

be in accordance with the revised compensation and position classification system and shall be comparable to that being received by the presidents of similar educational institutions of like enrollment and standing.

The president of the University, whose term may be terminated according to this Act, shall be entitled to full retirement benefits under existing laws.

SEC. 11. There shall be an administrative council of the University consisting of the president of the University, as chairman; the vice-presidents, deans, directors, and other officials of equal rank, as members, whose duty shall be to implement policies governing the administration, management and development planning of the University, subject to the approval of the Board.

SEC. 12. There shall be an academic council with the president of the University as chairman and all the members of the instructional staff with the rank of not lower than assistant professors as members.

The academic council shall have the power to prescribe the curricula and rules of discipline of the University, subject to the approval by the Board. It shall fix the requirements for the admission to the University as well as for graduation and the conferring of degrees, subject to review of the Board. The council shall likewise have the power to recommend students to be recipients of degrees. Through the President of the University or his duly authorized representative, the council shall have disciplinary power over the students within the limits prescribed by the rules of discipline, as approved by the Board.

SEC. 13. No religious opinion or affiliation shall be a matter of inquiry in the appointment of faculty members of the University: *Provided, however,* That no member of the faculty shall teach for or against any particular church or religious sect.

SEC. 14. No student shall be denied admission to the University by reason of sex, nationality, religion or political affiliation.

SEC. 15. No member of the faculty of the University shall attempt directly or indirectly, under penalty of dismissal by the Board of Regents, to influence students or any person in the University towards any ideology, political or otherwise, which agitates the overthrow of the duly constituted government.

SEC. 16. The appointment of the officer-in-charge

of the University, pending the appointment of the president by the Board upon its composition, shall be made by the CHED based on qualification standards.

SEC. 17. The Treasurer of the Philippines shall be the *ex-officio* treasurer of the University and all accounts and expenses thereof shall be audited by the Commission on Audit or his duly authorized representative.

SEC. 18. On or before the fifteenth (15) day of the second (2nd) month after the opening of the regular classes each year, the Board shall submit to the Office of the President of the Philippines, through the Secretary of Education, Culture and Sports, or the Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education, an annual report setting forth the conditions, progress and needs of the University.

SEC. 19. All assets, fixed and movable, personnel and records of the Cebu State College, as well as liabilities or obligations, are hereby transferred to the Cebu Normal University: *Provided,* That the positions, rights and security of tenure of personnel therein employed under existing laws prior to the absorption by the University are not impaired: *Provided, further,* That the incumbents of the positions shall remain in the same status until otherwise provided for by the Board. All parcels of land belonging to the government occupied by the Cebu State College are hereby declared the property of the Cebu Normal University and shall be titled under that name: *Provided, furthermore,* That should the University cease to exist or be abolished or such parcels of land aforementioned be no longer needed by the University, the same shall revert to the City of Cebu.

SEC. 20. The heads of bureaus and offices of the national government are hereby authorized to loan or transfer, upon request of the president of the University, such apparatus, equipment or supplies as may be needed by the state university and to detail employees for duty therein when, in the judgment of the bureau or office, such apparatus, equipment, supplies or services of such employees can be spared without serious detriment to public service. The employees so detailed shall perform such duties as required of them by the President of the University, and the time so employed shall be counted a part of their regular services.

SEC. 21. It shall be the continuing policy of the University to accept the affiliation and/or integration within its operation of any existing national school whose programs can contribute largely and effectively to the

attainment of its objectives: *Provided, however,* That, in case of integration, the chairperson of CHED is hereby authorized to determine and approve the affiliation and/or integration of the specific existing national school. In such case, all funds, properties and other assets, as well as obligations of the integrated school shall be transferred to the state university.

SEC. 22. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Cebu State College, except the sum needed to continue the operations of the existing school. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation and maintenance of the Cebu Normal University shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 23. If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected thereby, shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 24. All provisions of law inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 25. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,

House Bill No. 683, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN JOSE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO, INTO A COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE OCCIDENTAL MINDORO COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

The following is the whole text of the bill:

House Bill No. 683

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SAN JOSE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE, PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO, INTO A COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE OCCIDENTAL MINDORO COLLEGE

OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The San Jose National Agricultural and Industrial School (SJNAIS) in the municipality of San Jose, Province of Occidental Mindoro is hereby converted into a College to be known as Occidental Mindoro College of Agriculture and Technology (OMCAT).

SEC. 2. The College shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

SEC. 3. The College shall offer one to four years of technical and vocational education courses and under-graduate courses in the field of agricultural education and technology or such other courses which are relevant to the needs of its service area. It shall also promote research, advanced studies and progressive leadership in the fields of agricultural education and technology.

