

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2054**



Introduced by Representative Richard I. Gomez, DPA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines, as a nation, has always recognized the paramount importance of education in its pursuit of progress, development, and nation-building. Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution, underscores the State's commitment to providing and ensuring quality education at all levels. This commitment must be extended, most especially, at the city level.

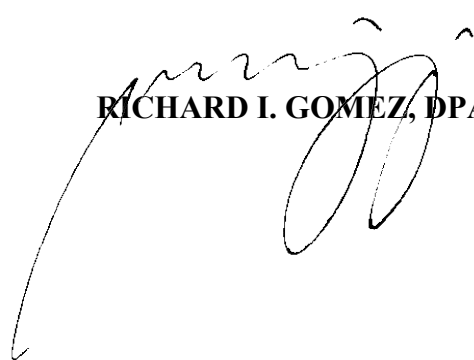
The City of Ormoc is a vibrant and growing urban center situated in the Province of Leyte. While the city has made remarkable strides in various aspects of development, there remain gaps in accessible, top quality, and locally relevant higher education programs and institutions. The establishment of a community college in the City of Ormoc is a strategic step towards addressing this need, aligning with the constitutional mandate to ensure quality education for all Filipinos.

The proposed community college, to be called City College of Ormoc (CCO) is a testament to the city's investment in its most valuable asset, the Ormocanon people. It shall provide an avenue for Ormocanons and nearby communities to pursue top quality higher education without the need for extensive travel or relocation. The LGU of Ormoc is ready to contribute adequate land to serve as site and appropriate resources for the CCO.

The City College of Ormoc shall be an institution that offers free, quality education, carefully envisioned to produce stellar graduates who are highly and competitively advantaged. The proposed development plan for the CCO includes an administrative building which will house the necessary offices, ten (10) to eleven (11) classrooms, laboratories, function halls and a clinic/infirmary; sports, recreation, and cultural activity areas; as well as standard and ancillary amenities such as a parking area and clean restrooms, among others.

The CCO shall offer programs that are tailored to the unique employment and skills requirements of the city and its surrounding municipalities. This shall include both technical/vocational and bachelor's and masteral courses that would equip students with practical skills that are matched with the needs of local industries.

In view of the foregoing, the swift passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



RICHARD I. GOMEZ, DPA

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE CITY COLLEGE OF ORMOC, IN THE CITY OF ORMOC,
PROVINCE OF LEYTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the joint supervision of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the local government unit (LGU) of Ormoc City, a city college to be known as the City College of Ormoc (CCO) in the Province of Leyte.

SEC. 2. The City College of Ormoc shall provide free, high quality college education to all qualifying students from all barangays within the City of Ormoc.

SEC. 3. The site for the City College of Ormoc shall be donated by the City Government of Ormoc and shall be hereby declared to be property of the college and shall be titled under that name; *Provided*, That if and when college should cease to exist or be abolished or should said parcel of land aforementioned be no longer needed by the college, the same shall revert to the City Government of Ormoc.

SEC. 4. There is hereby appropriated the initial amount of One Hundred Fifty (150) million pesos to carry out the provisions of this Act. Thereafter, such sum, as may be necessary, for the continued operation and maintenance of the City College of Ormoc shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 5. All laws, order, issuances rule, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with any provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,