

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

'22 DEC 14 P4 :58

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SENATE

S.B. No. 1620

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Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM,  
INTEGRATING ALL ITS CAMPUSES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Bulacan State University traces its origin as early as 1904 as a secondary school run by Americans. It was eventually transformed into a college known as the Bulacan College of Arts and Trades.<sup>1</sup> In 1993, the College was further converted into a University with the enactment of Republic Act No. 7665, to “primarily provide higher professional, technical, and special instructions for special purposes and promote research and extension services, advanced studies and progressive leadership in agriculture, commerce, education, fishery, forestry, engineering, arts, and sciences, law, medicine, public administration, technical and other fields as may be relevant.”<sup>2</sup>

Since then, the University has produced thousands of graduates who consistently perform well in licensure examinations, way above the national passing rate. Recently, the University also received its ISO 9001:2015 Certification, passed the Level II Institutional Accreditation, with 50 of its academic programs having been accredited by the Accrediting Agency of Chartered Colleges and Universities (AACUP), Inc.<sup>3</sup> The University also boasts of 1,138 faculty members and 476 non-teaching personnel who continuously work for the progressive realization of the University’s goals, including (i) providing quality and accessible education; (ii) having an innovative and responsive research and public engagement; (iii) involvement in regional development; (iv) having sound financial management; and (v) promoting good governance.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> About BulSU. Retrieved from <https://bulsu.edu.ph/about/> (date last accessed: December 14, 2022).

<sup>2</sup> Sec. 2.

<sup>3</sup> *Supra* note 1.

<sup>4</sup> *Id.*

To continue and further strengthen its mission “to produce highly competent, ethical and service-oriented professionals that contribute to the sustainable socio-economic growth and development of the nation,”<sup>5</sup> this bill seeks to transform the existing Bulacan State University into a Bulacan State University System (the “System”), by integrating its existing main campus and other campuses in Bustos, San Jose del Monte, Bulakan, Hagonoy and San Rafael, all in the Province of Bulacan. The System seeks to build a multi-clustered campus university system that will advance strategic plans and allow each of its campuses to fulfill their distinct university goals and serve the growing need of each municipality of the Province of Bulacan, while at the same time maintaining the Bulacan State University System brand in leading educational pathways anchored with career-focused programs, competence, and outcome-driven innovation.

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

  
JOEL VILLANUEVA *lv*

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<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**  
**INTEGRATING ALL ITS CAMPUSES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS**  
**THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1        **SECTION. 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Bulacan State*  
2        *University System Act.*”  
3

4        **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State shall establish, maintain and  
5        support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the  
6        needs of the people and society. As such, the State embraces the role of  
7        modernization programs, laboratory facilities, Faculty and Non-Academic Personnel,  
8        review centers, Graduate School and specialized diploma short court programs in law,  
9        and international programs in developing Bulacan State University System as a  
10       modern, responsive, and efficient institution with the capability to engage in  
11       conventional and/or unconventional techniques, methodology and strategies in  
12       teaching, thereby producing high quality education. Towards this end, it is the policy  
13       of the State to establish the Bulacan State University System (the “University” or  
14       “System”) as the regional university in the Province of Bulacan and geographically  
15       adjacent regions.  
16

17       **SEC. 3. Purpose of the Bulacan State University System.** – The Bulacan  
18       State University System is intended to establish and integrate a system-wide function  
19       where all its campuses are represented. True to the University’s pioneering nature,  
20       together with the insatiable growing demand of the society, the University embraces  
21       the need for modernizing the system. As Bulacan State University continues to grow  
22       and climb its enrollment, the university system seeks to provide shared services, set  
23       a semi-decentralized system-wide academic and administrative services, promote  
24       uniformity in the financial and strategic management of the clustering of campuses,

1 services, programs, faculty, non-academic personnel, and promote a coordinated  
2 approach in the expansion of university campuses for the continuous, efficient, and  
3 effective delivery of quality, relevant and accessible higher education.  
4

5 To drive innovation and support quality education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the  
6 Bulacan State University System seeks to build a multi-clustered campus university  
7 system to advance strategic plans that will allow each of its campuses to fulfill their  
8 distinct university goals and serve the growing need of each municipality of the  
9 province of Bulacan while maintaining the Bulacan State University System brand in  
10 leading educational pathways anchored with career-focused programs, competence,  
11 and outcome-driven innovation to all its stakeholders.  
12

