

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



'22 JUL 27 A10 :40

SENATE

S. No. 899

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

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**AN ACT  
EXPANDING AND CREATING THE REGULAR  
CAMPUSES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE, AMENDING FOR  
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9746, AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 9746, which converted the then Polytechnic State College of Antique into the University of Antique, was signed into law on November 10, 2009. Currently, the main campus of the University of Antique is located in the municipality of Sibalom, with campuses in Tibiao and Hamtic and extension campuses in Libertad and Caluya. Since the enactment of R.A. No. 9746, a confluence of factors has significantly changed the educational landscape in the province.

For one, the Department of Education has since created an integrated agricultural high school in San Remigio, Antique. The creation of a regular campus in the municipality will allow students to further hone their skills through tertiary education, contributing as a rich resource to the development of the agricultural landscape of the province. Moreover, the indigenous peoples in Tobias Fornier, Antique often face many challenges and struggle to finish their education, including lack of funds to pay for transportation costs. The creation of a regular campus in Tobias Fornier could help ease this financial burden and give them a chance to finish their education.

With the growing demand for educational opportunities in Caluya and Libertad, there is also a need to convert the University's temporary extension campuses in these municipalities into regular external campuses. By appropriating funds for the construction of classrooms and laboratories, the University can open more relevant programs for these campuses.

Lastly, Antique is the only province in Region VI without a law school. By increasing the breadth of programs the University may offer, students in Antique may be given the opportunity to pursue law. This could help address the scarcity of practicing lawyers in the province and speed up the administration of justice.

Therefore, this bill seeks to expand the University's programs and create additional regular campuses in order to ensure the continued quality and relevance of education and learning in the province of Antique.

Hence, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**LOREN LEGARDA**

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

1 Section. 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9746 is hereby amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 "SEC. 2. *General Mandate.* - The University shall primarily provide  
4 advanced education, higher technological, professional instruction and  
5 training in the fields of education, agriculture, forestry, fishery, maritime  
6 education, ecology, engineering, philosophy, information and  
7 communications technology, letters, arts and sciences, nursing, LAW,  
8 medicine and other relevant fields of study. It shall also undertake  
9 research and extension services in support of the socioeconomic  
10 development of Antique, and provide progressive leadership in its areas  
11 of specialization."

12 Sec. 2. Section 3 of R.A. No. 9746 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 "SEC. 3. *Curricular Offerings.* - The University shall offer  
14 undergraduate and graduate courses in the fields of education,  
15 agriculture, forestry, fishery, maritime education, ecology, engineering,  
16 philosophy, information and communications technology, letters, arts and

1 sciences, nursing, LAW, medicine and other degree courses within its  
2 areas of specialization and according to its capabilities, as the Board of  
3 Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives, in order to meet  
4 the needs of the Province of Antique and Region VI: *Provided*, That no  
5 degree program shall be offered without the approval of the Commission  
6 on Higher Education (CHED) before the same shall be approved by its  
7 Board.

8 The existing high school/s shall be transferred to the jurisdiction  
9 and supervision of the Department of Education (DepED): *Provided*, That  
10 the high schools shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus  
11 of the University until its students, who are currently enrolled, shall have  
12 completed their high school education: *Provided, further*, That the  
13 University may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school, if it has a  
14 College of Education.”

15 Sec. 3. Section 7 of R.A. No. 9746 is hereby amended to as read as follows:

16 “SEC. 7. *Powers and Duties of the Board of Regents.* – The Board shall  
17 have the following specific powers and duties, in addition to its general  
18 powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the  
19 board of directors of a corporation under existing laws:

- 20 (a) To promulgate rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be  
21 necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the University;  
22 (b) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided, for the  
23 support of the University in the manner it may determine, in its  
24 discretion, in order to carry out the purposes and functions of the  
25 University;  
26 (c) To import duty-free economic, technical and cultural books and/or  
27 publications, upon certification by the CHED that such imported  
28 books and/or publications are for economic, technical, vocational,  
29 scientific, philosophical, historical or cultural purposes, in  
30 accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and Customs Code of  
31 the Philippines, as amended;

1 (d) To receive in trust, legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal  
2 properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose, of the same  
3 when necessary for the benefit of the University, and subject to the  
4 limitations, directions and instructions of the donor, if any.

