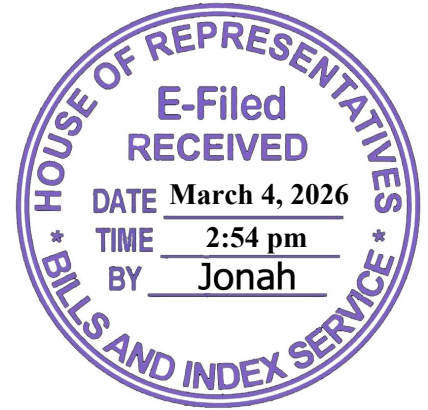




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



HOUSE BILL NO. 8282

Introduced by **REP. MARIO O. SALVADOR**

Explanatory Note

For over a century, Central Luzon State University (CLSU) has been the forefront of quality Tertiary education within Central Luzon while greatly contributing to the uplifting of the agricultural sector within the region.

The University started as a farm school under the name of Central Luzon Agricultural School (CLAS) way back in 1907 under Executive Order 10. The school's main activities back then involved skills training on better farming methods, agricultural mechanics and homemaking arts. Later, the activities evolved into a model vocational-agricultural teaching and learning program.

On 1950, CLAS was converted into Central Luzon Agricultural College (CLAC) by virtue of EO 393 becoming the first state institution in the country to offer a four-year curriculum for training teachers of vocational agriculture. One of the unique features under their program was its practicum requirement. This requirement involved underlying concerns like "learning-by-doing" and acquisition of practical skills and expertise. This made CLAC known as "the mother of vocational agricultural schools" in the country.

Fourteen years later, CLAC then became Central Luzon State University (CLSU) by virtue of RA 4067. Currently, the University is composed of nine colleges namely: College of Agriculture, College of Arts and Social Science, College of



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Business and Accountancy, College of Education, College of Engineering, College of Fisheries, College of Home Science and Industry, College of Veterinary Science and Medicine, College of Science, and an Open University offering alternative, non-residential, and ICT-mediated teaching-learning delivery system. It also boasts six Centers of Excellence (COE) designated by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) namely for: Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering, Biology, Fisheries, Teacher Education, and Veterinary Medicine.

As of 2025, the University has also earned various awards and recognition. Notably, it was held as The Second-Best State University in the Philippines while earning the 153rd rank in Southeast Asia according to the QS World University Ranking. Additionally, the University has also contributed to uplifting the agricultural sector through its various research and technology.

Indeed, for more than a decade, CLSU has greatly contributed to both Quality Education and our Agricultural Sector. Hence, this bill aims to further support the school by expanding its general mandate. The expansion would cover a wider spectrum of fields. Additionally, it also aims to grant government funding support and priority in the establishment of specialized laboratories and smart classrooms to further its capacity for both research and education.

Thus, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.

MARIO O. SALVADOR



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HOUSE BILL NO. 8282

Introduced by **REP. MARIO O. SALVADOR**

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE CENTRAL LUZON STATE UNIVERSITY
CHARTER OF 2026**

Section 1. Short Title. — This Act shall be known as the “*Central Luzon State University Charter of 2026*”.

Section 2. General Mandate. — The Central Luzon State University, hereinafter referred to as CLSU, shall primarily provide advanced instruction, professional and technical training in the fields of agriculture, business and accountancy, criminal justice, engineering and architecture, health, humanities, digital and information technology, law, science and mathematics, social sciences, teacher education and other disciplines as provided by law. It shall also deliver research, extension and production services, and nurture and promote holistic, developmental, visionary and transformational leadership in its areas of specialization.

Section 3. Curricular Offerings. — CLSU shall offer certificate, undergraduate, graduate and post-graduate programs on the fields stated in Section 2 hereof to attain its objectives and to respond to the human resource development needs of the communities it serves.

The existing laboratory schools for kindergarten, elementary education, and secondary education shall continue to operate to address the required experiential learning courses of the students.

Section 4. Governing Board. - The governing board of CLSU shall be the Board of Regents.