13 **SEC. 4. The University System.** – There is hereby established a State  
14 university in the Province of Bulacan, to be known as the Bulacan State University  
15 System, by integrating the Bulacan State University and all its campuses in Bustos,  
16 San Jose del Monte, Bulakan, Hagonoy and San Rafael.  
17

18 In pursuit of enhanced quality of schooling, improved efficiency,  
19 democratization, and increased accountability, these campuses shall exercise  
20 education decentralization or campus semi-autonomy by giving them budgets and the  
21 authority to make important educational and related financial decisions.  
22

23 **SEC. 5. Curricular Offerings.** – The University shall primarily provide graduate  
24 programs, higher professional, technical and special instructions for special purposes  
25 and promote research and extension services, advanced studies and progressive  
26 leadership in environment and natural sciences, accountancy, business and public  
27 administration, agriculture, commerce, education, fishery, forestry, engineering and  
28 technology, arts and sciences, law, medicine and allied medicine, architecture,  
29 archeology, hotel and tourism, aeronautics, artificial intelligence and robotics, public  
30 administration, technical and other fields as may be relevant, and as the Board of  
31 Regents may deem necessary to carry out its objectives. It shall also offer  
32 opportunities in short-term technical or vocational courses within its areas of  
33 specialization to meet the agro-industrial needs of the nation, in general, and the  
34 Province of Bulacan, in particular. The University may open new branches/annexes in  
35 consortium with other academic institutions, local or international, as may be deemed  
36 necessary, to promote innovations and progress in the field of academe and  
37 advancement of research, subject to applicable memoranda with other institutions.  
38

39 **SEC. 6. Modernization Programs.** – The System entails the development and  
40 employment of all available capabilities that can address its areas which were  
41 assessed of the needed modernization improvements: *Provided*, That the acquisition  
42 of equipment and material of such types and quantities shall be in accordance with the  
43 required development of capabilities of the Bulacan State University System pursuant  
44 to its modernization objectives.  
45

46 **SEC. 7. Improvement of Laboratory Facilities.** – Well-equipped and  
47 modernized laboratory facilities shall be established at the University, who can acquire  
48 and upgrade an appropriate technology and equipment for improved laboratory  
49 facilities with reference to the specific needs of each and every college of the  
50 University: *Provided*, That the acquisition of new equipment and materials for better



1 laboratory facilities shall be synchronized with the phase-out of uneconomical and  
2 obsolete equipment and materials systems on the basis of the inventory; *Provided,*  
3 *further,* That the System shall keep a record of such improvement and submit to the  
4 Commission on Audit the report of such. In cases where improvement comes from the  
5 private fund, it shall be formally entered into the System's records.

6  
7 **SEC. 8. Administration.** – The University shall have the general powers of a  
8 corporation as set forth in Republic Act No. 11232, otherwise known as “An Act  
9 Providing for the Revised Corporation Code of the Philippines.” The administration of  
10 the University and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively in  
11 the Board of Regents and the President of the University who must render full-time  
12 service. The powers and duties of the President of the University, in addition to those  
13 specifically provided under this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the Office of  
14 the President of similar universities and those delegated by the Board of Regents.

15  
16 **SEC. 9. Governing Board.** – The governing body of the University shall be the  
17 Board of Regents (the “Board”), which shall be composed of the following:

- 18  
19 a) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) as  
20 Chairperson;  
21  
22 b) The President of the University, as Vice-Chairperson;  
23  
24 c) The Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Higher and Technical and  
25 Vocational Education or any of his/her authorized representative, as member;  
26  
27 d) The Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education,  
28 or any of his/her authorized representative as member;  
29  
30 e) The regional director of the National Economic and Development Authority  
31 (NEDA), as member;  
32  
33 f) The regional director of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), as  
34 member;  
35  
36 g) The president of the federation of faculty associations of the University (the  
37 “Faculty Regent”), as member;  
38  
39 h) The president of the federation of student councils or the student representative  
40 elected by the federation of student councils of the University (the “Student  
41 Regent”), as member;  
42  
43 i) The president of the federation of alumni associations of the University (the  
44 “Alumni Regent”), as member; and  
45  
46 j) Two (2) prominent citizens who have distinguished themselves in their  
47 professions or in their specializations, as members.

