FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session 7 NEV 14 5 17

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1868

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The alarming rise in the country's crime rate makes it compelling for agencies and personnel involved in the criminal justice system to have the scientific and medical capability to evaluate and analyze physical evidence. Though efforts of prosecution lawyers and law enforcers are directed towards the solution of crimes, it has become imperative to develop a corps of professional experts in forensic investigations.

The proposed bill seeks to establish a Forensic Science Institute in the University of the Philippines system for the purpose of providing competent, scientific and modern technical services and advanced medical facilities for the detection and investigation of crimes.

Furthermore, the establishment of a Forensic Institute in the UP System will address concerns on the objectivity of cases solved by the Philippine National Police and the National Bureau of Investigation. Though the integrity of both PNP and NBI is not in question, we know that these institutions operate crime laboratories that perform physical evidence analyses and examination. Both however, are also involved in the prosecution of crimes that, expectedly, results in findings which tend to corroborate their theory of cases under investigation.

The University of the Philippines will be in unchallenged position of conducting professional work though modern scientific methods and instrumentation of forensic investigation.

Establishing a Forensic Science Institute in the state-run university, known for its commitment in upholding academic truth and excellence will help immensely in crime solution.

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

MANNY VILLAR

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE FORENSIC SCIENCE INSTITUTE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES SYSTEM, DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 2	SECTION 1. <i>Title.</i> – This Act shall be known as the "Forensic Science Institute Act."
3	CECTION O Creation and Objective of the Institute. There is been by
4	SECTION 2. Creation and Objective of the Institute There is hereby
5 6	created a Forensic Science Institute in the University of the Philippines System with the following objectives:
7	
, 8	(a) To promote research and development in the various fields of forensic
9	science and advance the search for truth;
10	
11	(b) To enhance the competence and capabilities of existing laboratories in
12	the country and prepare them for accreditation;
13	
14	(c) To develop a corps of professionals and prepare them for a career in
15	forensic science; and
16	
17	(d) To train and upgrade the technical, scientific and management skills of
18	personnel presently involved in forensic science so as to improve the
19	administration of justice.
20	SECTION 2. Delegation of Authority to the Deputy of Deputy
21	SECTION 3. Delegation of Authority to the Board of Regents. – The Board of Regents of the University of the Philippings System is berefy authorized to establish
22 23	Regents of the University of the Philippines System is hereby authorized to establish the Forensic Science Institute under the direct supervision of the Office of the
23 24	President of the University, which shall have a faculty and staff with expertise in the
2 4 25	disciplines of biology, chemistry, law, medicine, molecular biology, social sciences,
26	statistics and other pertinent disciplines, who may be drawn within the System or
27	outside.
28	
29	SECTION 4. Functions of the Institute. – The Forensic Science Institute will

30 have the following functions:

(a) To provide competent scientific and advance medical and technical 1 services for the detection and investigation of crimes. 2 3 (b) To maintain a network of modern laboratories for the development and 4 adoption of analytical methods and procedures related to forensic 5 evidence: 6 7 (c) To offer degree and non-degree programs to students inclined towards 8 the various areas of forensic science; 9 10 (d) To undertake research in all fields of forensic science; and 11 12 (e) To provide continuing education on modern scientific methods and 13 instrumentation and on validation of forensic evidence to technicians and 14 personnel of existing laboratories, medical centers, and educational 15 institutions. 16 17 SECTION 5. Implementing Authority. - The Board of Regents of the 18 University of the Philippines System is hereby mandated to formulate implementing 19 guidelines to carry out the provisions of this Act and to take appropriate steps to 20 ensure that the establishment of the Forensic Science institute shall aim at the 21 speedy realization of the objectives and at the execution of the powers and 22 functions stated above. Towards this end, the Board shall determine the structure. 23 composition, and size of the Institute's faculty and staff. 24 25 SECTION 6. Appropriations. – The amount of Three Hundred Million Pesos 26 (P300,000,000) is hereby appropriated out of any funds in the National Treasury not 27 otherwise appropriated to carry out the objectives and provisions of this Act from its 28 effectivity until the next fiscal year. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to 29 carry out the provisions of the Act shall be included in the subsequent annual 30 General Appropriations Act under the University of the Philippines System. 31 32 SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, rules and regulations, or part 33 thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amend or 34 modified accordingly. 35 · 36 SECTION 8. Effectivity. - This act shall take effect upon its approval. 37 38 Approved, 39