

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8007, May 25, 1995]

AN ACT CONVERTING THE MINDORO COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY INTO A STATE COLLEGE, PROVIDING A CHARTER FOR THIS PURPOSE, EXPANDING ITS CURRICULAR OFFERINGS, REDIRECTING ITS OBJECTIVES, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. The present Mindoro College of Agriculture and Technology in the Municipality of Victoria, Oriental Mindoro, is hereby converted into a state college, hereinafter referred to as the State College.

SEC. 2. The State College shall primarily provide higher vocational, professional and technical instruction and training in agricultural and industrial fields with special emphasis given to agricultural industry. It shall also promote research, advanced studies and progressive leadership in the fields of agriculture, including agricultural education and home technology, with special emphasis given to agricultural industry, fishery, forestry, and industrial education.

SEC. 3. In addition to its present secondary agricultural course and undergraduate courses leading to the degrees of bachelor of science in agriculture and bachelor of science in agricultural education, the State College shall offer undergraduate courses leading to the degrees of bachelor of science in food technology, bachelor of science in nutrition, bachelor of science in home technology, bachelor of science in agricultural technology, bachelor of science in agricultural engineering, and bachelor of science in elementary agriculture; courses in fresh-water fish culture, processing of agricultural products and such other degrees, courses and special courses as the Board of Trustees may deem necessary. It shall also offer opportunity for short-term technical or vocational courses within its areas of specialization to meet the needs of the island provinces of Oriental Mindoro and Occidental Mindoro.

SEC. 4. No student shall be denied admission to the State College by reason of age, ethnic consideration, or religious belief or affiliation.

SEC. 5. The head of the State College shall be known as the President of the Mindoro College of Agriculture and Technology. He shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the Board of Trustees.

His salary shall be comparable to that being received by presidents of similar educational institutions of like enrollment and standing, subject to the provisions of the revised compensation and position classification system.

The duties and powers of the President of the State College, in addition to those

specifically provided for in this Act, shall be those usually pertaining to the office of the president of a state college or university.

SEC. 6. The governing body of the State College shall be the Board of Trustees of the Mindoro College of Agriculture and Technology. It shall be composed of the chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), who shall be the chairman, the Director of Agricultural Training Institute, the Dean of the University of the Philippines College of Agriculture in Los Baños, the President of the State College, and four (4) prominent citizens of Region IV to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, as members.

Of the four appointed members, one shall be an authority on agriculture, one on science, one on arts and trades, and one on technology: *Provided*, That at least one of the four appointed members shall be a citizen of Oriental Mindoro, if not an alumnus of the Mindoro College of Agriculture and Technology. 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 and until their successors shall have been appointed and qualified. In case of 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.

When the chairperson of the CHED is unable to perform his duties as chairman of the Board due to illness, absence or other cause, or in case of a vacancy in the office, any commissioner of the CHED shall temporarily perform the functions of the chairman of the said Board. The chairman may assign qualified officials to represent him with full authority in the Board.

SEC. 7. A quorum of the Board of Trustees shall consist of a majority of all members holding office at the time a meeting is called. All processes against the Board of Trustees shall be served on the president or the secretary thereof.

SEC. 8. The members of the Board of Trustees shall not receive salary but shall be entitled to reimbursement for actual and 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, rules and regulations on *honoraria* and allowances.

SEC. 9. The Board of Trustees shall have the following powers and duties in addition to its general powers of administration, and the exercise of all powers of a corporation as provided in Section 13 of Act No. 1459, as amended, otherwise known as the corporation law:

- a. To receive and appropriate for the purposes specified by law such sums as may be provided for the support of the State College;
- b. To confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation of the State College. It may also confer honorary degrees upon persons in recognition of learning, statesmanship or eminence in any of the fields of specialization of the State College, or in recognition of public service: *Provided*, That such degree shall not be conferred in consideration of or to reciprocate some personal favors;