

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4863



Introduced by Representative Jose Manuel F. Alba

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A SATELLITE CAMPUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF SOUTHERN PHILIPPINES (USTP) IN
BARANGAY MIARAYON, TALAKAG, BUKIDNON, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
USTP-TALAKAG SATELLITE CAMPUS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines (USTP), a state university in Northern Mindanao, carries the mandate of providing advanced education, higher technological and professional instruction, and training in various fields of science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and other relevant disciplines. It currently serves as a center for research, extension services, and leadership in its areas of specialization.

The Municipality of Talakag, Bukidnon, particularly Barangay Miarayon, is a strategic upland community with vast agricultural potential, rich indigenous heritage, and growing human resource needs. Yet, access to quality higher education in this area remains limited. Many students, including those belonging to indigenous peoples (IP) communities and low-income families, face geographical and financial barriers which prevent them from pursuing tertiary and technical-vocational education in urban centers such as Cagayan de Oro City, Valencia City, or Malaybalay City.

The establishment of a USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus seeks to address this gap by bringing higher education closer to indigenous peoples and marginalized youth. This will strengthen regional human resource

development which will support both local livelihood and national competitiveness, serving as a catalyst for rural transformation.

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



JOSE MANUEL F. ALBA

Representative, 1ST District, Bukidnon

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "*University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines (USTP)-Talakag Satellite Campus Act.*"

SECTION 2. There is hereby established a satellite campus of the University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines (USTP), hereinafter referred to as the University, in Barangay Miarayon, Talakag, Bukidnon, to be known as the USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus.

SECTION 3. The USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus shall primarily provide short-term technical-vocational, undergraduate, and graduate courses within its areas of competency and specialization, pursuant to its mandate and according to its capabilities as the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, and those which respond to the human resources development needs of the Province of Bukidnon, and of Northern Mindanao as a whole.

The USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus is also mandated to undertake research and extension services and to attain leadership in these areas.

SECTION 4. The USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus shall be headed by a Campus Director who shall render full-time service and shall be appointed or designated by the Board upon the recommendation of the search committee and the President of the University. Such appointment or designation shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications, and standards set by the Board.

SECTION 5. The establishment of the USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus shall comply with the minimum requirements for its operation and program offerings as duly prescribed by the Commission on Higher Education.

SECTION 6. All assets, real and personal, personnel, and records of the USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus, as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the University. The positions, rights, and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel employed at the USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus under existing laws prior to integration to the University shall be respected.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the USTP-Talakag Satellite Campus are hereby declared to be the property of the University and shall be titled under its name. *Provided*, that should the campus or University cease to exist or be abolished or should such parcels of land be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the concerned LGU or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

SECTION 7. The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997," shall form an integral part of this Act, and together, shall serve as the governing charter of the University.

SECTION 8. All other powers, functions, privileges, responsibilities, and limitations to state universities and its officials under existing laws shall be deemed granted to or imposed upon the University and its officials, whenever appropriate.

SECTION 9. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 10. 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.

SECTION 11. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,