SEC. 4. So as not to disrupt the present administrative operation of the San Jose National Agricultural and Industrial School, the incumbent Vocational School Administrator shall be the first Vocational School Superintendent of the College. The teachers, instructors and other school personnel shall be absorbed into the new upgraded positions that may be created in accordance with the needs of the curricular offerings of the College. They shall receive compensation and privileges equal to their counterparts in existing agricultural colleges under the supervision of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

SEC. 5. All assets, fixed and movable, personnel records and documents of the San Jose National Agricultural and Industrial School, the amount needed to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 6. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the San Jose National Agricultural and Industrial School. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Occidental Mindoro College of

Agriculture and Technology shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed accordingly.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.

House Bill No. 3839, entitled

AN ACT CONVERTING THE NEW LUCENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEW LUCENA, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, INTO A POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE NEW LUCENA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

The following is the whole text of the bill:

House Bill No. 3839

AN ACT CONVERTING THE NEW LUCENA COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF NEW LUCENA, PROVINCE OF ILOILO, INTO A POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE NEW LUCENA POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The New Lucena Community College in the municipality of New Lucena, province of Iloilo, is hereby converted into a polytechnic college to be known as the New Lucena Polytechnic College.

SEC. 2. The College shall offer such courses as may be authorized by the Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education.

SEC. 3. The assets, liabilities, personnel, equipment and records of the New Lucena Community College shall be transferred to the New Lucena Polytechnic College.

SEC. 4. The Commission on Higher Education shall take steps as are necessary for the conversion and

operation of the school and the immediate implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SEC. 6. This Act take effect upon its approval.

Approved.

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, for the sponsorship, I ask that the Chairman of the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, the gentleman from Aurora, Quezon and Pampanga, be recognized.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. Senator Angara is recognized.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR ANGARA
(Senator Herrera as Coauthor of S. No. 2320)

Senator Angara. First of all, I would like to manifest, Mr. President, that our distinguished colleague from Bohol and Cebu, Senator Herrera, is a coauthor of this measure.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. It is noted.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR ANGARA

Senator Angara. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, first of all, let me introduce Senate Bill No. 2320 as reported under Committee Report No. 783, entitled "An Act Converting the Cebu State College into a State University."

Let me just introduce it by a very brief remark, Mr. President, because I would like to call on a distinguished alumnus of this institution to make the main sponsorship speech, Sen. Marcelo Fernan.

Mr. President, this measure calling for the conversion of the Cebu Normal School into a university was introduced in the House by Rep. Eduardo Gullas of the First District of Cebu, and in the Senate by Senators Fernan, Herrera, Osmeña and myself.

The present Cebu State College was originally the Cebu Normal School. Mr. President, this is one of the first normal schools established by the American colonial government when they came to our shores and one of the finest normal schools in the Philippines, and part of the network of normal schools that includes the Philippine Normal University.

The Cebu State College is going to be the first state college in the Visayas and shall primarily provide higher professional programs and special instructions for teachers for Region VII. It was also chosen by the Commission on Higher Education as one of the 18 Centers of Excellence in Teacher Education for the entire country.

With that introductory remark, Mr. President, I have now the pleasure to call on our distinguished colleague, Senator Fernan, to make the main sponsorship speech.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavio]. Senator Fernan, the distinguished alumnus, is now recognized.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR FERNAN

Senator Fernan. Thank you, Mr. President.

It is my privilege and honor to cosponsor Senate Bill No. 2320, otherwise known as House Bill No. 1325, a bill which seeks to convert the Cebu State College into a state university to be known as the Cebu Normal University, and appropriating funds therefor.

I believe that Cebu State College has long met the requirements for a university and has long deserved the honor of becoming a state university in Central Visayas.

I seek the approval by my colleagues of this bill not because I am a son of Cebu, nor because I am an alumnus of the school, not because the bill is laudable and meritorious, but because its approval will also be an act of justice.

The first state college of the Central Visayas region, the Cebu State College, services and benefits thousands of students from the Visayas and Mindanao because of its strategic location in Cebu City which is most central geographically, making it most accessible in terms of transportation and facilities.

Owing to the Cebu State College's established competence in instruction, research and community extension services, and its very strong college of arts and sciences, no other state college in the Central Visayas can rightfully match its intellectual expertise and leadership capabilities in teacher education as evidenced by its internationally attuned academics and primacy in student performance.

Since its establishment as the Cebu Normal School during the American regime in the early 19th century, Cebu State College has consistently produced quality graduates and has been a feeder of educational leaders and academicians as shown by its graduates who hold top and middle-level positions in the country.

Cebu State College is also a provider of rich human

resources of accreditors, consultants, lecturers, demonstrators, trainers and writers.

The college has a coterie of internationally-trained professors from scholarships to the U.S.A., Great Britain, Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, Australia and Canada. Truly, a world class state institution of higher learning.

