

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **3939**



Introduced by Representative ERIC G. YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Benguet State University (BSU) is the first and only state university in the Province of Benguet. Recognized as a State University and College (SUC) Level IV, the highest category in the SUC leveling classification by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). BSU has long been regarded as the premier state university in the Cordillera Administrative Region, offering quality education, research, and extension services responsive to the needs of the region. At present, the University operates three campuses: the main campus in the Municipality of La Trinidad and two satellite campuses in the Municipalities of Buguias and Bokod.

The Municipality of Kapangan, located in the western portion of Benguet, is home to a vibrant agricultural community and a growing number of youth aspiring for higher education. However, access to affordable, quality tertiary education remains a challenge for many Kapangan residents and those from neighboring municipalities due to the province's steep, mountainous terrain, high transportation costs, and limited local academic options. While BSU continues to serve students from across Benguet and even neighboring provinces in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), the distance to existing campuses imposes significant financial and logistical burdens, particularly on students from far-flung rural areas.

This bill seeks to address these barriers by establishing another BSU satellite campus in the Municipality of Kapangan, to be known as the Benguet State University – Kapangan Campus. The proposed campus will offer graduate, undergraduate, and short-term technical-vocational programs tailored to the socio-economic conditions and development priorities of the province, particularly in agriculture, natural resource management, education, and other fields vital to regional growth. In addition, it will serve as a hub for research and extension programs aimed at improving agricultural productivity, advancing environmental conservation, and promoting community development, directly benefiting local farmers, entrepreneurs, and residents.

The establishment of the BSU – Kapangan Campus aligns with the government’s efforts to promote inclusive education, bridge rural-urban educational disparities, and create local economic opportunities.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of the proposed bill is earnestly sought.



HON. ERIC G. YAP

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE CAMPUS OF THE BENGUET STATE
UNIVERSITY (BSU) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KAPANGAN, PROVINCE OF
BENGUET TO BE KNOWN AS THE BSU - KAPANGAN CAMPUS, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "BSU - Kapangan Campus Act".

SEC. 2. *Establishment of a Satellite Campus.* - There is hereby established a satellite campus of the Benguet State University (BSU) in the Municipality of Kapangan, Province of Benguet, to be known as the BSU - Kapangan Campus.

SEC. 3. *General Mandate.* - The BSU - Kapangan Campus shall offer graduate, undergraduate and short-term technical-vocational courses within its area of specialization and according to its capabilities, as the Board of Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, particularly to meet the needs of the province of Benguet and the entire Cordillera Administrative Region.

BSU - Kapangan Campus is also mandated to undertake research and extension services, and to provide progressive leadership in these areas, including the offering of graduate degrees under the BSU System.

SEC. 4. *Administration of the Satellite Campus.* - The BSU - Kapangan Campus shall be headed by the Campus Administrator who shall render full-time service and who shall be appointed/ designated by the Board of Regents (BOR) upon the recommendation of the search committee and the President, subject to the guidelines, qualifications and standards set by the BOR.

SEC. 5. *Compliance with CHED Requirements.* - The establishment of BSU – Kapangan Campus shall ensure that the minimum requirements for its operation and program offerings have been complied with as duly prescribed by the CHED.

SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. *Parity Clause.* - All other powers, functions, privileges, responsibilities, and limitations to state colleges and universities and/or its officials under existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the satellite campus and/or its officials, whenever appropriate.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* - Should any part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof that are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper or general circulation.

Approved,