Section 5. Composition of the Governing Board. - Except as provided for by law, the governing board of CLSU shall be composed of the following:

- a. The Chairperson of CHED as Chairperson. The CHED Chairperson is authorized to designate a CHED Commissioner as the regular Chairperson of the Governing Board;
- b. The President of CLSU as Vice-Chairperson;
- c. The Chairperson of the Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education of the Senate of the Philippines as Member;
- d. The Chairperson of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education of the House of Representatives as Member;



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- e. The Regional Director of the Department of Economy, Planning and Development (DEPDev) as Member;
- f. The Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as Member;
- g. The Regional Director of the Department of Agriculture (DA) as Member;
- h. The President of the Faculty Association as Member;
- i. The President/Chairperson of the Student Council/Student Government as Member;
- j. The President of the Alumni Association as Member; and
- k. Two (2) prominent citizens representing the private sector, who have distinguished themselves in their professions or fields of specialization, chosen from among a list of at least five (5) persons qualified in the city or the province of Nueva Ecija, as recommended by the search committee constituted by the CLSU President, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Governing Board, and based on the normal standards and qualifications for the position, as Members.

Section 6. Rights and Responsibilities of Governing Board Members. - The governing board Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and government officials who are governing board members in an *ex-officio* capacity shall perform their functions and duties upon their assumption to office.

The membership of the faculty, alumni and student representatives to the governing board shall commence immediately upon assumption to office and shall remain effective during the period of their incumbency as heads of their respective sectoral associations.

Section 7. Representatives of Governing Board Members Coming from the Government. - If the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education, and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education cannot personally attend any meeting of the governing board, they may designate in writing any of the following to attend in their stead:

- a. The Vice-Chairperson of the Committee;
- b. A Senator or Member of the House of Representatives who is a member of the Committee;
- c. Any Senator or Member of the House of Representatives;
- d. The Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the Committee; or
- e. A member of the legislative staff of the Chair of either chamber.

Such written authority should be presented to the Board Secretary before the start of the meeting. After such submission, the representative shall be entitled to the rights and powers of any regular member of the governing board, unless the principal provides otherwise in writing. In case of a special session for the election of CLSU President, the written authority should specify the authority to attend and vote on their behalf. As the official representative of the Senate/House Committee Chair, the decision of his/her representative shall be considered to be the decision of the principal.



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The other governing board members also coming from the government shall attend the governing board meetings in person or through video conferencing and other means allowed under Republic Act No. 11232, otherwise known as the "Revised Corporation Code."

Section 8. Search, Qualification, and Selection of the Two (2) Private Sector Representatives (PSR). – The search for private sector representatives shall be governed by the existing guidelines prescribed by law.

Section 9. Filing of Report by the University President. – On or before the fifteenth day of the second month after the opening of regular classes of every academic year, the CLSU President shall file with the Office of the President of the Philippines, through the Office of the CHED Chairperson or the CHED Commissioner designated as the Chairperson of the Governing Board, and with the respective Committee Chairpersons of the Senate and the House of Representatives, a detailed report on the progress, conditions, and needs of the University.

Section 10. Terms of Office. - The terms of office of the faculty, alumni and student regents in the governing board of CLSU shall be coterminous with their respective terms of office as President/Chairperson of their respective sectoral associations.

In case of graduation, resignation, retirement, transfer, expulsion, removal for cause, permanent physical or mental incapacity, death or other analogous causes, whichever is applicable to the student, faculty, or alumni regent, they shall be represented by their respective duly-elected next-in-rank officer. The next-in-rank officer shall sit as a regular member of the governing board and shall serve only the unexpired term of his/her predecessor.

Section 11. Meetings. - The governing board of CLSU may hold regular meetings or special meetings.

11.1. Regular Meetings. - The governing board of CLSU must regularly convene at least once every quarter.

11.2. Special meetings. - Special sessions of the governing board of CLSU may only be held twice per year, upon the call of its Chairperson, provided that all the members of the Board shall be duly notified in writing of a special meeting three (3) days before it is held. A governing board member may propose for the conduct of a special meeting through a written request to the CLSU governing board Chairperson.

11.3. Frequency, Date, and Venue of Regular and/or Special Meetings. - The frequency over and above the minimum stated in Section 11.1 and 11.2, and the date and venue of regular meetings of the governing board shall be determined by the governing board itself, provided that the members shall receive the authorized allowances in only four (4) regular meetings and two (2) special meetings per year.