48  
49 The two (2) prominent citizens shall be chosen from among a list of at least five  
50 (5) qualified persons in the Province of Bulacan, as recommended by a search

1 committee constituted by the University President, in consultation with the Chairperson  
2 of the CHED, based on the normal standards and qualifications for the position.  
3

4 **SEC. 10. Term of Office.** – The Chairperson/President/head of faculty and  
5 alumni associations and the Student Regent shall serve in the Board only for the  
6 duration of their terms of office as set forth in their respective constitutions and by-  
7 laws: *Provided*, That in the event the student representative loses status, either by  
8 graduation from the University, dismissal, transfer to another school, or other causes,  
9 a student representative shall be thus elected through an election conducted for the  
10 purpose; *Provided, further*, That in the event that the federation of faculty associations  
11 representative and the federation of alumni associations representative loses status,  
12 either by dismissal, resignation, incapacity, or other causes, a new representative shall  
13 be elected through an election conducted for the purpose. For the purpose of the  
14 provisions of this Section, the associations of faculty, alumni and student councils in  
15 each branch of the University shall organize themselves to form their respective  
16 federations, which, in turn, shall elect their federation officials. The two (2) prominent  
17 citizens shall serve for a term of two (2) years.  
18

19 **SEC. 11. Powers of the Board.** – The Board shall promulgate and implement  
20 policies in accordance with the declared policies on education and other pertinent  
21 provisions of the Philippine Constitution on education, science and technology, arts,  
22 culture, and sports, as well as the policies, standards and thrusts of the CHED as  
23 provided under Republic Act No. 7772, otherwise known as the Higher Education Act  
24 of 1994.  
25

26 The Board shall have the following specific powers and duties in addition to its  
27 general powers of administration and the exercise of all the powers granted to the  
28 board of directors of a corporation under existing laws:  
29

- 30 a) To enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry  
31 out the purposes and functions of the University;  
32
- 33 b) Subject to existing laws, to fix the tuition fees and other necessary school  
34 charges, such as, but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees, and  
35 laboratory fees, as the Board may deem proper to impose after due consultations  
36 with the involved sectors. Such fees and charges, including the government  
37 subsidies and other incomes generated by the University, shall constitute special  
38 trust funds and shall be deposited in any authorized government depository  
39 bank, and all interests that shall accrue therefrom shall form part of the same  
40 funds for the use of the University. Any provision of existing laws, rules and  
41 regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, any income generated by the  
42 University from tuition fees and other charges, as well as from the operation of  
43 auxiliary services and land grants, shall be retained by the University, and may  
44 be disbursed by the Board for instruction, research, extension, or other  
45 programs/projects of the University: *Provided*, That all fiduciary fees shall be  
46 disbursed for the specific purposes for which they are collected. If, for reasons  
47 beyond its control, the University shall not be able to pursue any project for which  
48 funds have been appropriated and allocated under its approved program of  
49 expenditures, the Board may authorize the use of said funds for any reasonable

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

- 3
- 4 c) To authorize the construction or repair of its buildings, machineries, equipment  
5 and other facilities, and the purchase and acquisition of real and personal  
6 properties, including necessary supplies, materials and equipment;
- 7
- 8 d) To confirm appointments of chancellors, vice-chancellors, vice-presidents,  
9 deans, directors, heads of departments, faculty members, and other officials and  
10 employees of the University made by the President of the University;
- 11
- 12 e) To approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn by  
13 the administrative and academic councils as herein provided;
- 14
- 15 f) To confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation, to award honorary  
16 degrees upon persons in recognition of outstanding contribution in the field of  
17 education, public service, arts, science and technology or in any field of  
18 specialization, and to authorize the award of certificates for completion of non-  
19 degree and non-traditional courses;
- 20
- 21 g) To fix and adjust the salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and  
22 employees subject to the provisions of the Revised Compensation and Position  
23 Classification System and other pertinent budget and compensation laws  
24 governing hours of service, and such other duties and conditions as it may deem  
25 proper; to grant them, at its discretion, leaves of absence under such regulations  
26 as it may promulgate, any provisions of existing laws to the contrary  
27 notwithstanding; and to remove them for cause in accordance with the  
28 requirements of due process of law;
- 29
- 30 h) To absorb non-chartered tertiary institutions within the Province of Bulacan in  
31 coordination with the CHED, and in consultation with the Department of Budget  
32 and Management (DBM), and to offer therein needed programs or courses to  
33 promote and carry out equal access to educational opportunities mandated by  
34 the Constitution;
- 35
- 36 i) To establish chairs in the University and to provide fellowships for qualified  
37 faculty members and scholarships to deserving students;
- 38
- 39 j) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided under this Act to the President  
40 and/or other officials of the University as it may deem appropriate so as to  
41 expedite the administration of the affairs of the University;
- 42
- 43 k) To authorize an external management audit of the institution, to be financed by  
44 the CHED and to institute reforms, including academic and structural changes,  
45 on the basis of the audit results and recommendations;
- 46
- 47 l) To develop consortia and other forms of linkages, including but not limited to,  
48 certification course, short term courses and the like with local government units  
49 (LGUs), institutions and agencies, both public and private, local and foreign, in  
50 furtherance of the purposes and objectives of the University;



