

Fourteenth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by Honorable

AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING FURTHER THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE  
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR  
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9054, "AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN  
AND EXPAND THE ORGANIC ACT FOR THE AUTONOMOUS REGION  
IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC  
ACT NO. 6734, ENTITLED 'AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE  
AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO', AS AMENDED" AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Sections 2, 4 and 5, Article V of Republic Act No. 9054 are hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC. 2. *Cabinet Membership.* – [ **As far as practicable,**] [i]It shall be the policy of the national government that there shall be at least one (1) member of the cabinet with a rank of a Department Secretary who is an inhabitant of the autonomous region to be recommended by the Regional Governor [ **in consultation with elected officials and concerned sectors of the autonomous region** ].

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“SEC. 4. *Representation of Autonomous Region in General in the Central Government or National Government.* – Representation of the inhabitants of the autonomous region in the central government or national government may be done by appointment or election.

Appointment of inhabitants of the autonomous region to positions in the central government or national government shall be subject to central government or national government standards and guidelines. Such appointment shall be made [ **only** ] upon recommendation by the Regional Governor [ **after consultation with the Regional Assembly and the concerned sectors of the autonomous region** ].

Right of representation shall not be construed in such a way that applicants from the autonomous region, especially Muslims and cultural communities, for lower positions in the above organs of the government cannot be appointed anymore thereto.

Election of legislators to represent the autonomous region in the Congress of the Republic shall be done pursuant to the rules of the Commission on Elections.

SEC. 5. *Representatives in Executive Departments and Constitutional Bodies.* – At least, one (1) qualified inhabitant of the autonomous region recommended by the Regional Governor [ **in consultation with the Regional Assembly and concerned sectors of the autonomous region** ] shall be appointed [ **as far as practicable,** ] in each of the departments, offices or bureaus and constitutional bodies of the central government or national government [ **that deal with the autonomous region,**] in primarily confidential, highly technical, or policy-determining positions.

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SEC. 2. Section 2, Article VII of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC. 2. *Regional Governor and Cabinet Members.* – The Regional Governor shall be the Chief Executive of the regional government. He shall be assisted by a cabinet [ **not exceeding ten (10) members, at least six (6) of whom shall come from indigenous cultural communities** ] **WHOSE NUMBER SHALL BE DETERMINED IN THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.** The representatives of the indigenous cultural communities in the cabinet shall come from various provinces and cities within the autonomous region.

The members of the cabinet must be registered voters and residents of the autonomous region for at least five (5) years immediately preceding their appointments. The Regional Governor shall appoint the members of the cabinet subject to confirmation by the Regional Assembly.

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SEC. 3. Sections 2, 3, 4 and 23 Article VIII of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC. 2. *Justices from Autonomous Region.* – It shall be the policy of the central government or national government that [ **whenever feasible,** ] at least one (1) [ **justice** ] **MEMBER OF [in]** the Supreme Court and two (2) [ **justices** ] **MEMBERS OF [in]** the Court of Appeals shall come from [ **qualified jurists of** ] the autonomous region.

For this purpose, the Regional Governor [ **may, after consultations with the Regional Assembly and concerned sectors in the autonomous region,** ] **SHALL** submit the names of qualified persons to the Judicial and Bar Council for its consideration. The appointments of those recommended by the Regional Governor to the judicial positions mentioned above are without prejudice to appointments that may be extended to other qualified inhabitants of the autonomous region to other positions in the Judiciary.

SEC. 3. *Consultant to the Judicial and Bar Council.* – The President shall appoint a qualified person as a consultant to the Judicial and Bar Council recommended by the Regional Governor **OF THE AUTONOMOUS REGION [ in consultation with the concerned sectors of the autonomous region\*.** The person recommended by the Regional Governor] shall first be confirmed by the Regional Assembly. Once appointed by the President, the consultant] who shall [ **sit with the Judicial and Bar Council only to** ] advise and be consulted by the [c]Council on [ **matters of** ] appointments to judicial positions in the autonomous region.

