



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9523

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BY REPRESENTATIVES TEJADA, GO (M.), YAP (E.), SALCEDA, ARENAS, SUANSING (E.), TAMBUNTING, BABASA, ELAGO, SUNTAY, DELOSO-MONTALLA, NOGRALES (J.J.), RODRIGUEZ, SUANSING (H.), TUPAS, GERON, EBCAS, SAVELLANO, PADIERNOS, GARIN (S.), CRISOLOGO, VIOLAGO, DE VENECIA, NIETO, HARESCO, BROSAS, CULLAMAT, LEGARDA AND DY (F.M.C.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT No. 1018

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A COLLEGE OF MEDICINE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MINDANAO-MAIN CAMPUS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KABACAN, PROVINCE OF COTABATO, TO BE KNOWN AS THE "UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MINDANAO-COLLEGE OF MEDICINE", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1           **SECTION 1. *Establishment.*** – There is hereby established a medical school in the  
2 University of Southern Mindanao (USM)-Main Campus located in the Municipality of  
3 Kabacan, Province of Cotabato, which shall be known as the "*University of Southern*  
4 *Mindanao-College of Medicine*".  
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6           **SEC. 2. *General Mandate.*** – The USM-College of Medicine, hereinafter referred to as  
7 the "College", shall primarily offer a Doctor of Medicine Program, including the Integrated  
8 Liberal Arts and Medicine (INTARMED) Program, consisting of basic science and clinical  
9 courses, and using learner-centered and competency-based approach. The primary goal of the  
10 College shall be to develop a corps of professional physicians to strengthen the healthcare  
11 system of the country, as well as to respond to the human resource development needs of the  
12 Province of Cotabato and Region XII.  
13

14           The College is also mandated to undertake research and extension services and provide  
15 progressive leadership in these areas.

1           **SEC. 3. Governance.** – Being an institution within the USM System, the governance of  
2 the College shall be vested in the Board of Regents of the USM, hereinafter referred to as the  
3 Board, whose powers are defined under Presidential Decree 1312, otherwise known as  
4 “Converting the Mindanao Institute of Technology into the University of Southern  
5 Mindanao”, as amended, and other applicable laws and regulations, unless otherwise provided  
6 or amended elsewhere in this Act.  
7

8           **SEC. 4. Administration.** – The administration of the College shall be vested in the  
9 Dean of the USM Main Campus insofar as authorized by the Board and the President of the  
10 University.  
11

12           **SEC. 5. The College Dean.** – The College shall be headed by a Dean who shall be  
13 appointed by the Board, subject to its guidelines on qualifications and standards, and based on  
14 the recommendation of the President, following a process of consultation with the constituents  
15 of the College. The Dean shall render full-time service, serve a term of three (3) years, and  
16 may be reappointed to another term.  
17

18           Within six (6) months of the effectivity of this Act, the President of the USM shall  
19 constitute the Search Committee for the Deanship.  
20

21           The powers and duties of the Dean of the College, in addition to those specifically  
22 provided for in this Act, shall include those usually pertaining to the Office of the Dean of  
23 similar state universities and colleges and those delegated by the President.  
24

25           The salary of the Dean of the College shall be in accordance with Republic Act No.  
26 11466 or the “Salary Standardization Law of 2019”, and such other laws amendatory thereto,  
27 which may hereinafter be enacted, and shall be comparable to that being received by the  
28 Deans of similar educational institutions.  
29

30           In case of a vacancy in the Office of the Dean by reason of death, compulsory retirement,  
31 resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the Dean to perform the functions of the  
32 office, the Board, upon the recommendation of the President, shall designate an Officer-in-  
33 Charge of the College, pending the appointment of a new Dean: *Provided*, That the Officer-  
34 in-Charge shall serve only during the unexpired portion of the term.  
35

36           The Dean of the College shall be assisted by a College Secretary, who shall be appointed  
37 by the Board.  
38

39           **SEC. 6. The Faculty.** – The Board shall appoint, upon the recommendation of the  
40 President of the University, the faculty members of the College: *Provided*, That no political  
41 belief, gender preference, cultural or community affiliation or ethnic origin, nor religious  
42 opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the  
43 College: *Provided, further*, That said appointment shall be subject to the guidelines,  
44 qualifications, and standards set by the Board: *Provided, finally*, That no member of the  
45 faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

1           **SEC. 7. *Scholarship Programs and Admission.*** – The College shall provide  
2 scholarships and other affirmative action programs to assist poor but deserving students who  
3 qualify for admission to the College.  
4

5           No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of gender, religion,  
6 cultural or community affiliation, physical disability, or ethnic origin.  
7

8           **SEC. 8. *Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy.*** – The College shall enjoy  
9 academic freedom and institutional autonomy, pursuant to paragraph 2, Section 5 of Article  
10 XIV of the Constitution.  
11

12           **SEC. 9. *Authority to Loan or Transfer Apparatus, Equipment or Supplies and Detail***  
13 ***of Personnel.*** – Upon the request of the Board, through the President of the USM, the heads  
14 of the bureaus and offices of the national government may loan or transfer to the College such  
15 apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by it, and detail employees for duty  
16 therein when, in the judgment of the head of bureau or office, the apparatus, equipment,  
17 supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public  
18 service.  
19

20           The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the Dean of  
21 the College, and the time so served shall be counted as part of their regular service.  
22

23           **SEC. 10. *Assets, Liabilities and Personnel.*** – All appropriations, assets, both real and  
24 personal, personnel, and records of the College, as well as its liabilities or obligations, shall be  
25 titled or named after the USM.  
26

27           All parcels of land belonging to the government to be occupied by the College shall be  
28 the property of the USM, and shall be titled under its name: *Provided*, That should the  
29 College cease to exist or be abolished or should such aforementioned parcels of land be no  
30 longer needed by the USM, the same shall revert to the concerned local government unit or to  
31 the Republic of the Philippines, as the case may be.  
32

33           **SEC. 11. *Duty and Tax Exemptions.*** – The importation by the College of medical books  
34 or publications, medical equipment or instruments which are for medical, laboratory or  
35 scientific purposes shall, upon certification by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED),  
36 be exempt from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of Republic Act No. 10863,  
37 otherwise known as the “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA)”;  
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39           All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to and used  
40 actually, directly and exclusively for educational purposes by the College, shall be exempt  
41 from donor’s tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from gross income  
42 for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor in accordance with the provisions  
43 of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.  
44

45           **SEC. 12. *Suppletory Application.*** – The provisions of Republic Act No. 8292, otherwise  
46 known as the “Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997”, shall form part of this Act.

1           **SEC. 13. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act  
2 shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.  
3

4           **SEC. 14. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days from the  
5 approval of this Act, the Board shall, in consultation with the CHED, issue the rules and  
6 regulations to fully implement the provisions of this Act.  
7

8           **SEC. 15. Separability Clause.** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is  
9 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected are in full  
10 force and effect.  
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12           **SEC. 16. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and rules  
13 and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are amended,  
14 repealed, or modified accordingly.  
15

16           **SEC. 17. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in  
17 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*