



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH (20th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2358

Introduced by Representative Nelson S. Legacion
3rd Congressional District, Camarines Sur

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) is constitutionally mandated tasked with ensuring quality and accessible higher education nationwide. To effectively deliver services, CHED must establish satellite offices in key educational centers.

In the Bicol Region, while CHED's Regional Office (RO- V) is in Legazpi City, its distance creates significant burdens for students, educators, and administrators, especially those in and around Naga City, Camarines Sur. A one-way journey of 95 kilometers or more would now take at least three (3) hours, in light of the increased traffic around certain municipalities between Camarines Sur and Albay. Consequently, a round trip consumes a full day or more, generating substantial time, financial expense, and considerable inconvenience.

It must also be noted that Naga City is a major educational hub, home to numerous large universities serving a vast student population from across the region. The current need to travel to Legazpi for services like scholarship applications, program accreditation, and consultations causes tangible delays, increased costs, and hinders engagement.

Establishing a local CHED office in Naga City would not only alleviate these travel burdens but also strengthen decentralization, extending educational support beyond the regional capital. It would allow CHED to better understand and respond to the unique needs of higher education institutions in the Western part of the Bicol Region.

In light of the foregoing, this bill proposes to establish a CHED satellite office in Naga City. This strategic move will ensure more inclusive, efficient, and responsive educational service delivery, bringing CHED's vital functions closer to its constituents. This will further enhance access to educational opportunities, improve service quality, and contribute significantly to the Bicol Region's human capital and socio-economic development.

The immediate passage of this beneficial measure is earnestly sought.


NELSON S. LEGACION
Representative, 3rd District, Camarines Sur



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH (20th) CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2358

Introduced by Representative Nelson S. Legacion
3rd Congressional District, Camarines Sur

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE OFFICE OF THE
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) IN NAGA CITY,
PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Establishment of the CHED – Naga City Satellite Office.* There shall be an established provincial office of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in Naga City, Province of Camarines Sur, to be known as the CHED - Naga City Satellite Office, which shall exercise jurisdiction over the city of Naga and shall beheaded by a City Director. The CHED - Naga City Satellite Office shall be physically located in Naga City, Province of Camarines Sur.

SECTION 2. *Functions.* The Chairperson of the CHED shall immediately include in the CHED's programs the operationalization of the CHED-Naga City Satellite Office. The CHED - Naga City Satellite Office shall perform functions as delegated by the CHED Central Office, including but not limited to:

- (a) Providing localized information and assistance regarding CHED programs, policies, and requirements;

- (b) Facilitating applications for various CHED-supervised programs and scholarships;
- (c) Monitoring and evaluating higher education institutions within its jurisdiction;
- (d) Serving as a direct liaison between CHED and higher education stakeholders in Naga City and its surrounding areas; and
- (e) Performing such other functions as may be necessary to carry out the mandate of CHED.

SECTION 3. *Funding.* The amount necessary for the initial operationalization of the CHED - Naga City Satellite Office shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act for the ensuing fiscal year following the approval of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued operation, maintenance, and expansion shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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 for the CHED - Naga City Satellite Office. The said organizational structure and staffing pattern shall be submitted to the Chairperson of the CHED and the Secretary of the DBM for approval.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. *Separability Cause.* If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 6. *Repealing Cause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, and administrative regulations or parts thereof inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,