H. No. 5337

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ВΥ	REPRESENTATIVES MAGSAYSAY (E.), PER COMMITTEE R	NOEL, UY	(R.), Codii	•
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AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8292, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "HIGHER EDUCATION MODERNIZATION ACT OF 1997", AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

are

1	SECTION 1. Sections 3, 4, 6 and 7 of Republic Act No. 8292
2	hereby amended to read as follows:
3	"SEC. 3. The Governing Boards, Manner of
4	Appointment. –
5	a) Composition - The governing body of State
6	universities and colleges is hereby vested in the Board of
7	Regents for universities and in the Board of Trustees for colleges
8	which shall be composed of the following:
9	i. Chairperson[man] of the Commission on Higher
10	Education (CHED) OR THE DULY DESIGNATED
11	REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CHED CHAIR[,] AS

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ĭ	Chairperson[man]; IN THE CASE OF AUTONOMOUS REGION
2	OF MUSLIM MINDANAO, THE SECRETARY OF THE
3	DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION AS CO-CHAIRPERSON;
4	ii. President of the university or college[,] As Vice
5	ChairPerson[man];
6	iii. Chairpersons[men] OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE
7	ON EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE AND THE HOUSE OF
8	REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL
9	EDUCATION, OR THEIR DULY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVES
10	[of the Congressional Committees on Education and Culture];
11	iv. Regional Director of the National Economic and
12	Development Authority (NEDA) where the main campus of the
13	university or college is located, EXCEPT IN THE NATIONAL
14	CAPITAL REGION WHERE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL SHALL
15	DESIGNATE A PERSON WHO SHALL IN NO CASE BE LOWER IN
16	RANK THAN A REGIONAL DIRECTOR;
17	v. Regional Director of the Department of Science and
18	Technology (DOST) in case of science and technological
19	UNIVERSITIES OR colleges; or the Regional Director of the
20	Department of Agriculture (DA) FOR [in case of] agricultural
21	UNIVERSITIES OR colleges[; or the Secretary of Education for an
22	Autonomous Region]. In lieu of such representation, the
23	commanding generals of the Philippine Air Force and the
24	Philippine Navy or their duly designated

REPRESENTATIVES shall sit as members of the Boards of the Philippine State College of Aeronautics and the Philippine

Merchant Marine Academy, respectively;

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1 vi. President of the DULY RECOGNIZED faculty 2 association: vii. President of the supreme student council or the 3 student representative elected by the student council: Provided, 4 That in the absence of a student council president or student 5 representative elected by the student council, the university or 6 college PRESIDENT shall schedule one (1) week for the campaign 7 and election of THE [a] student representative; 8 viii. President of the DULY RECOGNIZED 9 alumni association of the institution concerned; [and] 10 11 ix. Two (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR [prominent citizens] who have distinguished themselves 12 13 in their professions or fields of specialization chosen from 14 among a list of at least five (5) persons qualified in the city or the 15 province where the school is located, as recommended by the 16 search committee constituted by the GOVERNING BOARD (GB) [President in consultation with the Chairman of the CHED] 17 18 based on the normal standards and qualifications for the 19 position[.]; AND x. President 20 OF THE DULY RECOGNIZED 21 ASSOCIATION OF NONACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF 22 OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE. 23 IN MULTI-CAMPUS UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES, [T] The 24 faculty, ALUMNI, NONACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF, 25 and the student council shall be represented by the presidents of their respective federations OR BY THE REPRESENTATIVES 26

VOTED UPON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE

CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS [in multi-campus universities and colleges].

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The private sector representatives shall be appointed by the Board of Regents[/] OR BOARD OF Trustees upon recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. The GB shall constitute the search committee at least ninety (90) days prior to the end of the term of the incumbent representatives from the private sector or within ninety (90) days from the creation of a new State college or university. The search committee shall complete the search process within sixty (60) days from its constitution by the GB.

THE GB OF THE CONCERNED CHARTERED STATE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE SHALL SELECT THE TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THEIR RESPECTIVE **QUALIFICATIONS,** AND POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTION: TO EXPERTISE THE REALIZATION OF THE MISSION OR VISION OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE ITSELF. THE TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE GB THROUGH A RESOLUTION DULY ADOPTED BY THE GB AND THEIR APPOINTMENT SHALL BE SIGNED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OR BOARD OF TRUSTEES OR BY THE PRESIDING OFFICER IN CASE THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD IS ABSENT DURING THE MEETING WHEN THEIR SELECTION IS COMPLETED.

b) Term of Office - The presidents of the faculty, NONACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF and alumni

associations and the student regent[s] or trustee[s] OR THE REPRESENTATIVE CHOSEN BY THE STUDENT COUNCIL shall sit in the Board until the expiration of their RESPECTIVE terms of office in such capacities.

