - COLLEGE OF
MEDICINE", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Establishment.* — There is hereby established a medical school in Bukidnon State University (BukSU) - Main Campus located in Malaybalay City, Province of Bukidnon, which shall be known as the "Bukidnon State University—College of Medicine".

SEC. 2. *General Mandate.* — The BukSU—College of Medicine, hereinafter referred to as the "College", shall primarily offer a dual Doctor of Medicine-Master's Degree (MDMD) Program (Master of Public Administration major in Public Healthcare Leadership), including the Integrated Liberal Arts and Medicine (INTARMED) Program, consisting of basic science and clinical courses, using the outcome-based education (OBE) approach. The primary goal of the College shall be to develop a corps of professional physicians to strengthen the healthcare system of the country, as well as to respond to the human resource development needs of the Province of Bukidnon and Region X.

The College is also mandated to undertake research and extension services and provide innovative and ethical leadership in these areas.

SEC. 3. *Governance.* - Being an institution within the BukSU System, the governance of the College shall be vested in the Board of Regents of BukSU, hereinafter referred to as the Board, whose powers and duties are defined under Republic Act No. 9456, otherwise known as "An Act Converting the Bukidnon State College in the City of Malaybalay, Province of Bukidnon, into a State University, to be known as the Bukidnon State University and Appropriating Funds Therefor", and other applicable laws and regulations, unless otherwise provided or amended elsewhere in this Act.

SEC. 4. *Administration.* — The administration of the College shall be vested in the President of BukSU - Main Campus insofar as authorized by the Board and the President of the University.

SEC. 5. *The College Dean.* — The College faculty shall be headed by a Dean who shall be appointed by the Board, subject to the Commission on Higher Education's policies, standards and guidelines (PSGs) for the Doctor of Medicine (MD) Program.

The powers and duties of the Dean of the College, in addition to those specifically provided for in this Act, shall include those usually pertaining to the Office of the Dean of similar state universities and colleges and those delegated by the President.

The salary of the Dean of the College shall be in accordance with Republic Act No. 11466 or the "Salary Standardization Law of 2019", and such other laws amendatory thereto, which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be comparable to that being received by the Deans of similar educational institutions.

In case of a vacancy in the Office of the Dean by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the Dean to perform the functions of the office, the Board, upon the recommendation of the President, shall designate an Officer-in-Charge of the College, pending the appointment of a new Dean: Provided, That the Officer-in-Charge shall serve only during the unexpired portion of the term.

The Dean shall be assisted by Department Heads and a College Secretary in the implementation of the program. All of whom are to be appointed by the Board.

SEC. 6. *The Faculty.* — The Board shall appoint, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, the faculty members of the College: Provided, That no political belief, gender preference, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the College: Provided, further, That said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications, and standards set by the Board: Provided, finally, That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

SEC. 7. *Scholarship Programs and Admission.* — The College shall provide scholarships and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who qualify for admission to the College.

No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of gender, religion, cultural or community affiliation, physical disability, or ethnic origin.

SEC. 8. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.* — The College shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution.

SEC. 9. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment or Supplies and Detail of Personnel.* — Upon the recommendation of the President and the request of the board, through its Chairman, the heads of the bureaus and offices of the national government may loan or transfer to the college such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment, supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public service.

The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the Dean of the College, and the time served shall be counted as part of their regular service.

SEC. 10. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.* — All appropriations, assets, both real and personal, personnel, and records of the College, as well as its liabilities or obligations, shall be titled or named after BukSU.

All parcels of land belonging to the government to be occupied by the College shall be the property of BukSU, and shall be titled under its name: Provided, That should the College cease to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by BukSU, the same shall revert to the concerned local government unit or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

SEC. 11. *Duty and Tax Exemptions.* - The importation by the College of medical books or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical, laboratory or scientific purposes shall, upon certification by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the "Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA)";

All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to and used actually, directly and exclusively for educational purposes by the College, shall be exempt from donor's tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from gross income for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

SEC. 12. *Suppletory Application.* - The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997", shall form part of this Act.

SEC. 13. *Appropriations.* — The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue the rules and regulations to fully implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.* — If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected are in full force and effect.

SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 17. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,