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11.4. Responsibility of the CLSU President. - The CLSU President shall be responsible in ensuring the smooth holding of the governing board's regular meetings or special meetings. The CLSU President must ensure, through the Board Secretary, the preparation of the agenda folders for board meetings to be provided to the CLSU governing board Chairperson and Members at least five (5) working days prior to any regular meeting and one (1) day prior to a special session.

11.5. Minutes of Meeting. - The minutes of the board meetings shall be confidential in character. Any request for a copy of the minutes or excerpts shall be subject to the approval of the governing board Vice-Chairperson, subject to existing laws and regulations. The approval or denial of request shall be appealable to the GB Chairperson.

The minutes of the meeting shall be open to inspection/reproduction by any governing board member or representative upon demand in writing. The inspecting or reproducing party shall remain bound by confidentiality rules under prevailing laws, such as the rules on trade secrets or processes under Republic Act No. 8293, otherwise known as the "Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines," as amended, Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the "Data Privacy Act of 2012," Republic Act No. 8799, otherwise known as "The Securities Regulation Code," and the Rules of Court.

Section 12. Quorum. - A majority of all the members of the governing board of CLSU holding office at the time of its regular meeting or special meeting shall constitute a quorum.

No regular meeting or special session of the governing board of CLSU, however, shall be validly held without the presence of the CLSU governing board Chairperson. The governing board Chairperson may, however, waive his/her participation in writing as may be warranted by the situation. In such case, the CLSU President, who is the governing board Vice-Chairperson, shall preside over the regular meeting or special meeting.

Section 13. Presiding Officer. - The CHED Chairperson shall be the presiding officer of the regular meetings and special meetings of the governing board as its Chairperson, except as otherwise provided herein.

The CHED Chairperson may designate in writing a CHED Commissioner to act as the regular Chairperson of the governing board of CLSU, until revoked or modified. In such an event, the CHED Commissioner shall assume all the powers of CHED Chairperson in CLSU, and shall be referred to as the CLSU governing board Chairperson.

In the absence of the governing board Chairperson and upon his/her authority, the governing board Vice-Chairperson shall preside over the regular meetings and special meetings of the governing board, except as hereinafter provided.



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While presiding and the governing board Chairperson finds it necessary to leave the meeting temporarily, the governing board Vice-Chairperson shall take over until such time that the governing board Chairperson can preside over the said meeting.

Section 14. Representative of the CHED Chairperson. - In case the CHED Chairperson is unable to attend any regular meeting or special meeting of the governing board of CLSU without a designated regular governing board Chairperson, the CHED Chairperson may assign, in writing, one of the CHED Commissioners as a representative in the regular meeting or special session.

The representative of the CHED Chairperson so assigned shall not preside over the regular meeting or special session of the governing board but shall have all the rights and responsibilities of a regular member thereof.

Section 15. No Compensation for the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Members of the Governing Board. The Governing Board shall serve without compensation, but they shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses such as, but not limited to, airfare, accommodation, swab testing, the amount of which will be based on existing government issuances incurred in their attendance in the governing board meetings or in connection with the conduct of official business authorized by the resolution of the governing board and per diem, the amount of which will be as follows, unless changed or modified by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Circular: Board Chairperson are entitled to an amount equivalent to 25% of the monthly representation and transportation allowance of the CLSU President, for every meeting actually attended, but not to exceed four (4) paid meetings per month. Members of governing boards are entitled to an amount equivalent to 25% of the monthly representation and transportation allowance of the CLSU Vice President, for every meeting actually attended but not to exceed four (4) paid meetings per month.

Section 16. Powers and Duties of the Governing Board. - The governing board of CLSU shall have the following powers and duties, in addition to the general powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to a Board of Directors of a corporation under Section 36 of Batas Pambansa (BP) Blg. 68, as amended by Republic Act No. 11232, otherwise known as the "Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines," and further reiterated in Republic Act No. 8292 (Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997):

- a. Enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;
- b. Receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the support of the University, in the manner it may determine and in accordance with its discretion, in order to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;



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- c. Receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose the same when necessary for the benefits of the University, subject to the limitations, directions and instructions of the donors, if any;
Such donations shall be exempt from all taxes and shall be considered as deductible items from the income tax of the donor;

The Commissioner of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) and the Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF) shall be informed by the governing board of such donations in order to effect the necessary tax exemptions as herein provided.