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The [prominent citizens] REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR shall serve for a term of two (2) years[.], SUBJECT TO REAPPOINTMENT FOR A SECOND TERM ONLY IN NO INSTANCE WILL THE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES OCCUPY THE POSITION IN A HOLDOVER CAPACITY.

c) Meetings; Quorum - The Board of Regents[/] OR BOARD OF Trustees shall regularly convene at least once every quarter. The ChairPERSON[man] of the Board [of Regents/Trustees] may call a special meeting MOTU PROPRIO OR UPON REQUEST OF THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GB [whenever necessary]: Provided, That THE members are notified in writing at least three (3) days prior to said meeting.

NO ACTION BY THE BOARD SHALL BE MADE UNLESS IN A MEETING DULY CALLED FOR ESPECIALLY, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ACTIONS ON APPOINTMENT OF SUCH PRESIDENT; APPOINTMENT TO PERMANENT POSITIONS; DESIGNATION OF VICE PRESIDENTS, ADMINISTRATORS AND OTHER OFFICIALS; DISMISSAL OF OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES; SETTING OF POLICIES ON STUDENT ADMISSION AND RETENTION; AND APPROVAL OF GRADUATION OF STUDENTS OR GRANT OF HONORS.

[A majority of all members holding office shall constitute a quorum for board meetings: *Provided*, That the Chairman of the CHED who is the chairman of the Board or the president of the university or college is among those present in the meeting. In the absence of the Chairman of the CHED, a commissioner of the CHED, duly designated by him, shall represent him in the meeting with all. the rights and responsibilities of a regular member: *Provided*, *however*, That in the said meeting, the president of the university or college as vice chairman shall be the presiding officer: *Provided*, *further*, That this proviso notwithstanding, the Chairman of the CHED is hereby authorized to designate a CHED Commissioner the regular Chair to the Board of a particular university or college, in which case said CHED Commissioner shall act as the presiding officer.]

A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS HOLDING OFFICE SHALL CONSTITUTE A QUORUM FOR BOARD MEETINGS: *Provided*, That in the absence of the Chairperson, the president of the university or college as Vice Chairperson shall be the presiding officer: *Provided*, *further*, That in the absence of both the Chairperson and the president of the university or college, the presiding officer shall be chosen by a majority vote from among the other members of the Board, a quorum being present.

The members shall serve without compensation, but they shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in their attendance of meetings of the Board or in connection with their official business authorized by resolution of the Board.

IN CONSONANCE WITH SECTION 4, PARAGRAPH -B HEREOF, THE MEMBERS, HOWEVER, ARE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE REASONABLE HONORARIA DURING THEIR ATTENDANCE TO MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OR ACTIVITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE WHERE THEIR ATTENDANCE IS NECESSARY AND IS AUTHORIZED BY A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD, TOGETHER WITH OTHER BENEFITS THAT MAY BE ALLOWED BY THE BOARD."

- "SEC. 4. Powers and Duties of Governing Boards The governing board shall have the following specific powers and duties in addition to its general powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the board of directors of a corporation under Section 36 of Batas Pambansa Blg. 68, otherwise known as the Corporation Code of the Philippines:
- a) to enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the university or college;
- b) to receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided, for the support of the university or college in the manner it may determine, in its discretion WITH ALL ACCOMPANYING FULL CUSTODIAL RESPONSIBILITIES, to carry out the purposes and functions of the university or college;
- c) to receive in trust legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds[,] AND to administer and dispose OF the same when necessary for the benefit of the university or college, subject to THE limitations, directions and instructions of the donors, if any. Such donations shall be exempt from [all taxes and] THE DONOR'S TAX AND THE SAME

shall be considered as [deductible items from] ALLOWABLE DEDUCTIONS FROM THE GROSS INCOME IN THE COMPUTATION OF the income tax of the donor[: Provided, however, That the rights, privileges and exemptions extended by this Act shall likewise be extended to non-stock, non-profit private universities and colleges: Provided, finally, That the same privileges shall also be extended to city colleges and universities with the approval of the local government unit concerned and in coordination with the CHED], IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE (NIRC) OF 1997, AS AMENDED: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH DONATIONS SHALL NOT BE DISPOSED OF, TRANSFERRED OR SOLD:

d) to fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, such as but not limited to matriculation fees, graduation fees and laboratory fees, as their respective boards 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 or college, shall constitute special trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government depository bank, and all interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same fund for the use of the university or college: *Provided*, That income derived from university hospitals shall be exclusively earmarked for the operating expenses of the hospitals.

Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, any income generated by the university or college from tuition fees and other charges, as well

as from the operation of auxiliary services and land grants, shall

he retained by the university or college, and may be disbursed by

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college:

the Board of Regents[/] OR BOARD OF Trustees for instruction, research, extension, or other programs[/] OR projects of the university or college: 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 or college, shall not be able to pursue any project for which funds have been appropriated and, allocated under its approved program of expenditures, the Board of Regents[/] OR BOARD OF

Trustees 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 or

- e) to adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;
- f) to 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 or college through the Board of Regents/Trustees shall be exempt from all taxes and duties];
- g) to appoint, TERMINATE AND DISMISS, upon the recommendation of the president of the university or college, vice presidents, deans, directors, heads of departments, faculty

members and other officials and employees[;], IN WHICH CASE SAID APPOINTMENT, TERMINATION OR DISMISSAL, AFTER DUE PROCESS, OF OFFICIALS OR EMPLOYEES SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE.

NO POLITICAL BELIEFS, GENDER PREFERENCE, CULTURAL OR COMMUNITY AFFILIATION OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, AND RELIGIOUS OPINION OR AFFILIATION SHALL BE A MATTER OF INQUIRY IN THE APPOINTMENT OF FACULTY MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE: *PROVIDED, HOWEVER*, THAT NO MEMBER OF THE FACULTY SHALL TEACH FOR OR AGAINST ANY PARTICULAR CHURCH OR RELIGIOUS SECT;

- h) to fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees subject to the provisions of the [r]Revised [c]Compensation and POSITION [c]Classification [s]System and other pertinent budget and compensation laws governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any provisions of existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in accordance with the requirements of due process of law;
- i) to approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn by the administrative and academic councils as herein provided, INCLUDING THE ADOPTION OF NECESSARY MEASURES ENABLING STUDENTS TO EXERCISE THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS CONSISTENT WITH THE ACCEPTED NORMS AND MORALS OF SOCIETY, WHEREIN STUDENTS ARE GIVEN OPTIONS TO FULFILL THEIR ACADEMIC

CLASSES

AND

1 RESPONSIBILITIES SUCH AS MAKE-UP 2 EXAMINATIONS ON MISSED SCHOOL DAYS AND EXAMINATIONS 3 WHICH COINCIDED WITH THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RELIGIOUS 4 BELIEFS: 5 to set polices on admission, RETENTION, and graduation AND GRANT OF HONORS of students. WITHOUT 6 7 PREJUDICE TO STUDENTS' POLITICAL BELIEFS, GENDER 8 PREFERENCE, CULTURAL OR COMMUNITY AFFILIATION OR 9 ETHNIC ORIGIN, AND RELIGIOUS OPINION OR AFFILIATION: 10 k) to award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of outstanding contribution in the field of education. 11 12 public service, arts, science and technology or in any field of specialization within the academic competence of the university 13 14 or college and to authorize the award of certificates of 15 completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses; to absorb non-chartered tertiary institutions within 16 17 their respective provinces in coordination with the CHED and in 18 consultation with the Department of Budget and Management, 19 and to offer therein needed programs or courses, to promote and carry out equal access to educational opportunities mandated by 20 21 the Constitution: 22 m) to establish research and extension centers of the 23 State universities and colleges where such will promote the 24 development of the latter; 25 n) to establish chairs in the university or college and to 26 provide fellowships for qualified faculty members

scholarships to deserving students;

- o) to delegate, EXCEPT THE APPOINTMENT AND TERMINATION OF PERSONNEL HOLDING REGULAR POSITIONS WITH SALARY GRADE 24 OR HIGHER, any of its powers and duties provided for hereinabove to the president [and/or] OR other officials of the university or college as it may deem appropriate so as to expedite the administration of the affairs of the university or college SUBJECT TO THE CONFIRMATION OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OR BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
- p) to authorize an external management audit of the institution, to be financed by the CHED, SUBJECT TO COMMISSION ON AUDIT (COA) RULES AND REGULATIONS, and to institute reforms, including academic and structural changes, on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;
- q) to collaborate with other governing boards of State universities and colleges within the province or the region, under the supervision of the CHED and in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management, the restructuring of said colleges and universities to become more efficient, relevant, productive, and competitive;
- r) to enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the profitable development and management of the economic assets of the college or institution, the proceeds from which to be used for the development and strengthening of the [college or university] UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE;
- s) to 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 institution;

