[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8193, June 11, 1996]

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE JOSE RIZAL MEMORIAL STATE COLLEGE INTEGRATING THEREWITH THE RIZAL MEMORIAL NATIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN THE CITY OF DAPITAN, THE ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES IN DIPOLOG CITY, AND THE SIOCON NATIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SIOCON, ALL IN THE PROVINCE OF ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* – The Jose Rizal Memorial State College is hereby established, integrating therewith the Rizal Memorial National Vocational School in Dapitan City, the Zamboanga del Norte School of Arts and Trades in Dipolog City, and the Siocon National Vocational School in the Municipality of Siocon, all in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, hereinafter referred to as the College.

- SEC. 2. The initial campuses of the College shall be at the existing campus of the Rizal Memorial National Vocational School in the City of Dapitan, the Zamboanga del Norte School of Arts and Trades in Dipolog City, and the Siocon National Vocational School in the Municipality of Siocon, all in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte: *Provided,* That the main campus shall be at the existing campus of the Rizal Memorial National Vocational School in the City of Dapitan.
- SEC. 3. The College shall primarily offer higher professional, technical, special instructions for special purposes and promote research and extension services, advanced studies and progressive leadership in education, agriculture, arts and sciences, engineering and other fields as may be relevant. The existing high school shall be transferred to the jurisdiction and supervision of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports: *Provided*, That this high school shall be allowed to remain and operate within the campus of the State College until it shall have been transferred to another location, or until their students shall have been accommodated in other public or private high schools: *Provided*, *further*, That the State College may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school, if it has a college of education.
- SEC. 4. Courses to be Offered. The College shall offer undergraduate and graduate courses in the fields of education, engineering, arts and sciences, and other degree courses as the Board of Trustees may deem necessary to carry out its objectives. It shall also offer short-term technical or vocational courses within the area of specialization to meet the needs of the nation.
- SEC. 5. Powers of the State College. The College shall have the general powers of

a corporation set forth in the corporation law. The administration of the College and the exercise of its corporate powers shall be vested exclusively in the Board of Trustees and the President of the State College insofar as authorized by the Board.

SEC. 6. Board of Trustees. – The governing body of the College shall be the Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be composed of the following:

- a. Chairman of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), chairman;
- b. President of the State College, vice-chairman;
- c. Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), member;
- d. President of the faculty association of the College, member;
- e. President of the supreme student council of the College, member; and
- f. Two (2) representatives from the private sector, one of whom must be a graduate of the College but not an employee thereof, members;

They shall be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of a search committee and shall hold office for a term of two (2) years.

- SEC. 7. The Board shall promulgate and implement policies in accordance with the declared 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. 8. Powers of the Board. The 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 existing laws:
 - a. To enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the College;
 - b. To receive and appropriate all sums as may be provided for the support of the College in the manner it may, in its discretion, determine to carry out the purposes and functions of the State College;
 - c. To import duty-free essential commodities, materials and equipment for educational or technological programs as an exception to existing laws, provided such commodities, materials, and equipment are not available locally;
 - d. To receive in trust, legacies, gifts and donations of real and personal properties of all kinds and to administer and dispose the same when necessary for the benefit of the College and subject to the limitations, directions and instructions of the donor, if any. Such donations shall be exempt from all taxes and shall be considered as deductible items from the income tax of the donor;
 - e. To fix tuition fees and other necessary school charges such as, but not limited to, matriculation fees, graduation fees, and laboratory fees, as the Board may

deem proper to impose;

- 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 College through the Board shall be exempt from all taxes and duties;
- g. To confirm appointments of vice-presidents, deans, directors, heads of departments, faculty members and other officials and employees of the College made by the president of the College;
- h. To fix and adjust the salaries of faculty members and administrative officials and employees in accordance with the revised compensation and position classification system;
- i. To approve the curricula, institutional programs and rules of discipline drawn by the administrative and academic councils as herein provided;
- j. To confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation, to award honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of their outstanding contributions in the fields of education, public service, arts, science and technology, or in any field of specialization; and to authorize the award of certificates for completion of non-degree and non-traditional courses;
- k. To establish branches in the Province of Zamboanga del Norte, if and when it becomes essential and necessary, where there is no existing school offering similar programs or courses, to promote and carry out equal access to educational opportunities as mandated by the Constitution; and
- I. To establish chairs in the College and to provide fellowships for qualified faculty members and scholarships to deserving students.
- SEC. 9. The Board of Trustees shall convene regularly at least once every two (2) months. The chairman of the Board of Trustees may, upon three (3) days prior written notice, call a special meeting whenever necessary.

A quorum of the Board shall consist of a majority of all members holding office at the time of the meeting: *Provided, however,* That the chairman of the CHED, who is the chairman of the Board or the president of the State College are 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.

SEC. 10. The State College shall be headed by a president to be appointed by the Board upon the recommendation of a duly constituted search committee, and shall hold office for a term of three (3) years extendible only for another three (3) years unless he reaches the age of retirement or earlier removed for cause or becomes incapacitated to discharge the duties of the office.

In case of vacancy in the office of the president by reason of death, resignation,