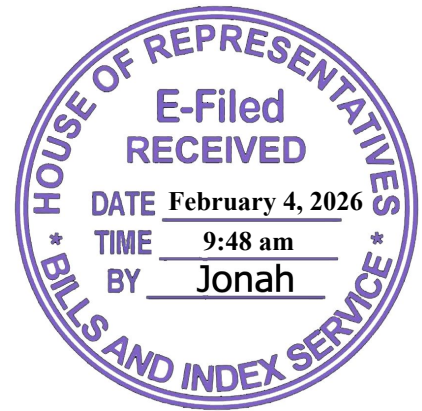


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 7602



Introduced by **Hon. Bernadette S. Barbers**

AN ACT
CONVERTING THE EXTENSION CAMPUS OF THE SURIGAO DEL NORTE STATE UNIVERSITY IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLAVER, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL NORTE INTO A REGULAR CAMPUS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Under Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution, the State is mandated to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Further, Section 2(1) of the same provides that the State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system or education relevant to the needs of the people and society.

The Surigao del Norte State University (SNSU) plays a vital role in providing accessible and quality education across the Province of Surigao del Norte and has been instrumental in ensuring that higher education opportunities are extended to the local populace.

The existing SNSU Extension Campus in the Municipality of Claver, Surigao del Norte provided a significant role in delivering and responding to the growing education needs of the Municipality of Claver as well as its neighboring communities. Since its establishment, it has consistently demonstrated potential for academic growth, community engagement, and human capital development in the area. SNSU Claver Extension Campus offers degree programs such as Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Secondary Education as well as Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management through the committed faculty and administrative staffs of SNSU and with the consistent support from Local Government Unit (LGU) of Claver in providing the required laboratories and facilities and the deployment of offsite support staff.

However, despite its growing enrollment, academic contributions, and relevance to regional development, the campus remains without formal recognition by law. This limits its access to regular national funding and hinders its full institutional development.

This bill proposes the conversion of the SNSU Claver Extension Campus in the Municipality of Claver, Province of Surigao del Norte, into a regular campus, to be

designated as the “SNSU Claver Campus”. This conversion represents a significant stride towards enhancing the accessibility and elevating the standard of higher education within the Municipality of Claver and its adjacent communities.

Moreover, the institutional recognition of SNSU Claver Campus through legislation would provide a legal basis for regular national funding and infrastructure development, support the expansion of academic offerings aligned with local industry and regional development goals, and ensure operational stability, staffing, and long-term sustainability of the campus.

This conversion will promote inclusive growth and development which will encourage the expansion of its services and facilities to provide quality education to more students and will give wider latitude to learning. Once converted into a regular campus, SNSU Claver Campus will now have regular fund allocation and will be able to offer more courses, accommodate more students, and allow the people of Claver to finish their studies and elevate their status in life.

This legislative measure is consistent with the provisions of Republic Act No. 8292 otherwise known as the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997" and aims to promote the State's policy to provide access to quality tertiary education for all.

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



HON. BERNADETTE S. BARBERS
2nd District, Surigao del Norte

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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 “*Surigao del Norte State University – Claver Campus Act.*”

SEC. 2. Conversion into a Regular Campus. – The Surigao del Norte State University (SNSU) shall convert the extension campus in the Municipality of Claver, Province of Surigao del Norte, into a regular campus, to be known as the “*Surigao del Norte State University–Claver Campus.*” This conversion establishes it as a regular academic campus of SNSU with enhanced administrative and academic operation subject to the overall policies of the SNSU.

SEC. 3. General Mandate. – The SNSU Claver Campus shall primarily provide degree programs such as Bachelor of Science in Elementary and Secondary Education as well as Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management currently offered and other academic offerings aligned with local industry and regional development goals that may later be offered once converted into a regular campus. The academic offerings shall be pursuant to the mandates of the SNSU, and the Board of Regents, hereinafter referred to as the Board, may deem necessary for the accomplishment of its objectives, and those which respond to the needs of the Municipality of Claver and the local populace of its neighboring communities.

SEC. 4. Supervision and Management. – The SNSU Claver Campus shall be headed by a Campus Director who shall be appointed by the Board of Regents, subject to its institutional guidelines, qualifications, and standards, and upon the recommendation of the search committee and the University President.

SEC. 5. Compliance with the Requirements of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). – The SNSU shall ensure the compliance of the SNSU Claver

Campus with the policies, standards, and guidelines of the CHED for the operation of the campus, including those related to the offering of course and the introduction of new or revised programs prior to the conversion.

SEC. 6. *Management of Personnel, Assets and Records of the Campus.* – All assets, both real and personal properties, personnel, and records of the SNSU Claver Extension Campus, as well as its liabilities or obligations, shall be transferred to the SNSU.

The positions, rights, and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the conversion into regular campus shall be respected.

All parcels of land and all other real properties belonging to the government occupied by the SNSU Claver Extension Campus to be converted into SNSU Claver Campus shall be titled under or named after the University: Provided, that should the SNSU Claver Campus of the SNSU cease to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the SNSU, the same shall revert to the local government unit concerned or the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be in accordance with applicable laws, rules and regulations.

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

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

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

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* – 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.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved.