

REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7930

AN ACT CONVERTING THE SOUTHERN LEYTE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND TRADES IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOGOD, PROVINCE OF SOUTHERN LEYTE, INTO A CHARTERED COLLEGE TO BE KNOWN AS THE SOUTHERN LEYTE STATE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. The present Southern Leyte School of Arts and Trades located in the Municipality of Sogod, Province of Southern Leyte, is hereby converted into a state college to be known as the Southern Leyte State College of Science and Technology, hereinafter referred to as the College.

SEC. 2. The purposes of the College shall be as follows:

(1) To provide effective vocational-technical instruction and training in industrial education and apprenticeship training that are consistent with the manpower requirements of Region VIII;

(2) To provide opportunities for higher education in the fields of technological and vocational instruction, and physical and natural sciences; and

(3) To offer special programs that promote research and prepare the groundwork for the instruction at a later date of graduate studies for progressive executive leadership training.

SEC. 3. The College shall offer courses in higher technological education leading to the degrees of bachelor of science in electrical and mechanical engineering, electronics engineering, architecture, and education major in mathematics, physics,

chemistry, pilipino and english in addition to its present curricular offering in its four-year secondary level program on trade, two-year technical education program, evening opportunity trade classes, one-year computer courses and degree courses leading to 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 their 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 teacher training program.

SEC. 5. The College shall be headed by a president, hereinafter referred to as the SUC president, who shall be assisted by the vice-president for technology, vice-president for academic affairs, and vice-president for administrative affairs. The powers and duties of the SUC president, in addition to those provided for in this Act, shall be those pertaining to the office of a state college president in the Philippines.

SEC. 6. The governance of the College is vested in the Board of Trustees which shall be composed of the chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) who shall serve as the chairman of the Board, the College president, the president of the Southern Leyte State College of Science and Technology, alumni association, and the chairman of the regional development council for Region VIII. In the absence of the chairperson of the CHED at Board meetings, any commissioner shall serve in his stead, or should both officials be absent, the other members of the Board may select from among themselves a temporary chairman who shall act as presiding officer.

The members of the Board of Trustees shall serve without compensation, but every member shall receive a *per diem* of which the amount may be determined by the Board. All members of the Board of Trustees shall be entitled to reimbursement of actual

expenses incurred either in attendance of Board meetings or in other official business authorized by resolution of the Board subject to existing budget laws on *honoraria* and allowances.

SEC. 7. 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 College;

(b) To confer titles or degrees in the fields of study stated in Sections 2 and 3 of this Act to successful candidates for graduation;

(c) To confer certificates and diplomas upon successful candidates for graduation in courses other than degree courses;

(d) To approve appointments submitted by the College president of all deans of instruction, college deans, department heads, the registrar, associate professors, guest lecturers, instructors, teachers, and other employees of the College; to fix their compensation subject to Presidential Decree No. 985 and other pertinent budget and compensation laws, hours of service and such other duties and conditions as it may deem proper; to grant them in its discretion, leave of absence under such regulations as it may promulgate, any other provisions to the contrary notwithstanding, and to remove them for cause after an investigation and hearing shall have been held;

(e) To approve the curricula and rules of discipline drawn by the College council as provided herein;

(f) To provide fellowship for faculty members and scholarships to students showing special evidence of merit;

(g) To prescribe rules for its governance and to enact for the government of the College such rules and regulations, not contrary to law, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes and functions of the College as defined in this Act;

(h) To approve the staffing pattern of the College proper as defined and submitted by their respective heads; and

(i) To receive grants, gifts and donations of real and personal property of all kinds and to administer the same for the benefit of the College or of the departments thereof, or for aid to any student or students in accordance with the directions and instructions of the donor, and in default thereof, in such manner as the Board of Trustees may in its discretion determine.

SEC. 8. A quorum of the Board of Trustees shall consist of a majority of all the members.

SEC. 9. On or before the seventeenth day of June of each year, the Board of Trustees shall file with the President of the Philippines a detailed report setting forth the programs, conditions, and needs of the College.

SEC. 10. There shall be a College council, consisting of the College president, vice-president for technology, vice-president for academic affairs, vice-president for administrative affairs, dean of instruction, college deans, registrar, and department heads.

The College council shall have the following powers and functions:

(a) To prescribe the qualifications of professors, department heads, deans, instructors, teachers and key personnel and promulgate rules of discipline subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees;

(b) To prescribe the requirements for admission to the College, as well as for graduation and the receiving of titles and degrees;

(c) To recommend students and others to be recipients of titles or degrees; and

(d) To exercise disciplinary power over the students within the limits prescribed by the rules of discipline approved by the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 11. The body of teachers, instructors, professors, associate professors, department heads, registrar, college deans, and deans of instruction shall constitute the faculty of the College with the College president, or in the latter's absence, one of the vice-presidents of the College as the presiding officer: *Provided*, That no teacher, instructor, professor or lecturer in the College shall inculcate sectarian tenets in any of their teachings, nor attempt directly, under penalty of dismissal by the Board of Trustees, to influence students or attendants for or against any particular church or religious sect.

SEC. 12. The administrative officer shall at the same time be the secretary of the Board of Trustees and shall keep such records of the College as may be designated by the Board.

SEC. 13. The Board of Trustees shall fix the compensation of the employees and other personnel of the College, subject to Presidential Decree No. 985 and other pertinent budget and compensation laws.

SEC. 14. In the absence or inability of the College president or when his position is vacant, the vice-president for technology shall temporarily perform the duties of the College president until such time when he resumes his duties or when another college president shall have been appointed.

SEC. 15. In order not to disrupt the present administrative operations of the Southern Leyte School of Arts and Trades, the faculty of the school as well as the other personnel shall be absorbed by the new College: *Provided*, That the incumbent vocational school superintendent II of Southern Leyte School of Arts and Trades shall be appointed as the first College president who, upon his assumption to the position, shall recommend to the President of the Philippines the appointments for vice-president for technology, vice-president for academic affairs, and vice-president for administrative affairs.

All other officials and personnel whose appointments are specifically vested in the President of the Philippines shall be issued appointment through the College president consistent with

the actual service requirements of the converted state college to be approved by the Board of Trustees.

Subsequent salary increases shall be approved by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the College president, subject to pertinent budget and compensation laws.

SEC. 16. The Treasurer of the Philippines shall be the *ex officio* treasurer of the College and all accounts and expenses thereof shall be audited by the Commission on Audit or its duly authorized resident representative.

SEC. 17. All personnel, properties, including buildings, sites and appropriations of the Southern Leyte School of Arts and Trades are hereby transferred to the College.

SEC. 18. The amount needed to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the Southern Leyte School of Arts and Trades. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the College shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 19. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved, March 1, 1995.