5 Such donations shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the  
6 same shall be considered as allowable deductions from the gross  
7 income in the computation of the income tax of the donor, in  
8 accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue  
9 Code (NIRC) of 1997, as amended: Provided, that such donations  
10 shall not be disposed of, transferred or sold;

11 (e) To fix the tuition fees and other necessary school charges, such as,  
12 but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees and  
13 laboratory fees, as the Board may deem proper to impose, after due  
14 consultations with the involved sectors.

15 Such fees and charges, including government subsidies and  
16 other income generated by the University, shall constitute special  
17 trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government  
18 depository bank, and all interests that shall accrue there from shall  
19 form part of the same funds for the use of the University.

20 Any provision of existing laws, rules and regulations to the  
21 contrary notwithstanding, any income generated by the University  
22 from tuition fees and other charges, as well as from the operation  
23 of auxiliary services and land grants shall be retained by the  
24 University, and may be disbursed by the Board for instruction,  
25 research, extension or other programs/projects of the University:  
26 Provided, That all fiduciary fees shall be disbursed for the specific  
27 purposes for which these are collected.

28 If, for reason beyond its control, the University shall not be  
29 able to pursue any project for which funds have been appropriated  
30 and allocated under its approved program of expenditures, the  
31 Board may authorize the use of said funds for any reasonable

1           purpose which, in its discretion, may be necessary and urgent for  
2           the attainment of the objectives and goals of the University;

3           (f) To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school  
4           fees for greater access to poor but deserving students;

5           (g) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machinery,  
6           equipment and other facilities and the purchase and acquisition of  
7           real and personal properties, including necessary supplies and  
8           materials and equipment;

9           (h) To appoint, upon recommendation of the President of the  
10          University, Vice Presidents, deans, directors, heads of departments,  
11          faculty members and other officials and employees of the  
12          University;

13          (i) To fix and adjust salaries of faculty members and administrative  
14          officials and employees, subject to the provisions of the Revised  
15          Compensation and Position Classification System and other  
16          pertinent budget and compensation laws governing hours of  
17          service and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper;  
18          to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under such  
19          regulations as it may promulgate, any provision of existing laws to  
20          the contrary notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in  
21          accordance with the requirements of due process of law;

22          (j) To approve the curricula, instructional programs and rules of  
23          discipline drawn by the Administrative and Academic Councils as  
24          herein provided;

25          (k) To set policies on admission and graduation of students;

26          (l) To award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their  
27          outstanding contribution in the fields of agriculture, public service,  
28          arts, science and technology, education or in any field of  
29          specialization within the academic competence of the University;  
30          and to authorize the awarding of certificate of completion of  
31          nondegree and nontraditional courses;

- 1 (m) To establish and absorb nonchartered tertiary institutions within  
2 the Province of Antique as branches and extension centers in  
3 coordination with the CBED and in consultation with the  
4 Department of Budget and Management (DBM), and to offer  
5 therein programs or courses to promote and carry out equal and  
6 greater access to educational opportunities as mandated by the  
7 Constitution;
- 8 (n) To establish research and extension centers of the University where  
9 such will promote the development of the latter;
- 10 (o) To establish professorial chairs in the University and to provide  
11 fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to  
12 deserving students;
- 13 (p) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided for hereinabove  
14 to the President or Officer-in-Charge and/or other officials of the  
15 University as it may deem appropriate, so as to expedite the  
16 administration of the affairs of the University;
- 17 (q) To authorize an external management audit of the University, to be  
18 financed by the CHED, subject to the rules and regulations of the  
19 Commission on Audit (COA); and to institute reforms, including  
20 academic and structural changes, on the basis of audit results and  
21 recommendations;
- 22 (r) To collaborate with other governing boards of state universities and  
23 colleges within the Province of Antique or Region VI, under the  
24 supervision of the CHED and in consultation with the DBM, and  
25 work towards the restructuring of the University to become more  
26 efficient, relevant, productive and competitive;
- 27 (s) To enter into joint ventures with business and industry for the  
28 profitable development and management of the economic assets of  
29 the University, the proceeds from which shall be used for the  
30 development and strengthening of the same;
- 31 (t) To develop consortia and other economic forms of linkages with  
32 local government units (LGUs), institutions and agencies, both