- 1  
2 m) To develop academic, arrangements for institutional capability building, with  
3 appropriate institutions and agencies, public and private, local and foreign, and  
4 to appoint experts/specialists as consultants, or visiting or exchange professors,  
5 scholars, researchers as the case may be;  
6  
7 n) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of transmitting  
8 knowledge, such as the use of information technology, the dual system, open  
9 learning, community laboratory, among others, for the promotion of greater  
10 access to higher education;  
11  
12 o) To privatize, where most advantageous to the institution, management and non-  
13 academic services, such as health, food, building, or grounds or property  
14 maintenance and similar such other activities;  
15  
16 p) To delegate any of its powers and duties provided herein to the President and/or  
17 other officials of the University as it may deem appropriate, so as to expedite the  
18 administration of the affairs of the University;  
19  
20 q) To develop mechanisms for the efficient adoption of public-private partnerships  
21 (PPPs) in the areas of research, instruction, extension and in the acquisition of  
22 facilities and structures of the University, such as: (i) joint curriculum ventures,  
23 sandwich programs for students in specialized science and technology courses,  
24 faculty development curriculum in collaboration with partner industries, staff  
25 development of the industries to be run by the University and other similar  
26 projects; and (ii) joint research ventures, outsourcing of the research components  
27 of the industries to the academe's graduate programs, product/service research  
28 and similar research endeavors;  
29  
30 r) To appoint experts/specialists as consultants, part-time or visiting or exchange  
31 professors, scholars or researchers, as the case may be, particularly focused on  
32 strengthening the general mandate of the University;  
33  
34 s) To set up the adoption of modern and innovative modes of transmitting  
35 knowledge, such as the use of information technology, the dual training system,  
36 open distance learning, and community laboratory for the promotion of greater  
37 access to education;  
38  
39 t) To privatize, where most advantageous to the University, the management of  
40 non-academic services, such as health, good, building or grounds or property  
41 maintenance, and such other similar activities;  
42  
43 u) To grant productivity bonus to non-regular employees with exemplary  
44 performance in the form of productivity incentives to be sourced from University  
45 income. This incentive shall be subject to the attainment by the department or  
46 unit, where the non-regular employee belongs, of performance target/s, subject  
47 to the existing guidelines and policy of the University;  
48  
49 v) To establish and implement economic programs in order to improve the quality  
50 of life and general welfare of its employees, regardless of status, resulting in



1 additional source of income and supplementary benefits upon separation from  
2 service, including, but not limited to, establishment of provident fund and the like;  
3

4 w) To grant academic and research scholarships to deserving employees,  
5 regardless of status of employment in the University, to be sourced from  
6 University income subject to the existing rules and policies of the University;  
7

8 x) To grant sabbatical leave, rest/wellness and recreation leave to deserving and  
9 qualified employees, regardless of status of employment in the University, for  
10 purposes of intensive study or research which has as its outcome increasing the  
11 quality and competency of the employee's future contribution to the University,  
12 subject to the existing rules and policies of the University; and  
13

14 y) To promote and implement advancement programs in terms of career, health,  
15 and recreation, among others, the funds for which shall be sourced from the  
16 income of the University.  
17

