



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4799**

Introduced by Representative Jude A. Acidre and Andrew Julian Romualdez

AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
“THE HIGHER EDUCATION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997,” TO
STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNANCE OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND
COLLEGES BY REVISING THE COMPOSITION AND POWERS OF
THEIR GOVERNING BOARDS, CLARIFYING THE ROLE OF THE
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, AND GRANTING
DIFFERENTIATED AUTONOMY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines recognizes that a robust and accessible higher education system is vital for national development, economic competitiveness, and social mobility. Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8292, or the Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997, was enacted to modernize and strengthen the country’s State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) by granting them greater academic, fiscal, and administrative autonomy. However, nearly three decades since its enactment, the original law faces several challenges that hinder the full realization of its goals. These include insufficient funding, bureaucratic hurdles, and a lack of clear governance structures that prevent SUCs from fully exercising their mandated autonomy.

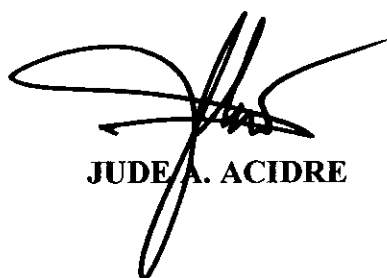
Previous legislative attempts in the 15th to 19th Congresses have consistently highlighted the need for reform. This proposed bill builds upon those efforts by addressing key areas that require legislative action to ensure our SUCs can effectively meet the demands of the 21st century.

The proposed amendments focus on the following critical areas: Strengthening Fiscal Autonomy, Enhancing Governance and Accountability, Modernizing Academic and Administrative Operations, and Enhancing the Developmental Role of CHED.

The current state of our SUCs, as evidenced by their persistent challenges, necessitates a legislative overhaul of R.A. 8292. Without these amendments, our higher education institutions will struggle to compete with their regional counterparts, retain top talent, and produce graduates who are globally competitive.

By amending R.A. 8292, we can empower our SUCs to become true centers of academic excellence, innovation, and public service. This bill is not just about institutional reform; it is an investment in the Filipino youth and the future of our nation.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



JUDE A. ACIDRE



ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ



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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of the Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997” is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 2. Declaration of policy. – It is the declared policy of the State to establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society. Towards this end, the composition of the governing boards of chartered state universities and colleges is hereby modified in order to:

- (a) achieve a more coordinated and integrated system of higher education;
- (b) render them more effective in the formulation and implementation of policies on higher education;
- (c) provide for more relevant direction in their governance; and
- (d) ensure the enjoyment of academic freedom as guaranteed by the Constitution.

IT IS FURTHER DECLARED THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO STRENGTHEN THE GOVERNANCE OF STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCS) BY CLARIFYING THE RESPECTIVE ROLES OF COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) AND THE GOVERNING BOARDS, AND BY GRANTING DIFFERENTIATED LEVELS OF AUTONOMY ACCORDING TO INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY AND PERFORMANCE. THE GOVERNING BOARDS SHALL EXERCISE AUTHORITY OVER INSTITUTIONAL DIRECTION AND INTERNAL MANAGEMENT, WHILE THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION SHALL SET NATIONAL STANDARDS, MONITOR OUTCOMES, AND ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY. THIS BALANCE OF AUTONOMY AND ACCOUNTABILITY SHALL ENABLE SUCS, ESPECIALLY NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND INSTITUTIONS OF RECOGNIZED QUALITY, TO CONTRIBUTE MORE EFFECTIVELY TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.”

SEC. 2. Section 3 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS. – AS USED IN THIS ACT, THE FOLLOWING SHALL BE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

(a) ASSOCIATE DEGREE REFERS TO POST-SECONDARY QUALIFICATIONS ATTAINED AFTER COMPLETION OF THE K TO 12 BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAM, NORMALLY REQUIRING A MINIMUM OF TWO YEARS OF STUDY. IT EQUIPS LEARNERS WITH SPECIALIZED SKILLS FOR GAINFUL EMPLOYMENT IN RELATED PROFESSIONS, WHILE ALSO PROVIDING THE ACADEMIC PREPARATION NECESSARY FOR PROGRESSION TO BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMS.

