



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

Twentieth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9458



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**Introduced by Honorable Roger G. Mercado**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to strengthen higher education infrastructure in Southern Leyte by mandating the construction of essential academic, research, and support services facilities at the Southern Leyte State University (SLSU) Maasin City Campus.

The SLSU Maasin City Campus, formerly Maasin City College and integrated into the SLSU system by virtue of Republic Act No. 11079, offers programs in Public Administration and Social Work, with plans to expand course offerings. As a growing institution serving students in Maasin City and surrounding areas, the campus requires modern facilities to support quality education, promote research and innovation, and provide adequate student support services.

Therefore, passage of this bill is hereby being earnestly sought.

**ROGER G. MERCADO**



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**AN ACT**  
**MANDATING THE CONSTRUCTION OF ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND**  
**SUPPORT SERVICES FACILITIES OF SOUTHERN LEYTE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**MAASIN CITY CAMPUS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** — This Act shall be known as the “Southern Leyte State University Maasin City Campus Facilities Development Act.”

**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** — It is the policy of the State to promote and improve the quality of higher education by providing adequate infrastructure and facilities in state universities and colleges, particularly in underserved areas, to enhance access to education, foster research and innovation, and support holistic student development.

**SECTION 3. Mandate.** — The construction of academic buildings, research facilities, libraries, laboratories, administrative offices, student centers, sports facilities, dormitories or housing support, and other necessary support services facilities at the Southern Leyte State University (SLSU) Maasin City Campus is hereby mandated. These facilities shall be designed to meet modern educational standards, including provisions for accessibility, sustainability, disaster resilience, and digital integration.

**SECTION 4. Implementation.** — The Board of Regents of Southern Leyte State University, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the

Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), and other relevant government agencies, shall:

- (a) Prepare a comprehensive Master Development Plan for the Maasin City Campus, including detailed engineering designs, cost estimates, and timelines;
- (b) Ensure compliance with all applicable building codes, environmental laws, and procurement regulations;
- (c) Prioritize the use of locally available materials and labor where feasible to generate employment in the region; and
- (d) Submit annual reports to Congress on the progress of the project.

**SECTION 5. Appropriations.** — The sum of [Insert Amount, e.g., Five Hundred Million Pesos (PhP 500,000,000.00)] is hereby appropriated from the General Appropriations Act or from any available funds of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the initial implementation of this Act. Subsequent funding requirements shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The funds shall be released to and administered by Southern Leyte State University, subject to existing government accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

**SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** — Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the CHED, in consultation with SLSU and other concerned agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

**SECTION 7. Repealing Clause.** — All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

**SECTION 8. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

**Approved,**