18 **SEC. 12. Duties of the Board.** – The Board shall have the following duties:  
19

20 a) To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the support of the  
21 University to carry out the purposes and functions of the University in accordance  
22 with relevant laws, rules and regulations;  
23

24 b) To import duty-free essential materials and equipment for educational or  
25 technological programs for the exclusive use of the University as an exception to  
26 existing laws, provided such materials and equipment are not available locally;  
27

28 c) To receive, in trust, legacies, gifts, and donations of real and personal properties  
29 of all kinds, and administer and dispose the same when necessary for the benefit  
30 of the University and subject to the limitations, directions and instructions of the  
31 donors, if any. Such donations shall be exempt from the donor's tax and the same  
32 shall be considered as allowable deductions from the gross income of the donor,  
33 in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code, as  
34 amended;  
35

36 d) To adopt and implement a socialized scheme of tuition and school fees for  
37 greater access to qualified poor or underprivileged but deserving students who  
38 will pursue law, medicine and other post-graduate degrees;  
39

40 e) To establish branches to be part of the system within the Province of Bulacan, if  
41 and when it becomes essential and necessary where there is no existing school  
42 offering similar programs or courses to promote and carry out equal access to  
43 educational opportunities as mandated by the Constitution;  
44

45 f) To establish research and extension centers where such will promote the  
46 development of the University; and  
47

48 g) To collaborate with other governing boards of State Universities and Colleges  
49 (SUCs) within the province or region, under the supervision of the CHED and in

1 consultation with the DBM, the restructuring of the University to become more  
2 efficient, relevant, productive and competitive.  
3

4 **SEC. 13. Selection and Appointment of the President of the University**  
5 **System.** – The succeeding President shall be selected and appointed by the Board,  
6 upon the recommendation of the search committee duly constituted by it, pursuant to  
7 the provisions of this Act: *Provided*, That the incumbent President of the University  
8 shall continue as President of the System until the expiration of his/her term.  
9

10 **SEC. 14. The Search Committee for the Presidency.** – Within six (6) months  
11 before the expiration of the term of office of the incumbent President of the University,  
12 the Board shall constitute a Search Committee for the President (SCP). The  
13 composition of the SCP shall be determined by the Board, taking into consideration  
14 representatives from the academic community, a private sector representative not in  
15 any way connected or associated with the University, the Philippine Association of  
16 State Universities and Colleges (PASUC) representative, and a CHED representative.  
17

18 **SEC. 15. Powers of the Search Committee for the Presidency (SCP).** – The  
19 SCP shall recruit and screen applicants to the position of President. For this purpose,  
20 it shall have the authority to promulgate its own rules and regulations governing the  
21 search process, a copy of which shall be furnished to the Board. The SCP shall cause  
22 the publication of an open invitation to qualified persons in a newspaper of general  
23 circulation and other forms of communications that are designed to communicate such  
24 invitation to the widest possible audience. The SCP shall submit the names of qualified  
25 nominees to the Board. For the avoidance of doubt, the Board shall determine the  
26 minimum qualifications standards of the applicants for Presidency.  
27

28 **SEC. 16. Appointment Papers.** – After the Board shall have selected and  
29 appointed the new President, the appointment papers shall be signed by the  
30 Chairperson in charge of the System.  
31

32 **SEC. 17. Term of Office.** – The President of the System shall have an initial  
33 term of four (4) years and may be reappointed to another term, upon the  
34 recommendation of a duly constituted search committee.  
35

36 **SEC. 18. Vacancy in the Office of the President.** – In case of vacancy by  
37 reason of death, transfer, resignation, removal for cause, or incapacity of the  
38 incumbent President to perform the function of the office, the CHED Chairperson or  
39 the CHED Commissioner as the Chairperson of the Board, shall, within fifteen (15)  
40 days from the occurrence of such vacancy, designate an Officer-in-Charge (OIC) for  
41 the Office of the President, subject to the majority decision of the Board.  
42

43 **SEC. 19. Salary of the President.** – The salary of the President of the  
44 University, including allowances and benefits shall be in accordance with Republic Act  
45 No. 11466, or the Salary Standardization Law of 2019, and by such other laws  
46 amendatory thereto which may hereinafter be enacted, and on the joint circular for  
47 SUCs leveling instrument and guidelines as may be set by the CHED and the DBM.  
48

