EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes that the youth are critically important in nation building. Education is given priority as part of its goal to pursue social progress and total human development. Therefore, it is imperative for the State to ensure that students in higher educational institutions have access to services of government agencies in-charge of promoting quality education.

The MIMAROPA Region is composed of five provinces across four major islands namely: the Provinces of Occidental and Oriental Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan. The island provinces are always faced with distinct challenges when it comes to accessing key government services vital to improving our people’s quality of life. Currently, CHED-MIMAROPA’s Regional Office is located in the National Capital Region (NCR). Accessing its services is oftentimes tedious, time consuming, and costly.

This measure aims to provide the people of the Province of Occidental Mindoro access to the services of CHED as we work towards growth and progress.

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

HON. JOSEPHINE Y. RAMIREZ-SATO
Lone District of Occidental Mindoro
Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8548


AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FIELD OFFICE OF THE COMMISSION ON  
HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE PROVINCE OF OCCIDENTAL MINDORO,  
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 Occidental Mindoro, which shall  
exercise jurisdiction over the said province. It shall be known as the CHED –  
Occidental Mindoro Field Office. It shall be located in the Municipality of San Jose.

SEC 2. The CHED – Occidental Mindoro 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 the organizational structure, staffing pattern, and plantilla positions for  
the CHED – Occidental Mindoro Field Office. The same shall be finalized by CHED  
Chairperson and Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

SEC. 4. The Chairperson of the CHED shall immediately include in the  
CHED’s program the operationalization of the CHED – Occidental Mindoro Field  
Office.

SEC. 5. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be  
included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
SEC. 6. The CHED shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from its approval.

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.*