

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **9366**



Introduced by: HON. ROMEO S. MOMO, SR.

**AN ACT CONVERTING THE NORTH EASTERN MINDANAO STATE
UNIVERSITY (NEMSU) - MARIHATAG OFF-SITE CAMPUS IN THE
MUNICIPALITY OF MARIHATAG, PROVINCE OF SURIGAO DEL SUR, INTO A
REGULAR CAMPUS OF THE NORTH EASTERN MINDANAO STATE
UNIVERSITY, TO BE KNOWN AS "NORTH EASTERN MINDANAO STATE
UNIVERSITY (NEMSU) - MARIHATAG CAMPUS," DEFINING ITS MANDATE,
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed measure seeks to convert the annex/extension campus of North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU)-Marihatag Off-Site, located in the Municipality of Marihatag, Province of Surigao del Sur, into a regular campus of the state university, to be known as the NEMSU-Marihatag Campus.

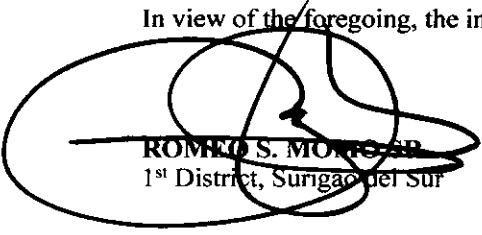
The measure aims to strengthen access to quality higher education in the municipality and neighboring communities by expanding undergraduate academic programs, improving educational facilities, and enhancing administrative and institutional support. Crucially, this conversion addresses a vital socio-economic need by providing a dedicated avenue for education and skills development to support the local community, including rebel returnees seeking reintegration. By fostering inclusivity and creating accessible pathways to academic and technical training, the institution will serve as a catalyst for sustainable peace, empowerment, and community resilience.

To ensure administrative alignment with the university's overarching structure, the campus shall focus exclusively on short-term technical-vocational and undergraduate programs, leaving graduate-level education centralized within the university's main specialized units.

Furthermore, this bill expands the campus's core mandates to actively undertake research, extension services, production services, innovation, and creative works to drive comprehensive regional development. It mandates the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) to directly integrate the campus's operational funding and the necessary institutional plantilla positions for both teaching and non-teaching personnel into the annual

national budget, specifically guaranteeing a baseline allocation annually for Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE). It also authorizes the temporary extension of local government support to guarantee unhampered operations during the fiscal transition.

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



ROMEO S. MONTECILLO
1st District, Surigao del Sur

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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 "North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU)-Marihatag Branch.

SEC. 2. *Conversion of NEMSU Marihatag Off-site Campus into a Regular Campus.* - The North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU) - Marihatag Off-Site Campus located in the Municipality of Marihatag, Province of Surigao del Sur, is hereby converted into a regular campus of the North Eastern Mindanao State University, to be known as the NEMSU-Marihatag Campus.

SEC. 3. *General Mandate and Curricular Offerings.* The NEMSU-Marihatag Campus shall offer short-term technical-vocational courses and undergraduate degree programs within its areas of competency and specialization, pursuant to the overarching mandate of the University: Provided, That the NEMSU-Marihatag Campus shall not offer graduate or post-graduate programs, which shall remain under the strict purview of the NEMSU Main Campus or specialized university units as determined by the Board of Regents.

The campus shall be mandated to undertake research, extension, production services, innovation, and creative works, and to provide progressive academic leadership to respond to the human resource development needs of the Province of Surigao del Sur, Caraga Region, and beyond.

SEC. 4. *Supervision and Management of NEMSU-Marihatag Campus.* - The NEMSU-Marihatag Campus shall be an integral branch of the North Eastern Mindanao State University. It shall be headed by a full-time Campus Director who shall render full-time service and who shall be appointed or designated by the Board of Regents (BOR) upon the recommendation of a search committee duly constituted for the purpose and the University President, subject to the guidelines, qualifications, and standards set by the Board.

SEC. 5. *Compliance with the Requirements of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).* - The NEMSU shall ensure the compliance of the NEMSU-Marihatag Campus with the policies, standards, and guidelines of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for the operation of regular campuses, including those related to the offering of courses and the introduction of new or revised programs prior to its conversion as a regular campus.

SEC. 6. *Management of Personnel, Assets and Records of the Campus.* - The University shall ensure that the minimum requirements, structural policies, standards, and guidelines of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) for the operation of a regular campus and its specific curricular offerings have been fully complied with prior to its formal conversion.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the NEMSU-Marihatag Campus shall be declared property of the NEMSU and shall be titled under its name: Provided, That should the campus cease to exist or be abolished, or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the concerned Local Government Unit (LGU) or the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.

SEC. 7. *Security of Tenure.* - The positions, rights, and security of tenure of the teaching and non-teaching personnel currently employed at the NEMSU-Marihatag Off-Site Campus under existing laws prior to its conversion into a regular campus shall be respected and protected.

SEC. 8. *Suppletory Application.* — 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 shall serve as part of the governing charter of the campus.

SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* - The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and the North Eastern Mindanao State University (NEMSU) shall immediately create, authorize, and integrate the necessary regular plantilla positions for both teaching and non-teaching personnel, as well as the operational budget required for the continuous maintenance and development of the NEMSU-Marihatag Campus, directly into the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

For this purpose, the DBM shall allocate an amount in the Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE) annually for its operations. The total amount necessary shall be used to fund the teaching and non-teaching plantilla items and general operations to carry out the provisions of this Act which shall be included in the annual GAA following its enactment: Provided, That the Municipality of Marihatag, Province of Surigao del Sur, may extend temporary financial or logistical assistance to ensure the unhampered, continuous operation of the campus pending its full budgetary and personnel integration into the national system.

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Board of Regents of NEMSU, in coordination and consultation with the CHED, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any part or provisions of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* - All other laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,