1 public and private, local and foreign, in furtherance of the purposes  
2 and objectives of the University;

3 (u) To develop academic arrangements for institutional capability  
4 building with appropriate institutions and agencies, public and  
5 private, local and foreign, and to appoint experts/specialists as  
6 consultants, part time or visiting or exchange professors, scholars,  
7 researchers, as the case may be;

8 (v) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of  
9 transmitting knowledge such as the use of information technology,  
10 the dual learning system, open or distance education and  
11 community laboratory for the promotion of greater access to higher  
12 education and graduate studies, as the case may be;

13 (w) To establish policy guidelines and procedures for participative  
14 decision - making and transparency within the University;

15 (x) To privatize, where most advantageous to the University, the  
16 management of nonacademic services such as health, food,  
17 building, grounds or property maintenance and such other similar  
18 activities; [and]

19 **(Y) TO RECOMMEND THE CREATION AND EXPANSION OF THE**  
20 **ADDITIONAL EXTERNAL CAMPUSES OF THE UNIVERSITY**  
21 **APPROPRIATING THEREWITH THE NECESSARY BUDGET**  
22 **SUBJECT WITH THE COMPLIANCE ON THE CONDITIONS**  
23 **SET FORTH BY THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER**  
24 **EDUCATION AND OTHER REGULATORY BODIES; AND**

25 **[(y)] (Z) To extend the term of the President of the University beyond**  
26 **the age of retirement, but not beyond the age of seventy (70), whose**  
27 **performance has been unanimously rated by the Board as**  
28 **outstanding based on the guidelines, qualifications and/or**  
29 **standards set by the Board, after unanimous recommendation by**  
30 **the Search Committee."**

31 Sec. 4. A new Section 10 of R.A. No. 9746 is hereby inserted to read as follows  
32 and the succeeding sections shall be renumbered accordingly:



1           “SEC. 10. *UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES.* - UNIVERSITY OF  
2 ANTIQUE, PROVINCE OF ANTIQUE, SHALL BE COMPOSED OF  
3 THE FOLLOWING CAMPUSES: (1) UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE IN  
4 THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIBALOM AS ITS MAIN CAMPUS, (2)  
5 UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE TARIO LIM MEMORIAL CAMPUS (IN  
6 TIBIAO, ANTIQUE), (3) THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE HAMTIC  
7 CAMPUS (IN HAMTIC, ANTIQUE), (4) THE UNIVERSITY OF  
8 ANTIQUE LIBERTAD CAMPUS AND UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE  
9 CALUYA CAMPUS, WHICH ARE NOW CONVERTED TO REGULAR  
10 CAMPUSES, AND (4) THE CREATION OF NEW REGULAR  
11 CAMPUSES IN TOBIAS FORNIER AND SAN REMIGIO, ANTIQUE,  
12 WHICH ARE NOW KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE  
13 TOBIAS FORNIER CAMPUS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ANTIQUE  
14 SAN REMIGIO CAMPUS, RESPECTIVELY.”

15           *Sec. 5. Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of  
16 this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

17           *Sec. 6. Separability Clause.* - If, for any reason, any part, section, or provision of  
18 this Act is declared as unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions  
19 hereof shall not be affected thereby.

20           *Sec. 7. Repealing Clause.* - The provisions of Republic Act No. 9746, and all other  
21 laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations and other executive issuances, which  
22 are not consistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed,  
23 amended or modified accordingly.

24           *Sec. 8. Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall have a retroactive effect on 10  
25 November 2009 or the date when Republic Act No. 9746 took effect after its  
26 publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,