SEC. 4. *Deputy Court Administrator FOR THE SHARI'AH COURTS.* – The Office of the Deputy Court Administrator for the [autonomous region] **SHARI'AH COURTS** is hereby created. The Deputy Court Administrator for the [autonomous region] **SHARI'AH COURTS** shall be appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court from among three (3) recommendees submitted by the Regional Governor [ **upon previous confirmation by the Regional Assembly and after consultation with the concerned sectors of the autonomous region]. HE SHALL BE A MUSLIM AND AT LEAST A GRADUATE OF A TWO (2) YEAR COURSE ON ISLAMIC LAW AND JURISPRUDENCE. HE SHALL HAVE THE RANK OF ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS.**

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SEC. 23. *Bases for Interpretation of Islamic Law.* – Subject to the provisions of the Constitution, the Shari'ah courts shall interpret Islamic law based on sources such as:

- (a) Al-Qur'an (The Koran);
- (b) Al-Sunnah (Prophetic traditions);
- (c) [ **Al-Quiyas (Analogy)** ] **AL-IJIMA (CONSENSUS);** and
- (d) [ **Al-Ijima (Consensus)** ] **AL-QIYAS (ANALOGY).**

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SEC. 4. Sections 2, 6, 8, and 14, Article IX of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC. 2. *Fiscal Autonomy.* – The regional government shall enjoy fiscal autonomy in generating and budgeting its own sources of revenue, its share of the internal revenue taxes and block grants and subsidies remitted to it by the central government or national government or any donor.

The utilization of its share of the internal revenue taxes and block grants or subsidies from the central government or national government shall be subject to [ a ] semi-annual and annual audits by the Commission on Audit and to the rules and regulations of the Department of Budget and Management. All accountable officials of the regional government shall, upon demand, furnish the Commission on Audit all documents, papers, and effects necessary for the completion of the audit. **[ Failure to do so shall empower the President or the Secretary of Finance to reduce, suspend, or cancel the release of funds intended for the autonomous region to the extent of the amounts that cannot be audited for reasons attributable to the officials of the autonomous region or are unaccounted for after audit. ]**

**[ If more than half of the funds released to the autonomous region by the central government or national government remainS unaccounted for six (6) months after the audit mentioned above, the Secretary of Finance may also suspend or cancel the release of any or all funds allocated by the central government or national government for the autonomous region. Officials of the regional government who fail to submit the documents, papers and effects demanded by the Commission on Audit within the period specified herein may be suspended or removed from office by the President upon recommendation of the Secretary of Finance. ]**

The utilization of the revenue generated by the regional government and block grants or subsidies remitted to it by foreign or domestic donors shall be subject to the rules and regulations of the Regional Government Department of Budget and Management, if any and to audit by regional government auditors. In the absence of such rules and regulations, the audit of said funds, block grants or subsidies shall be done by the Commission on Audit and the use thereof shall be in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Budget and Management of the central government or national government.

**[ The results of the audit mentioned in this Section shall be published in national newspapers of general circulation and in newspapers of regional circulation. The results shall also be announced over government-owned radio and television stations. ]**

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SEC. 6. *Payment of Taxes.* – Corporations, partnerships, or firms directly engaged in business in the autonomous region shall pay their corresponding taxes, fees, and charges in the province or city, where the corporation, partnership, or firm is doing business.

Corporations, partnerships, or firms whose central, main, or head offices are located outside the autonomous region but which are doing business within its territorial jurisdiction, [ by ] **SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED TO** farming, developing, or utilizing the land, aquatic, or natural resources therein, shall pay the income taxes corresponding to the income realized from their business operations in the autonomous region to the city, or municipality where their branch offices or business operations or activities are located.

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SEC. 8. *Sources of Regional Government Revenue.* – The sources of revenues of the Regional Government shall include, but are not limited to the following:

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(f) Block grants derived from economic agreements or conventions entered into or authorized by the Regional Assembly, donations, endowments, foreign assistance, and other forms of aid [ , subject to the pertinent provisions of the Constitution ].

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SEC. 14. *Foreign or Domestic Loans.* – The Regional [ **Governor may be authorized by the Regional Assembly to contract foreign loan or domestic loans in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. The loans so contracted may take effect upon approval by the majority of all the members of the Regional Assembly**] **ASSEMBLY SHALL ENACT LAWS GOVERNING THE CONTRACTING OF DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN LOANS BY THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT**

SEC. 5. Section 7 of Article XII of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC. 7. *Preferential Rights of Citizen-Inhabitants of the Autonomous Region.* – [ **Subject to the exceptions provided in this Organic Act, [c]**Citizens who are inhabitants of the autonomous region shall have preferential rights over the exploration, utilization, and development of natural resources of the autonomous region. Existing rights over the exploration, utilization, and development of natural resources shall be respected subject to the exceptions specified in this Organic Act.

SEC 6. SEC 10-A *Creating the Regional Economic and Development Authority (REDA)* is hereby inserted between Sections 10 and 11 of Article XII to read as follows:

**SECTION 10-A CREATING THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY - A REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (REDA) IS HEREBY CREATED TO, AMONG OTHERS, ASSIST THE REDPB AND PERFORM SUCH FUNCTIONS SIMILAR TO THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA). PROVIDED HOWEVER, THAT THE PERSONNEL OF THE EXISTING REGIONAL PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (RPDO) AS PROVIDED IN REGIONAL ACT NO. 4 WILL BE ABSORBED BY THE REDA WITHOUT DIMINUTION OF THEIR RANKS, SALARIES, AND BENEFITS.**

SEC. 7. Sections 29 and 30 of Article XII of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows:

**SEC. 29. *Islamic Banks.* – [The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas shall establish an Islamic Bank and authorize the establishment of its branches in the autonomous region. ]**

**[The members of the board of directors or trustees of the Islamic Bank shall be appointed by the President upon recommendation of the Regional Governor. The persons recommended by the Regional Governor shall possess educational qualifications and sufficient experience in the management and operation of Islamic banking and shall be subject to confirmation by the Regional Assembly before they are recommended to the President. The board of directors or trustees of the bank shall elect from among their members the chair, the vice chair and the president of the bank. Other bank officials and employees shall be appointed by the president of the bank]**

**AN ISLAMIC BANKING UNIT SHALL BE ESTABLISHED IN THE BANGKO SENTRAL WHICH SHALL BE STAFFED BY QUALIFIED ISLAMIC BANKING EXPERTS, NOMINATED BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE REGIONAL AUTONOMOUS GOVERNMENT. THE GOVERNOR OF THE REGIONAL AUTONOMOUS GOVERNMENT SHALL NOMINATE AT LEAST THREE (3) QUALIFIED PERSONS FROM THE AREA OF AUTONOMY, FROM WHICH NOMINATION THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY SHALL APPOINT THE HEAD OF THE UNIT. THE SAME PROCEDURE SHALL BE OBSERVED AS REGARDS THE REST OF THE POSITIONS IN THE UNIT.**

**IN ADDITION, THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS SHALL AUTHORIZE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF ISLAMIC BANKS AND ITS BRANCHES.**

SEC. 30. *Bangko Sentral Regional [ Bank ] OFFICE\** (for further study). - The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas shall establish a Bangko Sentral Regional [ **Bank** ] **OFFICE** with full banking services in the capital city or any suitable municipality in the autonomous region within one (1) year from the approval of this Organic Act. The Regional Governor shall submit a list of qualified persons to the appropriate Bangko Sentral authority from which the staff of the regional office may be chosen. The rights of the Bangko Sentral personnel who are occupying positions in the Bangko Sentral Regional Office as of the date of the approval of this Organic Act to continue as such shall be respected.

