

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 11485

Introduced by: **REP. RUTH MANGUDADATU-SAKALURAN**
REP. BELLA VANESSA B. SUANSING

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Education is one of the most powerful instruments for achieving inclusive and sustainable development. Access to quality higher education and technical-vocational training should not be limited by geographic location or economic circumstance. Students in geographically distant and underserved communities should likewise be given meaningful opportunities to pursue higher education and acquire the knowledge, skills, and competencies necessary to improve their lives and contribute to the development of their communities.

Sultan Kudarat is a geographically expansive province with communities located at considerable distances from existing institutions of higher learning. For many students, particularly those coming from low-income families, the cost of transportation, board and lodging, and other expenses associated with studying outside their municipalities constitutes a significant barrier to obtaining a college education.

Establishing campuses of the Sultan Kudarat State University (SKSU) in municipalities will substantially reduce these barriers and bring quality higher education closer to the people.

This proposed measure seeks to establish campuses of the Sultan Kudarat State University (SKSU) in the Municipalities of **Bagumbayan, Columbio, Esperanza, Lambayong, Lebak, President Quirino, Senator Ninoy Aquino, and SKSU-ACCESS** in Tacurong City to expand access to affordable and quality higher education, technical-vocational training, research, extension services, and community development in these unserved municipalities.

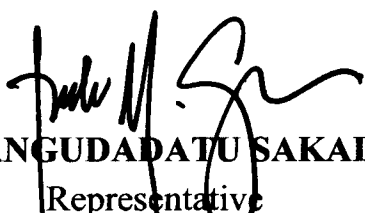
The proposed campuses shall primarily offer short-term, technical-vocational, undergraduate, and graduate programs consistent with their respective competencies, specializations, capabilities, and the standards prescribed by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Their programs shall be responsive to the human-resource requirements not only of the municipalities concerned but also of the Province of Sultan Kudarat and Region XII.

The measure also further provides for the appointment or designation of Campus Director who shall be responsible for the effective administration and operation of the respective campuses, subject to the qualifications, standards, and guidelines prescribed by the University Board of Regents. It also requires compliance with the minimum requirements prescribed by CHED before the operation and program offerings of the campuses.

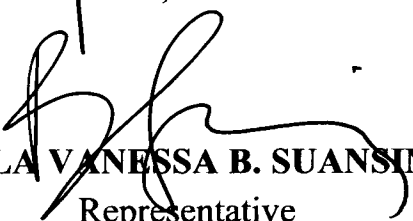
The establishment of these provincial campuses is consistent with the constitutional policy of making quality education accessible to all and with the mandate of state universities and colleges to provide higher education, promote research and innovation, and extend their services to the communities they serve.

More importantly, this measure will help ensure that the youth of Sultan Kudarat are given opportunities to obtain quality education without having to leave their respective municipalities merely to pursue their studies. It will also help develop a pool of competent professionals, skilled workers, researchers, entrepreneurs, teachers, and public servants who can contribute directly to the socioeconomic advancement of the Province of Sultan Kudarat and the SOCCSKSARGEN Region.

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



RUTH MANGUDADATU SAKALURAN
Representative
First District, Sultan Kudarat



BELLA VANESSA B. SUANSING
Representative
Second District, Sultan Kudarat

1 Republic of the Philippines
2 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
3 Batasan Hills, Quezon City
4

5 **TWENTIETH CONGRESS**
6 First Regular Session
7

8 **HOUSE BILL NO. 11485**
9

10 *Introduced by:* **REP. RUTH MANGUDADATU SAKALURAN**
11 **REP. BELLA VANESSA B. SUANSING**
12

13 **AN ACT**

14 **ESTABLISHING CAMPUSES OF SULTAN KUDARAT STATE**
15 **UNIVERSITY IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PROVINCE OF**
16 **SULTAN KUDARAT, TO BE KNOWN RESPECTIVELY AS SKSU-**
17 **BAGUMBAYAN, SKSU-COLUMBIO, SKSU-ESPERANZA, SKSU-**
18 **LAMBAYONG, SKSU-LEBAK, SKSU-PRESIDENT QUIRINO, SKSU-**
19 **SENATOR NINOY AQUINO AND SKSU-ACCESS IN TACURONG**
20 **CITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**
21

22 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the*
23 *Philippines in Congress assembled:*
24

