

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7947, March 03, 1995]

AN ACT TO CONVERT THE LARENA NATIONAL VOCATIONAL COLLEGE INTO THE SIKUIJOR STATE COLLEGE, AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. The present Larena National Vocational College, located in Larena, Siquijor, Philippines, shall be converted and established as the Siquijor State College.

SEC. 2. The purpose of the said state college shall be to provide effective vocational-technical education and training in industrial, agricultural, fishery, distributive education, and apprenticeship training, in cooperation with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) of the Department of Labor and Employment, required for immediate entry into the occupations consistent with the manpower requirements of the region and to provide opportunities for higher education in the fields of technology, teacher education, physical and natural sciences, agriculture, fishery, forestry, nautical, and graduate studies for a progressive executive leadership training.

SEC. 3. The Siquijor State College is authorized to offer courses in higher technological education leading to the degrees of bachelor of science in civil engineering, electrical engineering, mechanical engineering, electronics engineering, industrial engineering, education, forestry, fishery, nautical, physical and natural sciences, and such other collegiate and/or degree courses as may be approved by the Board of Trustees of the Siquijor State College, in addition to its present curricular offerings in the four-year secondary trade and general secondary curricula, two-year technical education curriculum, degree courses leading to the degrees in bachelor of science in industrial education and bachelor of science in industrial technology.

SEC. 4. 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 College until it shall have been transferred to another location, or until its students shall have been accommodated in other high schools, public or private: *Provided, further*, That the College may operate a reasonably-sized laboratory school if it has a college of education.

SEC. 5. No student shall be denied admission to the College by reason of sex, nationality, religious belief, or political affiliation.

SEC. 6. The State College shall be headed by a president, hereinafter referred to as

the College president, assisted by a vice-president for technology and a vice-president for academic affairs. The powers and duties of the College president, in addition to those especially provided for in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of a state college president in the Philippines.

SEC. 7. The governing body of the state college shall be the Board of Trustees of the Siquijor State College. It shall be composed of the chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education as chairman, the president of the state college, the president of the Siquijor State College alumni association, and four (4) prominent residents of Siquijor province who are distinguished leaders in the field of education. Such residents shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines. Of the first group appointed, the President shall designate one to serve for one (1) year; one to serve for two (2) years; one to serve for three (3) years; and the other to serve for four (4) years. Thereafter, persons appointed to succeed such members shall hold office for a term of four (4) years until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. In case of a permanent vacancy, the position shall be filled by appointment by the President of the Philippines. Such appointee shall hold office for the unexpired term only.

In the absence or inability of the chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education or when the position is vacant, any commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education shall temporarily perform the functions of the chairman of the said Board. When both the chairperson and any commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education are unable to exercise the powers of the chairman of the Board of Trustees, the members of the Board shall elect from among themselves a temporary chairman who shall act as chairman.

The members of the Board of Trustees shall serve without compensation but shall receive a *per diem* of Two hundred pesos (P200.00) per meeting. All members of the Board shall be entitled to reimbursement of actual necessary expenses incurred either in attendance upon meetings of the Board or upon other official business authorized by resolution of the Board, subject to existing budget laws on honoraria and allowances .

SEC. 8. The Board of Trustees shall have the following powers and duties in addition to its general governing powers:

- a. To use such sums as may be provided by law for the operation and maintenance of the Siquijor State College;
- b. To approve other courses and/or degrees to be offered by the College as may be deemed necessary;
- c. To confer titles or degrees in the field of study stated in Sections 2 and 3 of this Act to successful candidates for graduation. It may also confer honorary degrees and citations to persons who have achieved eminence in or contributed to the development of science, agriculture, forestry, industry, or public service related to such fields;
- d. To confer certificates and diplomas upon successful candidates for graduation on courses other than the degree courses;
- e. Subject to civil service law, rules and regulations, to approve appointments submitted by the College president of all superintendents of extension units, the dean of instruction, college deans, heads of departments, registrars, associate professors, professors, guest lecturers, instructors, teachers, and