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SEC. 8. Sections 3, 5 (b) and (h), 7 and 9, Article XIII of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC. 3. *Law Governing Regional Police Force.* - The Regional Assembly shall enact laws to govern the Regional Police Force consistent with the pertinent provisions of the Constitution and this Organic Act, **TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS.**

[ **The members of the Moro National Liberation Front who are integrated into the Regional Police Force may be deployed in the autonomous region or elsewhere in the Republic as may be determined by the proper police authorities.** ]

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SEC. 5. xxx

- (a) xxx
- (b) Maintain [ **law** ] **PEACE** and order and ensure public safety;

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- (h) Perform such other duties and exercise all other functions as may be provided by law [ **enacted by Congress or by the Regional Assembly** ].

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SEC. 7. *Regional Police Framework and Organization.* - The philosophical framework and structural organization of the Regional Police Force shall be as follows:

- (a) It shall be civilian in nature and character;

(b) The scope of its operations shall be regional. [ **The Regional Police Force, its units or personnel may be deployed elsewhere in the Republic as directed by the National Police Commission or when needed to suppress lawless violence, pursue, and arrest criminal offenders or maintain law and order. In such circumstances, the order to deploy must be signed by the Chairman of the National Police Commission and approved by the President. The President may also order the said deployment on his own authority; ]**

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[ **SEC. 9. *Regional Police Directors.* – The selection, assignment, and appointment of the Provincial and City Directors of the Regional Police Force and the assignment of the Moro National Liberation Front integreees shall be done pursuant to Republic Act No. 6975, the Philippine National Police Law and Republic Act No. 8551, the Philippine National Police Reform and Reorganization Act of 1998.**]

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SEC. 9. Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 18, and 20 of Article XIV of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows:

**“Education, Science and Technology, Arts, and Sports”**

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SEC. 2. *Policies and Principles.* – Consistent with the basic state policy on education, the regional government shall adopt the following educational policies and principles:

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(b) [ ***Inculcation of values of peaceful settlement of disputes.* The Regional educational subsystem shall prioritize the inculcation among the citizenry and students of their commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes and grievances and the avoidance of the use of lawless violence. ]**

[ **To this end, emphasis shall be placed on the desirability and practicality of relying upon democratic and legal processes rather than on the use of guns or resort to violence to settle personal, familial, or tribal problems. The Regional Assembly may, by law, establish a program for the surrender of firearms with payment of compensation provided by the Regional Government. The program may also be supported from the funds of the Philippine national Police. ]**



- (i) *Development of regional language.* A regional language **WHICH CAN BE UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED AND UNDERSTOOD** may be evolved and developed from the different dialects in the region;

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- (k) *Teaching of Arabic LANGUAGE as subject.* Arabic **LANGUAGE** shall be taught as a subject in all grade levels as required for Muslims under existing laws and optional, for non-Muslims;

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- (6) *Primary responsibility for learning aides and instructional materials.*  
The regional government shall have the primary responsibility to provide learning aides and instructional materials to the schools in the autonomous region in addition to those already prescribed **AND SUPPLIED** by the central government or national government.

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- (b) The regional government may impose its regionally-defined standards for the employment of teaching and non-teaching personnel in its school system which, however, shall not be lower than the **NATIONAL** standards of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports.

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SEC. 3. *Regional Educational Curricula.* – The **COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) AND THE** Regional Department of Education [**Culture and Sports**] shall develop curricula that are relevant to the economic, social, political, cultural, moral, and spiritual needs of the people of the autonomous region.

**THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SHALL HAVE ITS REGIONAL EDUCATION ACT [FOR IT] TO FOLLOW IN FRAMING A CURRICULUM WHICH WILL BE APPROPRIATE, APPLICABLE, AND ACCEPTABLE TO THE WAY OF LIFE [AND TO] OF THE PEOPLE OF THE REGION, PROVIDED THAT SUCH CURRICULUM, INCLUDING ITS CONTENT AND LEVEL OF COMPETENCIES, IS CONSISTENT AND EQUAL TO THE NATIONAL STANDARDS OF DEPED, CHED AND TESDA.**

**THE REGIONAL AUTONOMOUS GOVERNMENT EDUCATION SYSTEM WILL ADOPT THE BASIC EDUCATION CORE COURSES IN ENGLISH, MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE, FILIPINO AND MAKABAYAN FOR ALL FILIPINO CHILDREN AS WELL AS THE MINIMUM REQUIRED LEARNING, COMPETENCIES AND**

**ORIENTATIONS PROVIDED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING THE SUBJECT AREAS AND THEIR DAILY TIME ALLOTMENT. TEACHING MATERIALS AND CURRICULUM CONTENTS SHALL PROMOTE SOLIDARITY, UNITY IN DIVERSITY, FILIPINO AND ISLAMIC VALUES.**

SEC. 4. *Education, Management, and Control of Education.* – The management, control, and supervision of the regional educational subsystem shall be the primary concern of the regional government.