Cebu State College likewise maintains national and international linkages in the undergraduate and graduate studies in coordination with other state universities and colleges, private educational institutions, government organizations, and nongovernment organizations in the Visayas and Mindanao regions.

Cebu State College has already embedded the culture of excellence along her tripled functions in instruction, research and community services long before the Commission on Higher Education was established.

The College has consistently been recognized for its quality education, leadership role in innovative instruction, access and equity, relevance and responsiveness to regional and national needs as manifested from the following awards of recognition it garnered from the Commission on Higher Education, Professional Regulations Commission, Department of Education, Culture and Sports and the Civil Service Commission, to wit: outstanding faculty development program, substantial gains and school plant and facilities, meritorious performance in licensure board for examinations for nursing and teacher education, researches recognized by government agencies, Level II accreditation, outstanding community extension services, outstanding college professors, Civil Service Commission *Gawad Kalinga Award*, DEC's Region VII training agency for master teachers in English, Science, Mathematics and Special Education, *Komisyon ng Wikang Pilipino Award* for the development of Filipino language and literature, Regional Center for Filipino, DECS VII and SEA-MEO Regional English Language Center recognition as educational partner in the teaching of English as a second language to educators/mentors in Region VII.

Mr. President, after almost a century of quality service to the region and the nation as a former Cebu Normal School, and having met the requirements for a university, Cebu State College deserves the honor of becoming a state university in Central Visayas.

The Central Visayas region where Cebu City, the country's second largest metropolitan center and Asia's No. 8 most livable city from among 40 urban centers and metropolitan cities is located, needs a state university to support its developmental goals and to make this part of the country compete globally with the rest of Southeast Asia.

Mr. President, I am confident that the approval by this Chamber of Senate Bill No. 2320 and House Bill No. 1325 will ultimately promote the development of the region as they have innovative educational programs, and as partner of other institutions in the development of intellectual and social responsiveness.

In the light of all these, I urge my colleagues in the Senate to approve Senate Bill No. 2320.

Thank you, Mr. President.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. The Majority Leader is recognized.

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, since there are no interpellations, I move that the period of interpellations be closed.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the period of interpellations is hereby closed.

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, since there are no committee nor individual amendments, I move that the period of committee and individual amendments be closed.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, the period of committee and individual amendments is hereby closed.

MANIFESTATION OF SENATOR TATAD
(Senator Tatad as Coauthor of S. No. 2320)

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I would like to be named as a coauthor of this particular measure.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. The manifestation is so noted.

APPROVAL OF S. NO 2320 ON SECOND READING

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, I move that we vote on Second Reading on Senate Bill No. 2320.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. Is there any objection? [Silence] There being none, we shall now vote on Second Reading on Senate Bill No. 2320.

As many as are in favor of the bill, say *aye*.

Several Members. *Aye*.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. As many as are against the bill, say *nay*. [Silence]

Senate Bill No. 2320 is approved on Second Reading.

Senator Tatad. Mr. President, may we now ask the distinguished chairman of the Committee on Education to resume his sponsorship.

The Presiding Officer [Sen. Flavier]. Senator Angara is recognized.

SPONSORSHIP SPEECH OF SENATOR ANGARA

Senator Angara. Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. President, it is my privilege to sponsor House Bill No. 683, converting the San Jose National Agricultural and Industrial School in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro, into a college known as Occidental Mindoro Polytechnic College of Agriculture.

Mr. President, at present, the San Jose National Agricultural and Industrial School is offering secondary agricultural curriculum and a two-year secondary course. As a college, it will be under the supervision of the Commission on Higher Education.

The conversion will benefit students mostly in Occidental Mindoro who are technologically or vocationally inclined but who lack the financial means and opportunity to pursue higher education in agriculture and related fields.

They would now have access to collegiate courses in industrial and agricultural technology and technical vocational training. Staying in Mindoro will also help the country in population dispersal.

Mr. President, as we know, Mindoro is one of the biggest islands in the country, comprising the provinces of Occidental Mindoro and Oriental Mindoro. These provinces abound with rich agricultural and other resources which, if properly tapped, can provide ample sources of income-generating projects for the people. Unfortunately, many of the Mindorens lack the technical knowledge and vocational skills necessary to convert these material assets into profitable products and services.

Our country needs qualified manpower to increase agricultural production. In fact, it has been identified by the DECS and the CHED as one of the Provincial Technical Institutes of Agriculture (PTIA) receiving assistance from the government of Australia and, of course, our own government.

Mr. President, this assistance program of Australia and the Philippine governments are tasked to improve and reorient agricultural education services at provincial and regional levels.

The educational and financial feasibility of the agricultural college is very encouraging with the school's stable enrollment,