49 **SEC. 20. Powers of the President.** – The powers and duties of the President  
50 of the University, in addition to those specifically provided in this Act, shall be those

1 usually pertaining to the Office of the President of similar universities. In addition, the  
2 President shall have the following powers:

- 3
- 4 a) To provide leadership for the University, to preserve and protect its academic  
5 integrity and ensure the observance and implementation of the policies laid down  
6 by the Board of Regents;  
7
  - 8 b) To exercise within the framework of university policies primary authority and  
9 responsibility over the following areas: development planning and resource  
10 allocations; grants; endowments and fund raising; external relations and public  
11 affairs; and university policies relating to regional development programs,  
12 curricula and matters affecting the rights, privileges, responsibilities and welfare  
13 of the University constituency;  
14
  - 15 c) To formulate integrated and comprehensive plans for the University, including  
16 academic, research, extension, physical development and fiscal plans;  
17
  - 18 d) To coordinate the activities and programs of the University with the other  
19 component units and institutions, appraise their performance in relation to the  
20 key performance indicators and their objectives, and recommend appropriate  
21 action to the Board of Regents;  
22
  - 23 e) To appoint officers, faculty members and other employees in the University,  
24 subject to Section 8 of this Act and to cause designation of qualified personnel  
25 as chancellors, vice-chancellors, deans, directors, heads of departments/offices,  
26 or officers-in-charge of the units therein in all existing campuses and future  
27 campuses;  
28
  - 29 f) To appoint, transfer, or promote personnel of the University, as provided in this  
30 Act, fix their work schedules, grant leaves of absence, approve their special  
31 details, additional assignments, additional compensation, resignation and  
32 retirement in accordance with the policies approved by the Board of Regents;  
33
  - 34 g) To set up a machinery for the review of all disciplinary actions appealable to the  
35 Office of the President and for consideration of petitions for redress of  
36 grievances;  
37
  - 38 h) To submit to the Board of Regents the courses of study and academic programs,  
39 rules of discipline, and awards of degrees and diplomas, as recommended by  
40 the University Council;  
41
  - 42 i) To award fellowships, assistance and scholarships to students, faculty members  
43 and other personnel, in accordance with the policies prescribed by the Board of  
44 Regents;  
45
  - 46 j) To plan, prepare and implement a university program for the training and  
47 education of adult citizens and out-of-school youths;  
48
  - 49 k) To negotiate and obtain grants for specific projects, gifts and donations of real or  
50 personal property of all kinds subject to the confirmation of the Board of Regents,



1 and to administer the same for the benefit of the University, its units,  
2 departments, or students in accordance with the directions and instructions of  
3 the donor and in default thereof, in such manner as the Board of Regents may,  
4 in its discretion determine;  
5

- 6 l) To maintain links with other academic and research institutions to ensure fruitful  
7 academic and technical interchange and maximize the use of human and  
8 physical resources;  
9
- 10 m) To prepare for approval of the Board of Regents the annual budget of the  
11 University;  
12
- 13 n) To submit to the Board of Regents annual reports on the operation of the  
14 University and such other reports as the latter may require under this Act;  
15
- 16 o) To institute actions in order to protect the interests of the University;  
17
- 18 p) To identify, determine, designate and establish existing or future campus as  
19 flagship campus for specialized courses offered by the University;  
20
- 21 q) To formulate, plan, develop, and/or improve policies to promote and implement  
22 fairness to the use and conservation of the environment and its natural resources  
23 for the benefit of existing and future generation of the people of Bulacan to finally  
24 give life to widely accepted international principle of intergenerational equity upon  
25 prior confirmation of the Board of Regents; and  
26
- 27 r) To exercise such other powers and discharge such other responsibilities as may  
28 be delegated to him/her by the Board of Regents: *Provided*, That he/she shall  
29 institute a system for the efficient discharge of his/her administrative  
30 responsibilities.  
31