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- t) to develop academic arrangements for institution capability building with appropriate institutions and agencies, public or private, local or foreign, and to appoint experts[/] OR specialists as consultants, or visiting or exchange professors, scholars, researchers, as the case may be;
- u) to set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology, the dual system, open learning OR DISTANCE EDUCATION, community laboratory, etc., for the promotion of greater access to higher education;
- v) to establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative decision-making and transparency within the institution;
- w) to privatize, where most advantageous to the institution, management [and] OF non-academic services such as health, food, building or grounds or property maintenance and similar such other ANCILLARY activities and SERVICES; [and]
- x) to [extend the term of the president of the college or university beyond the age of retirement but not later than the age of seventy (70), whose performance has been unanimously rated as outstanding and upon unanimous recommendation by the search committee for the president of the institution concerned.] ALLOW THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE WHOSE PERFORMANCE HAS BEEN UNANIMOUSLY RATED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD AS OUTSTANDING IN GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT, ACADEMIC LINKAGES, RESOURCE GENERATION, COMMITMENT TO THE OBSERVANCE OF THE

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NORMS LAID DOWN IN THE CODE OF CONDUCT AND ETHICAL STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6713, TO COMPLETE HIS OR HER TERM OF OFFICE BEYOND THE AGE OF RETIREMENT BUT NOT LATER THAN THE AGE OF SEVENTY (70), UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESIDENT CREATED BY THE BOARD; AND

Y) TO IMPORT DUTY-FREE ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AND CULTURAL BOOKS OR PUBLICATIONS, UPON CERTIFICATION BY THE CHED THAT SUCH IMPORTED BOOKS OR PUBLICATIONS ARE FOR ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL, VOCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, PHILOSOPHICAL, HISTORICAL OR CULTURAL PURPOSES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TARIFF AND CUSTOMS CODE, AS AMENDED."

"SEC. 5. Promulgation and Implementation of Policies.

- The governing boards shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared State policies on education and other pertinent provisions of the Philippine Constitution on education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports; as well as the policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED under Republic Act No. 7722."

"SEC. 6. The Administration. — The administration of the university or college shall be vested in the president of the university or college who shall render full-time service. He OR SHE shall be appointed by the Board of Regents[/] QR BOARD OF Trustees, upon the recommendation of a duly constituted search committee. HE OR SHE SHALL LIKEWISE BE REMOVED BY THE BOARD FOR CAUSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE

RÉQUIREMENTS OF DUE PROCESS OF LAW UPON TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD. THE CHED SHALL FIX THE MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS FOR THE PRESIDENCY. THE GB, HOWEVER, MAY SET ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION.

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[He] THE PRESIDENT shall have a term of four (4) years and shall be eligible for reappointment for another term ONLY. THE GB SHALL CONSTITUTE THE SEARCH COMMITTEE AT LEAST SEVEN (7) MONTHS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE TERM OF THE INCUMBENT PRESIDENT. THE SEARCH COMMITTEE SHALL COMPLETE THE PROCESS OF SCREENING QUALIFIED APPLICANTS NOT LATER THAN SIX (6) MONTHS AFTER ITS GB. CONSTITUTION BY THE THEREAFTER. RECOMMENDATION OF THE SEARCH COMMITTEE SHALL HAVE TO BE ACTED UPON IMMEDIATELY BY THE GB: PROVIDED, THAT THE TERM OF THE NEW PRESIDENT SHALL OFFICIALLY START A DAY IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE LAST DAY OF THE PRESIDENT'S PREDECESSOR: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT IF THE NEW PRESIDENT FAILS TO ASSUME OFFICE FOR WHATEVER REASON, THE GB SHALL IMMEDIATELY CONVENE TO APPOINT A PRESIDENT WHOSE TERM OF OFFICE SHALL PROVIDED, FURTHERMORE, THAT START IMMEDIATELY: FOLLOWING THE DECISION OF THE GB, THE PRESIDING OFFICER SHALL IMMEDIATELY EXECUTE THE OATH OF OFFICE TO THE PRESIDENT AND FURNISH THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION THE APPOINTMENT PAPERS OF THE PRESIDENT AND: Provided, FINALLY, That [this] THESE provisions shall not adversely affect the terms of the incumbents.

