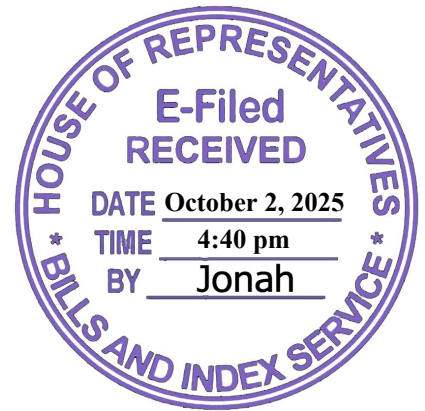




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. **5102**

Introduced by
REPRESENTATIVE DAVID “JAY-JAY” C. SUAREZ

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE EXTENSION CAMPUSES OF THE SOUTHERN LUZON
STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE CITY OF LUCENA AND IN THE MUNICIPALITY
OF TIAONG, BOTH IN THE PROVINCE OF QUEZON, INTO REGULAR
CAMPUSES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution mandates the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and to take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. In pursuit of this mandate, the State has continuously expanded the capacity of public higher education institutions to meet the needs of Filipino learners.

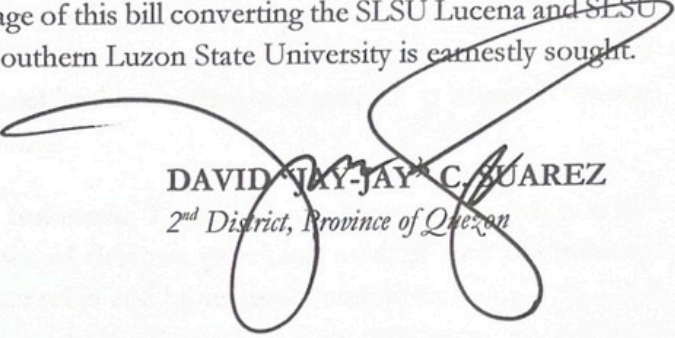
In Quezon Province, the demand for accessible and affordable tertiary education continues to rise. Based on the 2020 Census, the province (excluding Lucena City) recorded a population of 1,950,459, reflecting a 5.06% increase from 2015. This demographic growth, coupled with rising enrollment in Southern Luzon State University (SLSU) campuses in Lucena and Tiaong, underscores the urgent need to strengthen higher education services in the province.

Southern Luzon State University, established under Republic Act No. 9395, has long been a key provider of tertiary education in Quezon Province and the rest of Southern Tagalog. Its campuses in Lucena and Tiaong have become indispensable to students who would otherwise face limited opportunities for higher education. Yet, their growth and development remain constrained by limited funding, facilities, faculty support, and academic program offerings due to their status as extension campuses.

Converting the Lucena and Tiaong extension campuses into regular campuses of SLSU will address these challenges by enabling them to receive direct funding, expand their infrastructure and laboratories, improve faculty development, and broaden program offerings aligned with regional development needs. It is also consistent with the State's policy of regionalizing higher education to promote balanced growth and decongest Metro Manila. Lucena City, as the provincial

capital and growth hub, and Tiaong, as a fast-developing municipality strategically located along the borders of Quezon and Batangas, are both vital access points for students in Southern Tagalog.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill converting the SLSU Lucena and SLSU Tiaong campuses into regular campuses of Southern Luzon State University is earnestly sought.



DAVID JAY-JAY C. SUAREZ
2nd District, Province of Quezon



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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 “Southern Luzon State University-Lucena City and Tiaong Campuses Act”.

Section 2. *Conversion into Regular Campuses.* – The Southern Luzon State University (SLSU) shall convert the extension campuses located in the City of Lucena and in the Municipality of Tiaong, both in the Province of Quezon, into regular campuses, to be known as the “Southern Luzon State University-Lucena City Campus and the Southern Luzon State University-Tiaong Campus”.

Section 3. *General Mandate.* – The SLSU-Lucena City Campus and the SLSU-Tiaong Campus shall provide undergraduate and graduate courses within their areas of competency and specialization, as the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, may deem necessary for the accomplishment of their objectives, and those which respond to the human resource development needs of the Province of Quezon and the CALABARZON Region. They are also mandated to undertake research and extension services in support of the socioeconomic development and to provide progressive leadership in these areas.

Section 4. *Supervision.* – The SLSU-Lucena City Campus and the SLSU-Tiaong Campus shall each be headed by a Campus Director who shall render full-time service and shall be appointed by the Board, subject to its guidelines, qualifications, and standards, and upon the recommendation of a Search Committee duly constituted for the purpose of selecting the Campus Director.

Section 5. *Compliance with the Requirements of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).* – The SLSU shall ensure compliance of the SLSU-Lucena City Campus and the SLSU-Tiaong Campus with the policies, standards, and guidelines of the CHED for the operation of the Campuses, including those related to the offering of courses and the introduction of new or revised program prior to the conversion as a regular campus.

Section 6. *Management of Personnel, Assets and Records of the Campus.* – All assets, both real and personal, personnel, and records of the SLSU-Lucena City Campus and the SLSU-Tiaong Campus, as well as their liabilities or obligations, shall be transferred to the SLSU. The positions, rights, and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to their conversion into regular campuses shall be respected.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the SLSU-Lucena City Campus and the SLSU-Tiaong Campus shall be transferred to the SLSU: Provided, That should the campus or the SLSU cease to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the SLSU, the same shall revert to the local government unit concerned or to the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

Section 7. *Suppletory Application.* – The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form part of this Act.

Section 8. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue rules and regulations to implement its provisions.

Section 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, letters of instruction, executive orders, rules, or regulations, or any part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,