32 **SEC. 21. Manner of Conducting Official Meetings.** – The Board of Regents  
33 shall regularly convene at least once every quarter. The Chairperson of the Board of  
34 Regents may call a special meeting whenever necessary: *Provided*, That members  
35 are notified in writing at least three (3) days prior to said meeting. A majority of all  
36 members holding office shall consist a quorum for board meetings: *Provided, further*,  
37 That the Chairperson of the Board, or the President of the University is among those  
38 present in the meeting. In the absence of the Chairperson of the CHED, a duly  
39 designated commissioner of the CHED shall represent the Chairperson in such  
40 meeting: *Provided, however*, that during this meeting, the President of the University  
41 as Vice-Chairman shall be the presiding officer: *Provided, further*, That  
42 notwithstanding this proviso, the Chairperson of the CHED is hereby authorized to  
43 designate a CHED Commissioner as the regular Chairman of the Board who shall act  
44 as the presiding officer.  
45

46 The members of the Board shall not receive compensation but shall be  
47 reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in their attendance of meeting or in  
48 connection with their official business authorized by resolution of the Board, subject to  
49 pertinent laws, rules and regulations.  
50



1 The meetings of the Board may be conducted through remote communication  
2 or other alternative modes of communication other than in person, where the members  
3 of the Board may participate and vote virtually. Participation in such a meeting  
4 constitutes presence and shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum.  
5

6 **SEC. 22. Faculty and Non-Academic Training, Development, and**  
7 **Improved Benefits.** – The development of self-reliant and credible strategic faculty  
8 and non-academic personnel along the concept of reconfiguration of the faculty and  
9 non-academic personnel benefit structure of the System shall be ensured through the  
10 undertaking of reforms in their recruitment, training, employment and management.  
11

12 **SEC. 23. Establishment of Review Centers.** – If appropriate, and upon  
13 compliance with the appropriate rules and regulations, the University may establish  
14 review center/s that offer review courses for programs that require board or bar  
15 examinations.  
16

17 **SEC. 24. Establishment of Graduate School and Diploma Specialized**  
18 **Short Course in Law.** – The University, upon prior approval of the Legal Education  
19 Board (LEB), may also establish a Graduate School in Law and a diploma in  
20 specialized short course in law to cater to the educational needs of lawyers who plans  
21 to pursue further post-graduate studies in law, such as Master of Laws and Doctor of  
22 Civil Law, as well as students who wish to pursue specialized short course in law. The  
23 Graduate School shall be attached to the College of Law.  
24

25 **SEC. 25. Administrative Council and its Powers.** – There shall be an  
26 Administrative Council consisting of the President of the University as Chairperson,  
27 the chancellors, vice-chancellors, vice-president(s), deans, directors and other  
28 officials of equal rank, whose duty is to implement the policies governing the  
29 administration, management and development planning of the University as approved  
30 by the Board.  
31

32 **SEC. 26. Academic Council and its Powers.** – There shall be an Academic  
33 Council with the President of the University as Chairperson and all members of the  
34 instructional staff with the rank of not lower than assistant professors as members.  
35 The Academic Council shall have the power to prescribe curricular offerings subject  
36 to the approval of the Board. It shall fix the requirements for admission to the University  
37 as well as for graduation and the conferring of degrees, subject to review and/or  
38 approval by the Board, through the President of the University. It shall also have  
39 disciplinary powers over the students through the President within the limits prescribed  
40 by the rules of discipline as approved by the Board.  
41

42 **SEC. 27. Executive Council and its Powers.** – There shall be an Executive  
43 Council, with the President of the University as chairman and executive vice-president,  
44 vice presidents, and chancellors, as members. The Academic Council shall have the  
45 power to prescribe and/or recommends policy changes to the President. The  
46 Executive Council is responsible for the development and delivery of master plans and  
47 strategic plan. The President shall be the convening officer for the Executive Council  
48 and the President (or designee) shall preside over the Executive Council which shall  
49 meet not less than once a month.  
50

1           **SEC. 28. Board Secretary.** – There shall be Secretary of the University who  
2 shall be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President of the  
3 University. He/she shall also be the Secretary of the Board and shall keep such  
4 records of the University as may be determined by the Board.  
5

6           **SEC. 29. Treasurer.** – There shall be a Treasurer of the University who shall  
7 be appointed by the Board upon recommendation of the President of the University.  
8

