Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

18th Congress
SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 7682

Introduced by Representative ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation building and education plays an important part to protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being. Education is widely seen as a tool to improve the socio-economic status of a person, and that better accessibility to education will not only improve the economic life of the people but even their social and political conditions. Sadly though, not all of our youths get to reach the tertiary level of education due to financial constraints. Many of our poor students have to drop out from college due to lack of access to government agencies and programs tasked to prioritize education as a catalyst for change and progress.

In the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR), the Regional Office of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) is situated in La Trinidad, Benguet, which is more than Three Hundred Kilometers from the Province of Kalinga. The CHED Regional Office covers the Provinces of Benguet, Kalinga, Apayao, Ifugao, Abra, Mountain Province and the City of Baguio, and Kalinga is the farthest from the Regional Center. The travel time from the Province of Kalinga to Benguet where the CHED Regional Office is located, is about eight to twelve hours, thus the stakeholders from the academe, staff and administrators of higher learning institutions, as well as our students, have to travel far and wide, and spend huge amount of time and money to reach and transact with the CHED Regional Office.

This measure then proposes the establishment of a CHED Field Office in the City of Tabuk to provide the people of Kalinga, especially our young students, easy access for their educational concerns, such as processing applications for scholarship grants and securing documents for employment purposes, among others. As the government is brought closer to the people in this part of the country, our children are also drawn further away from the dangerous clutches of insurgency, juvenile delinquency, crimes, ignorance and poverty.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG
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Introduced by Representative ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FIELD OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) IN THE PROVINCE OF KALINGA, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. There shall be established a Field Office of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in the Province of Kalinga, which shall exercise jurisdiction over the said Province. The CHED Field Office in the Province of Kalinga shall be known as the CHED-Kalinga Field Office which shall be located in the City of Tabuk, Province of Kalinga.

SEC. 2. The CHED-Kalinga Field Office shall be headed by a Provincial Director.

SEC. 3. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the CHED, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), shall formulate an organizational structure, staffing pattern and plantilla positions for CHED-Kalinga Field Office. The said organizational structure, staffing pattern and plantilla positions shall be finalized by the CHED Chairperson and the DBM Secretary.

SEC. 4. The CHED Chairperson shall immediately include in the CHED’s programs the operationalization of the CHED-Kalinga Field Office.

SEC. 5. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 6. The CHED shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,