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Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

First Regular Session  
**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**

House Bill No. 365

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**Introduced by Rep. Maria Carmen S. Zamora**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

15 The passage of Republic Act No. 10598 last June 4, 2013 was  
16 greeted with much joy by the people of Compostela Valley Province. This  
17 law had finally established the first ever state-run, tertiary educational  
18 institution in the province. After years of shepherding the measure in the  
19 legislative mill, its enactment into law was finally realized, and  
20 Comvalenyos now have a state college literally “in their own backyard,”  
21 ready and capable to provide quality and accessible instruction to those  
22 desirous of earning college degrees.

23  
24 With the concerted efforts of all stakeholders, the administrative and  
25 technical requirements operationalizing the new school were set into  
26 motion. The Board of Trustees was convened with the help of the  
27 Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the school’s Development Plan  
28 was drawn, and the law’s Implementing Rules and Regulations were  
29 crafted and approved *en banc* by the CHED. The undersigned’s  
30 congressional office was at the forefront of these initiatives, being the law’s  
31 principal author and prime mover. Funds were painstakingly sourced for  
32 the construction of the school’s initial infrastructure requirements, while  
33 extensive consultations were conducted among the faculty and the students  
34 of the affected external studies centers of the Bukidnon State University  
35 (BSU), which were integrated into the new state college.


36  
37 Hopes ran even higher, when the Regional Development Council  
38 (RDC) XI endorsed through a resolution the proposed special budget of  
39 CVSC for FY 2015. The stakeholders are cognizant of the fact that the  
40 school’s full operation is contingent on the Department of Budget and  
41 Management’s (DBM) approval of the same.  
42

1 This hopeful expectation was eventually doused by the DBM's  
2 denial of the budget proposal. The agency had resolved to deny  
3 consideration of CVSC's budget on the basis that the requirements under  
4 Section 26 of R.A. No. 10598 (CVSC's enabling law) had not yet been met.  
5

6 The policy behind the enactment of R.A. 10598 is for CVSC to have  
7 the support of the state: its creation is *fait accompli*, and the budgetary  
8 appropriation for the college is outside of the ambit of Sec. 26. This  
9 representation fully supports the requirement to comply with CHED  
10 standards, but these standards must be reasonable and appropriate for  
11 CVSC's status. Time and again we have contended that the template  
12 provisions conditionally inserted (Section 26 of Republic Act No. 10598, in  
13 particular) prior to the Senate approval of the then-pending bill, do not  
14 apply to a newly-established state college such as CVSC. This was  
15 confirmed during the many meetings of the school's Board of Trustees over  
16 which the Honorable CHED Chairperson presides: it is thus clear that the  
17 requirements under Sec. 26 should apply *only* to university-level  
18 institutions, and not to state colleges. It is also our position that the  
19 budgetary needs of CVSC is mandatory in Section 20 of the said law, and  
20 that no discretion is conferred on the DBM in terms of making the  
21 provisions of Section 26 as conditions precedent to determining and issuing  
22 appropriations for the operations of the state college.  
23

24 In view of the foregoing, and consistent with Article XIV, Section 1,  
25 of the Philippine Constitution which states that "*The state shall protect and*  
26 *promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall*  
27 *take appropriate steps to make such education accesible to all,*" we seek  
28 the passage of the appropriate amendments to Section 26 of RA 10598, and  
29 make it applicable to the operational requirements of CVSC. This will give  
30 life to spirit of the law, and that is to make CVSC a viable and sustainable  
31 institution of higher learning.  
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33 This bill reached the Senate during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress but time and  
34 administrative constraints prevented its passage.  
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MARIA CARMEN S. ZAMORA

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**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 26 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10598 ENTITLED "AN ACT ESTABLISHING A STATE COLLEGE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF COMPOSTELA, PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY TO BE KNOWN AS COMPOSTELA VALLEY STATE COLLEGE, INTEGRATING THEREWITH AS REGULAR BRANCHES THE BUKIDNON STATE UNIVERSITY EXTERNAL STUDIES CENTERS IN THE MUNICIPALITIES OF MONKAYO, MARAGUSAN, MONTEVISTA, AND NEW BATAAN, ALL LOCATED IN THE PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"**

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

SECTION 1. Section 26 of Republic Act No. 10598 is hereby deleted and substituted in compliance with Commission Memorandum Order No. 46, Series of 2012, to read as follows:

1. At least 70% of undergraduate programs have a well-defined core curriculum that has a holistic approach in developing thinking, problem solving, decision-making, communication, technical and social skills in line with the State College's mission;
2. One hundred percent (100%) of faculty teaching in the doctoral programs must have doctoral degrees;
3. At least 50% of the full-time permanent faculty members must have the relevant degrees as required by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in the subjects they handle;

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- 4. All other faculty should have the relevant degrees as well as licenses (for licensed programs), and/or experience in the subject areas they handle;
- 5. Learning resources and support structures for the HEI's programs, and compliant with the minimum requirement based on CHed PSGs; and
- 6. Outreach programs in the relevant geographic and special communities towards which the State College mission is oriented, allow students to contextualize their knowledge with actual social and human experiences.

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SEC. 2. The State College shall adopt the voluntary non-government accreditation systems pursuant to CHed Memorandum No. 1. Series of 2005: Revised Policies and Guidelines on Voluntary Accreditation in Aid of Quality and Excellence in Higher Education.

SEC 3. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,