- d. Fix the tuition fees and other necessary charges, such as, but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees, and laboratory fees, as they may deem proper to impose, after due consultations with the involved sectors;

Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and other income generated by the University, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all interest that shall accrue therefrom shall be part of the same fund for the use of the University: Provided, that income derived from University hospitals shall be exclusively earmarked to the operations of such hospitals.

Any income generated by the University from tuition fees and other charges, as well as from the operation of auxiliary services and land grants, shall be retained by the University, and may be disbursed by its governing board for instruction, research, extension, or other programs/projects of the University: Provided, that all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific purposes for which they are collected.

If, for reasons beyond its control, the University shall not be able to pursue any project for which funds have been appropriated and allocated under its approved program of expenditures, its governing board may authorize the use of said funds for any reasonable purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for the attainment of the objectives and goals of the University.

- e. Adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and greater access to poor but deserving students, subject to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10931 and its IRR;
- f. Authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machineries, equipment and other facilities and the purchase and acquisition of real and personal properties, including necessary supplies, materials and equipment. Purchases and other transactions entered into by the University through its governing board shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;



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- g. Appoint, upon the recommendation of the President of the University, the institution's vice president(s) subject to pertinent issuances related to the position, deans, directors, heads of departments, faculty members, and other officials and employees;
- h. Fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees, subject to the provisions of the revised compensation and classification system and other pertinent budget and compensation laws governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper; grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absences such regulations as it may promulgate, any provisions of existing law to the contrary notwithstanding; and remove them for cause in accordance with the requirements of due process of law;
- i. Approve the curricula, institutional programs, and rules of discipline of students drawn by the administrative and academic councils as hereinafter provided;
- j. Set policies on admission and graduation of students;
- k. Award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their outstanding contribution in the fields of education, public service, arts, science and technology or in any field of specialization within the academic competence of the University and to authorize the award of certificates of completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses;
- l. Absorb non-tertiary institutions within the respective provinces where the University is located, in coordination with the CHED which must approve the merger, in consultation with the DBM, and offer programs or courses to promote and carry out equal access to educational opportunities;
- m. Establish research and extension centers to promote development;
- n. Establish Chairs in the University and to provide fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving students;
- o. Delegate any of its powers and duties to the President and other officials of the University as be appropriate so as to facilitate the administration of the affairs of the University;
- p. Authorize an external management audit of the University, and request the CHED to finance the audit, subject to Commission on Audit (COA) rules and regulations; and institute reforms, including academic and structural changes, on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;
- q. Collaborate with the other governing boards of SUCs within the province or the region, under the supervision of the CHED which must approve the activity, and in consultation with the



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DBM, and work towards their restructuring so that they will become more efficient, relevant, productive, and competitive;

- r. Enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the profitable development and management of the economic assets of the University, the proceeds from which is to be used for the development and strengthening of the University;
- s. Develop consortia and other forms of linkages with local government units, institutions, and agencies, both public and private, local and foreign, in furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the University;
- t. Develop academic arrangements for institution-capacity building with appropriate institutions and agencies, public or private, local or foreign and appoint experts and specialists as consultants, or as visiting or exchange professors, scholars, and researchers;
- u. Adopt modern and innovative modes of transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual system, open learning, community laboratory, flexible learning, smart campus, etc. for the promotion of greater access to higher education;
- v. Establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative decision-making and transparency within the University;
- w. Privatize, where most advantageous to the University, the management of non-academic services such as health, food, building, or grounds and property maintenance, and other similar activities, subject to existing rules and regulations; and
- x. Extend the service of the incumbent President of the University to complete a term beyond the age of compulsory retirement but not later than the age of seventy (70), if the President's performance is unanimously rated as outstanding and upon unanimous recommendation by the search committee or evaluation committee created by the governing board for the purpose.

Section 17. Promulgation and Implementation of Policies by the Governing Board. - The governing board of CLSU may promulgate and implement policies, provided these are consistent with the declared state policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Constitution of the Philippines on education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports, and with the policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED.

Section 18. Secretary of the Board and of the University. - The governing board of CLSU shall appoint their Secretary who shall serve as such for the Board.

