

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1840



Introduced by Representative Wilton “Tonton” T. Kho

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A REGULAR CAMPUS OF THE DR. EMILIO B. ESPINOSA, SR. – MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PLACER, PROVINCE OF MASBATE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

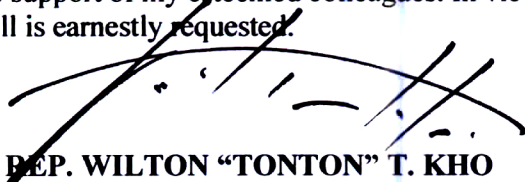
Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution explicitly states that, “the State shall protect and promote the right of every citizen to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.”

The constitutional mandate is given life by the State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) such as Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa, Sr. Memorial State College of Agriculture and Technology (DEBESMSCAT). These are the preferred choice of the underprivileged but deserving students because of free tuition, proximity to their homes, and the high-quality of program offerings.

The DEBESMSCAT, as an academic institution, fully supports the national government’s commitment that puts education as the central strategy for investing in the Filipino people, reducing poverty, and building national competitiveness.

Thus, the proposed expansion of DEBESMSCAT by establishing a campus in the Municipality of Placer, Province of Masbate, aims to achieve a profound and transformative impact on the lives of Masbateño students residing in Placer and adjoining municipalities by giving them quality education that the DEBESMSCAT has consistently offered over the years. Moreover, the creation of the DEBESMSCAT - Placer Campus will undoubtedly advance the government’s fundamental strategy to fight poverty and foster national competitiveness, thereby accomplishing its mission to uplift economically and socially marginalized Filipinos from poverty.

This bill has successfully passed the Third Reading in the 19th Congress and has been transmitted to the Senate. I fervently hope that in this current Congress, this crucial legislation will be enacted into law with the support of my esteemed colleagues. In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


REP. WILTON “TONTON” T. KHO
Third District, Masbate Province

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A REGULAR CAMPUS OF THE DR. EMILIO B. ESPINOSA, SR. –
MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN
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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 “*Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa, Sr. Memorial State College of Agriculture and Technology-Placer Campus Act*”.

Sec. 2. Establishment. – There is hereby established a regular campus of the Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa, Sr. Memorial State College of Agriculture and Technology (DEBESMSCAT), to be located in the Municipality of Placer, Province of Masbate, which shall be known as the “*Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa, Sr. Memorial State College of Agriculture and Technology-Placer Campus*”.

Sec. 3. General Mandate. – The DEBESMSCAT-Placer Campus shall primarily provide undergraduate and graduate courses within its areas of competency and specialization, pursuant to the mandate of the DEBESMSCAT, and according to its capability, as the Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, may deem necessary to respond to the human resource development needs of the Province of Masbate and the Bicol Region. It is also mandated to undertake research and extension services in support of the socioeconomic development and to provide progressive leadership in these areas.

Sec. 4. Supervision and Management. – The DEBESMSCAT-Placer Campus shall be headed by a Campus Director, to be appointed by the Board subject to its guidelines, qualifications and standards, and upon the recommendation of a Search Committee duly constituted for the purpose of selecting the Campus Director.

Sec. 5. Compliance with the Requirements of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). – The DEBESMSCAT shall ensure the compliance of the DEBESMSCAT-Placer Campus with the policies, standards, and guidelines of the CHED for the operation of the Campus, including those related to the offering of courses and the introduction of new or revised courses and programs prior to its establishment.

Sec. 6. Management of Personnel, Assets and Records of the Campus. – All assets, both real and personal, personnel, and records of the DEBESMSCAT-Placer Campus, as well as its liabilities or obligations, shall be titled under or named after the DEBEMSCAT.

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

Sect. 7. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 8. Supplementary 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. 9. 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 shall remain in full force and effect.

Sec. 10. 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. 11. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,