(b) BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAM REFERS TO AN UNDERGRADUATE UNIVERSITY DEGREE THAT REQUIRES THE COMPLETION OF A SECONDARY-LEVEL EDUCATION AND INVOLVES 4 YEARS OF FULL TIME STUDY FOR MOST PROGRAMS, CONSISTING OF GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES AND SPECIALIZED SUBJECTS FOCUSED ON A MAJOR DEGREE.

(c) DEGREE PROGRAM REFERS TO THE SET OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND COURSES IN A FIELD OF STUDY LEADING TO THE CONFERMENT OF AN UNDERGRADUATE OR GRADUATE DEGREE.

(d) DOCTORAL DEGREE REFERS TO THE HIGHEST ACADEMIC DEGREE, EARNED BY CONDUCTING SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH AND PRODUCING ORIGINAL WORK, TYPICALLY IN A DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PHD) OR A PRACTICE-BASED PROFESSIONAL DOCTORATE.

(e) HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS (HEIS) REFER TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING WHICH PRIMARILY

OFFERS DEGREE PROGRAMS DULY RECOGNIZED BY THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) AND LEADING TO THE CONFERMENT OF A DIPLOMA.

(f) MASTERAL DEGREE REFERS TO A POSTGRADUATE ACADEMIC PROGRAM THAT PROVIDES ADVANCED AND SPECIALIZED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS BEYOND A BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

(g) POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE OR TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE REFERS TO A COLLEGE THAT OFFERS THE FOLLOWING:

(1) AT LEAST THREE (3) OR MORE PROGRAMS THAT GRANT OR AWARD NATIONAL CERTIFICATIONS (NCS) LEVELS 4-5 IN TESDA'S NATIONAL COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT SCALE, THAT PROVIDE PATHWAYS TOWARDS BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE SAME INSTITUTION;

(2) THREE (3) OR MORE LADDERIZED AND/OR APPLIED BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS; AND

(3) HIGHLY-SPECIALIZED OR TECHNICAL INDUSTRY ON-THE-JOB TRAINING PROGRAM FOR ALL OF ITS OFFERED PROGRAMS.

(h) *POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY OR TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY* REFERS TO A UNIVERSITY THAT OFFERS THE FOLLOWING:

(1) ALL OF THE CITED QUALIFICATIONS FOR A POLYTECHNIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE;

(2) THREE (3) OR MORE MASTERAL OR DOCTORAL PROGRAMS IN APPLIED FIELDS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO HIGHLY TECHNICAL OR TECHNOLOGICALLY FOCUSED PROFESSIONS SUCH AS ENGINEERING OR OTHER APPLIED SCIENCES; AND

(3) AN EXPANSIVE AND DIRECT LINKAGE OF ITS DEGREE PROGRAMS TO PRACTICAL ENGAGEMENTS WITH APPLICABLE INDUSTRIES.

(i) *TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)* REFERS TO THE GOVERNMENT AGENCY TASKED TO MANAGE AND SUPERVISE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES.

SEC. 3. Section 3 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. [3] 4. The Governing Boards; Manner of Appointment. –

(a) *Composition.* The governing body of [~~state universities and colleges~~] SUCs is hereby vested in the Board of Regents for universities and in the Board of Trustees for colleges, which shall be composed of the [~~following~~] **CHAIRPERSON OF THE CHED, AS CHAIR OF THE BOARD, WHILE THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUC AS THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON, AND WITH THE FOLLOWING AS MEMBERS:**

i. [~~Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Chairman~~] CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER, TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION OF THE SENATE OR HIS/HER REPRESENTATIVE, SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO BE DETERMINED BY CHED;

ii. ~~[President of the university or college, Vice Chairman]~~
**CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND
TECHNICAL EDUCATION OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES OR HIS/HER REPRESENTATIVE,
SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO BE DETERMINED
BY CHED;**