25 Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "*Sultan Kudarat State University-*
26 *Municipal Campuses Act*."
27

28 Section 2. There are hereby established campuses of the Sultan Kudarat State
29 University (SKSU), hereinafter referred to as the University, in the
30 Municipalities of Bagumbayan, Columbio, Esperanza, Lambayong, Lebak,
31 President Quirino, Senator Ninoy Aquino, and Tacurong City, Province of
32 Sultan Kudarat, to be known respectively as the following:

- 33 a. SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, Municipality of Bagumbayan
- 34 b. SKSU-Columbio Campus, Municipality of Columbio
- 35 c. SKSU-Esperanza Campus, Municipality of Esperanza
- 36 d. SKSU-Lambayong Campus, Municipality of Lambayong
- 37 e. SKSU-Lebak Campus, Municipality of Lebak
- 38 f. SKSU-President Quirino Campus, Municipality of President
- 39 Quirino
- 40 g. SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, Municipality of Senator
- 41 Ninoy Aquino
- 42 h. SKSU-ACCESS in Tacurong City
- 43

Section 3. The SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, SKSU-Cumbio Campus, SKSU Esperanza Campus, SKSU-Lambayong Campus, SKSU-Lebak Campus, SKSU-President Quirino Campus, SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, and SKSU-ACCESS in Tacurong City shall primarily provide short-term, technical-vocational, undergraduate, and graduate courses within their areas of competency and specialization, pursuant to their mandate, and according to their capabilities 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 resources development needs of the Province of Sultan Kudarat and Region XII.

The aforesaid Campuses are also mandated to undertake research and extension services, and to provide progressive leadership in these areas.

Section 4. SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, SKSU-Cumbio Campus, SKSU Esperanza Campus, SKSU-Lambayong Campus, SKSU-Lebak Campus, SKSU-President Quirino Campus, SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, and SKSU-ACCESS in Tacurong City, shall be headed by Campus Directors who shall render full-time services and be appointed or designated by the Board upon the recommendation of the search committee and the President of the University. Such appointment or designation shall be subject to the guidelines, qualifications, and standards set by the Board.

Section 5. The establishment of the SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, SKSU-Cumbio Campus, SKSU Esperanza Campus, SKSU-Lambayong Campus, SKSU-Lebak Campus, SKSU-President Quirino Campus, SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, and SKSU-ACCESS in Tacurong City shall ensure that the minimum requirements for their operation and program offerings have been complied with, as duly prescribed by the Commission on Higher Education.

Section 6. All assets, real and personal, personnel, and records of the SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, SKSU-Cumbio Campus, SKSU-Esperanza Campus, SKSU-Lambayong Campus, SKSU-Lebak Campus, SKSU-President Quirino Campus, SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, and SKSU-ACCESS in Tacurong City as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the University. The positions, rights, and security of tenure of faculty members and personnel employed at the SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, SKSU-Cumbio Campus, SKSU-Esperanza Campus, SKSU-Lambayong Campus, SKSU-Lebak Campus, SKSU-President Quirino Campus, SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, and SKSU-ACCESS in Tacurong City under existing laws prior to the integration to the University shall be respected.

All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the SKSU-Bagumbayan Campus, SKSU-Cumbio Campus, SKSU Esperanza Campus,

88 SKSU- Lambayong Campus, SKSU-Lebak Campus, SKSU-President Quirino
89 Campus, SKSU-Senator Ninoy Aquino Campus, and SKSU-ACCESS in
90 Tacurong City are hereby declared to be the property of the University and shall
91 be titled under its name. *Provided*, That should the University cease to exist or
92 be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land to be no longer
93 needed by the University, the same shall revert to the concerned local
94 government unit or the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.
95

96 **Section 7.** The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise known as the
97 "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997", shall form part of this Act, and
98 together, shall serve as the governing charter of the University.
99

100 **Section 8.** All other powers, functions, privileges, responsibilities, and
101 limitations to state universities and their officials under existing laws shall be
102 deemed granted to or imposed upon the University and its officials, whenever
103 appropriate.
104

105 **Section 9.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be
106 included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
107

108 **Section 10.** If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared
109 invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
110 remain in full force and effect.
111

112 **Section 11.** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and
113 regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
114 repealed or modified accordingly.
115

116 **Section 12.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
117 the Official Gazette or in newspaper of general circulation.
118

119 Approved,