The Secretary so appointed shall, among others, keep all the records and the minutes of the proceedings of the governing board and shall communicate to the governing board Chairperson, Vice Chairperson,



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and Members notice of all regular meetings, special sessions, and other undertakings of the governing board. The President of CLSU must ensure, through the Board Secretary, the preparation of the agenda folders for board meetings to be provided to the governing board Chairperson and members at least five (5) working days prior to any regular meeting and one (1) day prior to a special session. In the absence of the Secretary for a scheduled meeting, an alternate Secretary may be designated by the governing board.

The University President may designate a University Secretary from the qualified employees.

Section 19. Treasurer of the Philippines. - The Treasurer of the Philippines shall be the *ex-officio* treasurer of the University.

Section 20. Audit. - All accounts and expenses of CLSU shall be audited by the COA or its duly authorized representative.

Section 21. Administrative Council. - There shall be an Administrative Council consisting of the President of CLSU as Chairperson, and its Vice Presidents, Deans, Directors, and other officials of equal rank, including the faculty and student regents, as members.

Section 22. Duties of the Administrative Council. - The Administrative Council of CLSU so formed and constituted shall review and recommend to the governing board policies governing the administration, management, and development planning of the University.

Section 23. Academic Council. - There shall be an Academic Council consisting of the President of CLSU as Chairperson, and all personnel with academic rank of not lower than Assistant Professor, as Members.

Section 24. Powers of the Academic Council. - The Academic Council so formed and constituted shall have the following powers, in accordance with the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 8292 to wit:

- a. Determine, review, and recommend for the approval of its governing board, the course offerings of the University; and
- b. Draft, review, and recommend for the approval of the governing board, rules on student discipline of CLSU. It shall fix the requirements for the admission of students as well as for their graduation and conferment of degrees, and submit such rules to the governing board for review and approval in accordance with Republic Act No. 8292 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations.



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Section 25. The University President. - CLSU shall be headed by a President who shall be elected by the governing board subject to its guidelines on qualifications and standards, and based on the recommendation of a search committee duly constituted for the purpose of selecting the President. The CLSU President shall render full-time service, serve a term of four (4) years, and may be reappointed to another term subject to the policies and guidelines implemented by the CHED.

Within six (6) months before the expiration of the term of office of the incumbent President of CLSU, the governing board shall constitute the Search Committee for Presidency.

The powers and duties of the President of CLSU, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the Office of the President of universities and those delegated by the Board.

The salary of the President of CLSU shall be in accordance with the law.

In case of a vacancy in the Office of the President by reason of death, compulsory retirement, resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the President to perform the functions of the office, the governing board shall designate an Officer-in-Charge pending the appointment of a new President: *Provided*, that the Officer-in-Charge shall serve only during the unexpired portion of the term.

Section 26. The Faculty Members. - No political belief, gender preference, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of CLSU; *Provided*, that said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications, and standards set by the government: *Provided further*, that no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

Section 27. Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy. - CLSU shall enjoy academic freedom and institutional autonomy pursuant to Paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article XIV of the Constitution.

Section 28. Scholarship Programs/Admission - CLSU shall provide scholarship and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who qualify for admission in the University.

No student shall be denied admission in CLSU by reason of gender, religion, cultural or community affiliation, physical disability or ethnic origin.

Section 29. Establishment of Specialized Laboratories and Smart Classrooms. - The government shall prioritize the establishment of specialized laboratories in furtherance of the mandate of the specialized centers, and construction of smart classrooms to support the instruction function of the University, thereby effecting an effective mode of transfer of knowledge products to students and



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other clienteles. This is without prejudice to the establishment of other infrastructure projects that will support the respective thrusts and priorities of the different major programs of the University.

Section 30. Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment, Supplies and Detail of Personnel. - Upon the request of the President of CLSU, the heads of the bureaus and offices of the national government may loan or transfer to CLSU such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment, supplies or service of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public service.

The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the President of CLSU and the time thus served shall be counted as part of their regular service.

Section 31. Tax Exemption on Importation and Donations. - The importation by the CLSU of technical, educational and cultural materials including apparatus and laboratory equipment which are for technical, vocational, educational, philosophical, historical or cultural purposes shall, upon certification by the appropriate authority, be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of relevant laws.

All grants, bequests, endowments, donations and contributions made to and used actually, directly and exclusively by the CLSU, shall be exempt from donor's tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from the gross income of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the law.

Section 33. 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 thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 34. Repealing Clause. – All legal issuances contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 35. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.