~~[iii. Chairmen of the Congressional Committees on Education and Culture]~~

[iv.] **III. Regional Director of the** ~~[National Economic and Development
Authority (NEDA)]~~ **DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMY, PLANNING,
AND DEVELOPMENT (DEPDEV)** where the main campus of the
university or college is located;

~~[v.]~~ **IV. Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology
(DOST) in case of science and technological UNIVERSITIES OR
colleges; or the Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture (DA)
in case of agricultural UNIVERSITIES OR colleges; OR THE
REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION (DEPED) IN CASE OF TEACHER EDUCATION
INSTITUTIONS;** ~~[or the Secretary OR MINISTER of Education for an
Autonomous Region.]~~ In lieu of such representation, the commanding
generals of the Philippine Air Force and the Philippine Navy shall sit as
members of the Board of the Philippine State College of Aeronautics and
the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy, respectively;

~~[vi.]~~ **V. President of the FEDERATION OF** faculty associations;

~~[vii.]~~ **VI. President of the supreme student council or the student
representative elected by the FEDERATION OF student councils:**
*Provided, That in the absence of a student council president or student
representative elected by the student council, the university or college shall*

schedule one (1) week for the campaign and election of a student representative;

VII. PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERATION OF NON-ACADEMIC AND NON TEACHING PERSONNEL ASSOCIATIONS FOR MULTICAMPUS 30 UNIVERSITIES OR THE ASSOCIATION OF NON-ACADEMIC AND NON TEACHING PERSONNEL FOR INSTITUTIONS WITH A SINGLE CAMPUS ONLY;

viii. President of the alumni association of the institution concerned; and

ix. **THREE (3) [~~Two (2)~~] prominent citizens RESIDING IN THE CITY OR PROVINCE WHERE THE SCHOOL IS LOCATED** who have distinguished themselves in their professions or fields of specialization **RELEVANT TO THE UNIVERSITY, CHOSEN FROM A LIST OF AT LEAST FIVE (5) QUALIFIED PERSONS, BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE CONSTITUTED BY THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT.**

The faculty and the student council shall be represented by the president of their respective federations in multi-campus universities and colleges.

The private sector representatives shall be appointed by the Board of Regents **OR** Trustees upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee.

FOR SUCS THAT ARE EITHER POLYTECHNIC OR TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITIES OR COLLEGES, THE TESDA DIRECTOR-GENERAL SHALL SERVE AS CO-CHAIRPERSON.

FOR SUCS IN THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, ONE SEAT SHALL BE ALLOCATED FOR

THE PARLIAMENT MEMBER DESIGNATED BY THE MINISTRY OF BASIC, HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AS A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SUCS.

(b) *Term of Office.* – The presidents of the faculty, **NON-ACADEMIC AND NON TEACHING PERSONNEL**, [~~and~~] alumni associations and the student regents or trustees shall sit in the board until the expiration of their term of office in such capacities.

The prominent citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years. **THE TERMS OF OFFICE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES SHALL BE DEFINITE AND SHALL NEVER BE EXTENDED FOR ANY REASON. IF THE NEXT PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES ARE NOT CHOSEN ON TIME, THEIR POSITIONS SHALL BE DECLARED VACANT.**

(c) *x x x*

(d) *MANDATORY CERTIFICATION AND TRAINING FOR GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS.* – **THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH A CERTIFICATION PROGRAM FOR HIGHER EDUCATION GOVERNANCE TO ENSURE QUALITY OF MANAGEMENT IN SUCS. THE PROGRAM SHALL INCLUDE COURSES IN, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, HIGHER EDUCATION, STRATEGIC PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT, GOVERNANCE, AND OVERALL EDUCATION VISION SETTING. ALL SUC GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS MUST HAVE A CERTIFICATION FROM CHED PRIOR TO SERVICE TO THE BOARD.**

(e) *ROLE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS.*

I. THE CHAIRPERSON SHALL BE THE CHAIRPERSON OF CHED, WITH THE FOLLOWING DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS:

(a) PRESIDE IN A POLICY-SETTING CAPACITY; AND

(b) ENSURE ALIGNMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL DIRECTION WITH NATIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION POLICIES AND PRIORITIES.