9           **SEC. 30. Integration of Existing PPAs.** – The implementation of existing  
10 computerization and internet connectivity programs of the Free Wi-fi Internet Access  
11 in Public Places project of the Department of Information and Communications  
12 Technology (DICT) and other relevant programs, projects and activities (PPAs) shall  
13 be integrated and charged against the budget of the University pursuant to the annual  
14 Public School and SUC Modernization Plan.  
15

16           **SEC. 31. Miscellaneous Provisions.** – No religious opinion or affiliation shall  
17 be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the University:  
18 *Provided, however,* That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any  
19 particular church or religious sect.  
20

21           No student qualified to be admitted in the chosen course shall be denied  
22 admission to the University by reason of sex, ethnic consideration, nationality, religion,  
23 or political affiliation.  
24

25           The University shall enjoy academic freedom.  
26

27           All accounts and expenses of the University shall be audited by the Commission  
28 on Audit (COA) or its duly authorized representative.  
29

30           It shall be a continuing policy of the University to accept the affiliation and/or  
31 integration within its operation of any existing national schools whose program can  
32 contribute largely and effectively to the attainment of its objectives: *Provided, however,*  
33 That in case of integration, the CHED shall determine and approve the specific existing  
34 national schools that are to be integrated as part of the University. In such case, it shall  
35 be understood that all funds, properties and other assets, as well as obligations of the  
36 integrated schools shall be transferred to the University.  
37

38           **SEC. 32. Tax Exemptions.** – The provisions of any general or special to the  
39 contrary notwithstanding:  
40

- 41 a) All grants, bequests, endowments, donations and contributions made to the  
42 University to be used actually, directly and exclusively by the University shall be  
43 exempt from donor's tax and the same shall be allowed as allowable deduction  
44 from the gross income of the donor for purposes of computing the taxable income  
45 of the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue  
46 Code (NIRC), as amended. Valuation of assistance, other than money, shall be  
47 based on the acquisition cost of the property. Such valuation shall take into  
48 consideration the depreciation value of the property in case the property has  
49 been used;  
50

- 1 b) Importation of economic, technical, vocational, scientific, philosophical, historical  
2 and cultural books, supplies and materials duly certified by the Board, including  
3 scientific and educational computer and software equipment, shall be exempt  
4 from customs duties in accordance with the provisions of the Tariff and Customs  
5 Code of the Philippines, as amended;  
6  
7 c) The educational services rendered by the University shall be exempt from value-  
8 added tax in accordance with the NIRC, as amended;  
9  
10 d) All revenues and assets of the University used for educational purpose or in  
11 support thereof shall be exempt from all taxes and duties; and  
12  
13 e) All academic awards shall be exempt from taxes.  
14

15 **SEC. 33. Assets and Liabilities.** – All the assets, fixed and movable, records  
16 and personnel of the Bulacan State University and its campuses in Bustos, San Jose  
17 del Monte, Bulakan, Hagonoy, and San Rafael, as well as liabilities or obligations, are  
18 hereby transferred to the University: *Provided, however,* That the positions, rights and  
19 security of tenure of personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to  
20 absorption by the University are not impaired; *Provided, further,* That the incumbent  
21 of the positions shall remain in the same status until otherwise provided by the Board.  
22 All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the Bulacan State  
23 University shall be the property of the System and shall be titled under that name:  
24 *Provided, finally,* That should the University cease to exist or be abolished or should  
25 such parcels of land be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to  
26 the Province of Bulacan.  
27

28 **SEC. 34. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the implementation of  
29 this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the System, after  
30 deducting the amount needed to continue the operations of the existing high school.  
31 Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its operations and maintenance shall  
32 be included in the General Appropriations Act.  
33

34 **SEC. 35. Annual Report.** – On or before the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) month  
35 after the opening of the regular classes of each year, the President of the University  
36 shall file with the Office of the President of the Philippines, through the Office of the  
37 CHED Chairperson or the CHED Commission serving as Chairperson of the Board,  
38 and with the Senate and House of Representatives of the Congress of the Philippines,  
39 through the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture and the House  
40 Committee on Higher and Technical and Vocational Education, a detailed report on  
41 the progress, condition and needs of the University.  
42

43 **SEC. 36. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or  
44 unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in  
45 full force and effect.  
46

47 **SEC. 37. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders and rules  
48 and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the  
49 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.  
50

1           **SEC. 38. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
2 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general  
3 circulation.

4  
5           **Approved,**