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The president shall be assisted by a vice president for academic affairs who shall be [appointed] DESIGNATED by the Board upon the Iformer's PRESIDENT'S recommendation without prejudice to the [appointment] DESIGNATION of more than one vice president [when so warranted]. WHEN SO VICE PRESIDENTS MAY BE WARRANTED. OTHER BY THE PRESIDENT SUBJECT TO THE RECOMMENDED CONFIRMATION OF THE DESIGNATION BY THE GB AND THE GUIDELINES FORMULATED AND ISSUED JOINTLY BY THE CHED AND THE DBM. THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT SHALL BE COTERMINOUS WITH THAT OF THE PRESIDENT.

In case of vacancy by reason of death, resignation, removal for cause or incapacity of the president to perform the functions of [his] THE office, the Board shall have the authority to designate an officer-in-charge pending the appointment of a new president.

In case of vacancy [in the office of the president] as mentioned in the immediately preceding paragraph, [his successor] THE SUCCEEDING PRESIDENT shall hold office for the unexpired term WHICH SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED AS HIS OR HER FIRST TERM."

"SEC. 7. The Secretary of the University or College. — The Board shall appoint a secretary who shall serve as such for both the Board and the university or college and shall keep all records and proceedings of the Board. He OR SHE shall [communicate] SEND to each member of the Board THE notice

1	of meetings	AT	LEAST	THREE	(3)	DAYS	PRIOR	то	THE
2	MEETING,"								

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SEC. 2. Section 10 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 10. Academic Council — There shall be an academic council with the president of the university or college as chair PERSON [man] and all members of the instructional staff with the rank of not lower than assistant professor as members.

The academic council shall have the COLLEGIAL power to review and recommend the curricular offerings INCLUSIVE OF THEIR REVISIONS OR ENRICHMENT and rules of STUDENT discipline of the university or college subject for appropriate action of the Board of Regents / OR BOARD OF Trustees, WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO EVERY STUDENT'S POLITICAL BELIEF, GENDER PREFERENCE. CULTURAL OR COMMUNITY AFFILIATION OR ETHNIC ORIGIN, AND RELIGIOUS OPINION OR THE COUNCIL SHALL LIKEWISE ADOPT THE AFFILIATION. NECESSARY MEASURES ENABLING STUDENTS TO EXERCISE THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS CONSISTENT WITH THE ACCEPTED NORMS AND MORALS OF SOCIETY WHERE STUDENTS ARE OPTIONS TO FULFILL THEIR ACADEMIC GIVEN RESPONSIBILITIES SUCH AS MAKE-UP CLASSES OR **EXAMINATIONS ON MISSED SCHOOL DAYS AND EXAMINATIONS** WHICH COINCIDED WITH THE EXERCISE OF THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS. It shall fix the requirements for the admission AND RETENTION of students as well as for graduation OR GRANT OF HONORS and the conferment of degrees subject to review [and/or] OR approval by the Board of Regents[/] OR BOARD OF Trustees through the president of the university or college."

SEC. 3. The same Act is hereby amended by inserting a new section between Sections 11 and 12 to be denominated as Section 11-A to read as follows:

"SEC. 11-A. RESEARCH COUNCIL. — THERE SHALL BE A RESEARCH COUNCIL WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE AS CHAIRPERSON WHO SHALL DESIGNATE SENIOR MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY AND RESEARCH STAFF TO CONSTITUTE THE COUNCIL.

THE RESEARCH COUNCIL SHALL HAVE THE POWER TO INITIATE AND REVIEW RESEARCH POLICIES AND PRIORITIES, APPROVE RESEARCH PROPOSALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION, DRAW UP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GUIDELINES FOR PATENTABLE IDEAS AND RESEARCH RESULTS GENERATED BY THE INSTITUTION SUBJECT TO THE CONFIRMATION OF THE GB."

SEC. 4. Section 15 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 15. Implementation. — The Chairperson[man] of the CHED is hereby directed to take such steps as are necessary for the immediate implementation of this Act BEGINNING WITH THE PREPARATION, COMPLETION AND FINALIZATION OF THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE PROMULGATION OF THIS ACT. THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS WHO FAIL TO CAUSE THE CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMITTEES OR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROCEDURES REQUIRED UNDER THIS ACT SHALL BE CHARGED WITH DERELICTION OR NEGLECT OF DUTY."

1	SEC. 5. Section 17 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as					
2	follows:					
3	"SEC. 17. Repealing Clause All laws, presidential					
4	decrees, executive orders, letters of instruction, [and] state					
5	universities and colleges charters, RULES AND REGULATIONS					
6	AND OTHER ISSUANCES OR PARTS THEREOF WHICH ARE					
7	contrary to or inconsistent with THE PROVISIONS OF this Act are					
8	hereby repealed or amended accordingly."					
9	SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication					
10	in a newspaper of general circulation.					
	Approved,					