II. THE VICE CHAIRPERSON SHALL BE THE PRESIDENT OF THE SUC AND SHALL EXERCISE REGULATORY AND MANAGERIAL FUNCTIONS INDEPENDENTLY.

III. CHAIRPERSONS OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION (OR THEIR PERMANENT ALTERNATE REPRESENTATIVES) SHALL:

(a) REPRESENT CONGRESS IN THE BOARD OF REGENTS/TRUSTEES;

(b) ENSURE ALIGNMENT OF SUC POLICIES WITH NATIONAL EDUCATION PRIORITIES;

(c) BRING LEGISLATIVE PERSPECTIVE TO SUC GOVERNANCE;

(d) ELEVATE CONCERNS OF SUCS WITH LEGISLATIVE IMPLICATIONS TO THE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION; AND

(e) STRENGTHEN ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY IN SUC OPERATIONS.

IV. REPRESENTATIVES OF EXECUTIVE AGENCIES SHALL:

(a) PROVIDE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE;

(b) ALIGN SUC PROGRAMS WITH NATIONAL AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES; AND

(c) TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, SUPPORT, ASSIST, AND CONNECT SUC INITIATIVES TO AND THROUGH ONGOING PROJECTS AND EFFORTS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE AGENCIES;

V. REPRESENTATIVES OF SECTORAL GROUPS SHALL:

(a) ENSURE PARTICIPATIVE AND INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE OF SUCS; AND

(b) REPRESENT THE INTEREST OF THE BROADER PUBLIC AND PROVIDE AN EXTERNAL PERSPECTIVE TO THE BOARD AND IN THE FORMULATION OF POLICIES.

VI. PROMINENT CITIZENS SHALL:

(a) PROVIDE TECHNICAL INPUT BASED ON THEIR RESPECTIVE EXPERTISE, ACADEMIC OR PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUNDS, IN THE CONTEXT OF THEIR LOCAL EXPERIENCE IN THE COMMUNITY; AND

(b) FACILITATE PARTNERSHIPS WITH INDUSTRY, THE LOCAL COMMUNITY, AND OTHER RELEVANT ORGANIZATIONS, TO FURTHER THE DIRECTIONS AND PRIORITIES OF THE SUC.

SEC. 4. Section 4 of the same Act shall be renumbered and paragraph (g) thereof is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. [4] 5. Powers and Duties of Governing Boards. – x x x

(g) to appoint, upon the recommendation of the president of the university or college, vice presidents, deans, directors, heads of departments, faculty members and other officials and employees **IN ACCORDANCE WITH CIVIL SERVICE LAWS AND REGULATIONS. *PROVIDED, THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF THE PRESIDENT SHALL BE MADE BY THE BOARD UPON RECOMMENDATION OF A DULY CONSTITUTED SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE PURPOSE. *PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT THE DESIGNATION OF VICE PRESIDENTS, DEANS, DIRECTORS, AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS SHALL REMAIN UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRESIDENT, SUBJECT TO PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, RENEWAL, OR REVOCATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING POLICIES;****

SEC. 5. A new subsection to be added after the renumbered Section 4 paragraph (o) of the same Act to read as follows:

“(o) x x x

TO DECIDE ON ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS, INCLUDING THE USE OF INTERNALLY GENERATED INCOME, PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, AND STUDENT SUPPORT, CONSISTENT WITH LAW AND GENERAL GUIDELINES ISSUED JOINTLY BY CHED, DBM, AND COA. THE LEVEL OF DISCRETION GRANTED SHALL VARY ACCORDING TO INSTITUTIONAL PERFORMANCE AND CAPACITY.”

SEC. 6. Section 5 of the same Act shall be renumbered and a new section to be inserted thereafter to read as follows:

“SEC. [5] 6. Promulgation and Implementation of Policies. - x x x

“SECTION 6-A. DIFFERENTIATED AUTONOMY. – CHED SHALL ADOPT A TYPOLOGY OF SUCS AND A FRAMEWORK FOR DIFFERENTIATED AUTONOMY, GRANTING INCREASING LEVELS OF SELF-GOVERNANCE TO SUCS THAT CONSISTENTLY MEET NATIONAL STANDARDS ON QUALITY, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND RELEVANCE. SUCH SUCS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO STREAMLINED APPROVALS, WHILE THE CHED FOCUSES ON STANDARDS SETTING, PERFORMANCE MONITORING, AND SYSTEM-WIDE REFORMS.

FOR PURPOSES OF THIS MEASURE, AUTONOMY OF THESE SUCS IN THEIR OVERALL OPERATION SHALL INCLUDE, BUT IS NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:

A. ACADEMIC MANAGEMENT – SUCH AS, THE PROPOSAL AND EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS; DESIGNATION AND ALLOCATION OF RESEARCH GRANTS OR FELLOWSHIPS; DEVELOPMENT AND EXPANSION OF EXISTING AND POTENTIAL CURRICULA TO ALIGN WITH INDUSTRY STANDARDS AND LABOR MARKET REQUIREMENTS;

B. FISCAL MANAGEMENT – SUCH AS, THE DETERMINATION AND GENERATION OF ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF INCOME; UTILIZATION OF EXISTING ASSETS TO AUGMENT BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS; AND OVERALL DETERMINATION OF FISCAL AND FINANCIAL REFORMS TO ENSURE PROPER RESOURCE ALLOCATION; AND

C. ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS - SUCH AS, THE SUC'S CORPORATE GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES; OFFICIAL INITIATIVES AND ACTIVITIES AMONG INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS; AND OTHER PERTINENT ORGANIZATIONAL OR DIRECTORIAL FUNCTIONS.

SEC. 7. Section 6 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [6] 7. *The Administration.* – The administration of the university or college shall be vested in the president of the university or college who shall render full-time service. He shall be appointed by the Board of Regents/Trustees, upon the recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. He shall have a term of **SIX (6)** years and shall be eligible for **ONE (1)** reappointment **ONLY** for another term, **SUBJECT TO PERFORMANCE EVALUATION BY THE DULY CONSTITUTED SEARCH COMMITTEE:** *Provided,* That this provision shall not adversely affect the terms of the incumbents. ***PROVIDED FURTHER,*** **THAT THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT SHALL NOT MAKE ANY CHANGES IN THE CURRENT SUC CHARTER TO EXTEND HIS/HER TERM. PROVIDED FURTHER, UPON EXPIRATION OF THE TERM, IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION AND LEADERSHIP, THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT SHALL BE APPOINTED TO THE POSITION OF FULL PROFESSOR. HOWEVER, IN CASE OF A VACANCY, THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT SHALL CONTINUE, IN A HOLDOVER CAPACITY, TO PERFORM HIS/HER DUTIES AND TO DISCHARGE HIS/HER RESPONSIBILITIES UNTIL THE SUCCESSOR IS DULY ELECTED AND QUALIFIED.**

The president shall be assisted by a vice president for academic affairs, **WHO SHALL BE A HOLDER OF A RELEVANT DOCTORAL DEGREE IN A CHED-RECOGNIZED HEI, A VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION, AND A VICE PRESIDENT FOR PLANNING AND FINANCE.** SAID OFFICIALS shall be appointed by the Board upon the PRESIDENT'S [~~former's~~] recommendation without prejudice to the appointment of **OTHER** [~~more than one~~] vice presidentS when so warranted.

In case of vacancy by reason of death, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the president to perform the functions of his office, the Board shall have the authority to designate an officer-in-charge pending the appointment of a new president.

In case of vacancy in the office of the president as mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph, his successors shall hold office for the unexpired term."

SEC. 8. A new section to be added after preceding section of the same Act to read as follows:

"SEC. 7-A. *QUALIFICATIONS.* – THE DULY APPOINTED PRESIDENT MUST HOLD AT LEAST A MASTER'S DEGREE RELEVANT TO THE MANDATE AND DIRECTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY."

SEC. 9. A new section to be added after the preceding section of the same Act to read as follows:

“SEC. 7-B. PHILIPPINE HIGHER EDUCATION ACADEMY – TO ESTABLISH SUCCESSION PLANNING AND CONTINUED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR SUC LEADERSHIP, A PHILIPPINE HIGHER EDUCATION ACADEMY (PHEA) IS HEREBY ESTABLISHED UNDER THE DEVELOPMENT ACADEMY OF THE PHILIPPINES.

THE ACADEMY SHALL PROVIDE HIGHER EDUCATION PERSONNEL IDENTIFIED TO HAVE POTENTIAL TO SERVE AS SUC OFFICIALS AND PRESIDENTS, WITH THE NECESSARY TRAINING FOR SENIOR LEADERSHIP ROLES IN HIGHER EDUCATION.

THE SATISFACTORY COMPLETION OF SAID COURSE SHALL SERVE AS BASIS FOR ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION OF THE QUALIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY IN FAVOR OF THE ASPIRING CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION FOR SUC PRESIDENT, *PROVIDED*, THAT THE CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION SHALL BE DETERMINED THROUGH A TRANSPARENT PROCESS GUIDED BY MERITOCRACY AND OVERALL QUALIFICATIONS.

SEC. 10. Section 7 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [7] 8. The Secretary of the University or College. – x x x

SEC. 11. Section 8 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [8] 9. The Treasurer of the Philippines. – x x x

SEC. 12. Section 9 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [9] 10. Administrative Council. – x x x

SEC. 13. Section 10 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [10] 11. Academic Council. – x x x

SEC. 14. Section 11 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [11] 12. Academic Freedom. – x x x

SEC. 15. Section 12 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [12] 13. Admission. – x x x

SEC. 16. Section 13 of the same Act shall be renumbered and a new section to be inserted thereafter to read as follows:

“Section [13] 14. Exclusion Clause. – x x x”

“SEC. 14-A. *NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES AND SPECIAL CHARTERS* – THIS ACT SHALL APPLY IN A SUPPLEMENTARY MANNER TO NATIONAL UNIVERSITIES, AND SUCS WITH SPECIAL CHARTERS OR MANDATES. THEIR AUTONOMY UNDER THEIR RESPECTIVE CHARTERS IS AFFIRMED, BUT

THEIR GOVERNANCE SHALL BE HARMONIZED WITH CHED STANDARDS IN SUPPORT OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES.”

SEC. 17. A new section to be added after the preceding section of the same Act to read as follows:

SEC. 14-B. VOID RESOLUTIONS – ANY RESOLUTION PROMULGATED BY ANY SUC GOVERNING BOARD SHALL BE DECLARED NULL AND VOID *AB INITIO* IF IT IS INCONSISTENT WITH EXISTING LAWS AND EXECUTIVE ISSUANCES.

SEC. 15. Section 14 of the same Act shall be renumbered and is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section [14] 15. *Filing of Report.* – x x x

SEC. 11. *Implementation.* – The Chairman of the CHED is hereby directed to take **THE NECESSARY MEASURES TO ENSURE** [~~such steps as are necessary for~~] the immediate implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act **OR REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8292** is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* - ANY [~~All~~] law[s], presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER, RULE OR REGULATION** [~~and SUC charters~~] contrary or inconsistent with **THE**

PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8292, AS AMENDED BY this Act is hereby repealed, amended **OR MODIFIED** accordingly.

SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect **FIFTEEN (15) DAYS AFTER ITS PUBLICATION IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE OR IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION.**

Approved,