The Department of Education [ **Culture and Sports** ], the Commission on Higher Education, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, and other appropriate educational bodies of the central government or national government shall [ **monitor compliance by the** ] **COORDINATE WITH** regional educational subsystem. [ **with national educational policies, standards, and regulations** ] The Department of Education,[ **Culture and Sports,**] the Commission on Higher Education, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority of the regional government shall participate in policy and decision-making activities of their counterparts of the central government or national government in matters that affect the regional educational subsystem.

**Educational Structure**

SEC. 5. The Regional Assembly may, by law, create, support, and maintain a Regional Department of Education [**Culture and Sports**], **COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER HIGHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING** and shall define [ **its** ] **THEIR** powers, functions and composition.

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SEC. 6. *Private Schools Supervision.*

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- (c) Private schools, including sectarian and non-sectarian institutions of learning of whatever level, may organize themselves and shall have the right to participate and be represented by three (3) representatives in the deliberations of the Regional Department of Education [ **Culture and Sports** ], **CHED, TESDA AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS** on matters dealing with private schools.
- (d) The representatives of the private schools to the Regional Department of Education [**Culture and Sports**], **CHED, TESDA AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS** shall act for the sectarian Christian schools, non-sectarian schools, and the schools of the lumads, if any.

SEC. 7. *Educational Subsystem Structure.* – The organizational structure of the regional educational subsystem shall follow the basic structure of the educational system of the central government or national government. The Regional Assembly may, however, create its own structures. It shall prescribe the same curricular years as those prescribed nationally. **THE EDUCATIONAL SUBSYSTEM STRUCTURE SHALL BE SPELLED OUT IN A REGIONAL EDUCATION ACT THAT WILL BE FRAMED BY THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY.**

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SEC. 10. [ *Tribal* ] **INDIGENOUS BANGSAMORO** *University System.* – The Regional Assembly [ may ] **SHALL** create AN [ tribal ] **INDIGENOUS BANGSAMORO** university system within the autonomous region to address the higher educational needs of the indigenous cultural communities in the region.

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*SEC. 11. Supervision of Madaris Schools.* [Accredited Madaris in the autonomous region shall be supervised by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports in accordance with the principles of the Constitution and this Organic Act. The educational policies should also take into consideration the teaching of the Koran that an educational system should inculcate respect by individuals for duly constituted authority. A periodic review and supervision of the “Madaris” educational system shall be conducted by the department of Education, Culture, and Sports and a monthly report shall be submitted by the Department of Congress through the Senate President, the Speaker and the Chairs of respective education committees of both Houses of Congress or the corresponding committees of the Regional Assembly of the autonomous region in Muslim Mindanao, if there are such committees in the said assembly. ] **EXISTING MADARIS IN THE AUTONOMOUS REGION SHALL BE SUPERVISED BY THE REGIONAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND REGIONAL CHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONSTITUTION AND THIS ORGANIC ACT. THE EDUCATIONAL POLICIES SHOULD ALSO TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE TEACHING OF THE [KORAN] QUR’AN THAT AN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM SHOULD INCULCATE RESPECT BY INDIVIDUALS FOR DULY CONSTITUTED AUTHORITY.**

**ALL THESE SHALL BE BASED ON THE REGIONAL EDUCATION ACT THAT WILL BE [ENACTED] PASSED BY THE REGIONAL ASSEMBLY.**

SEC. 18. *Non-Formal Education.*

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THE REGIONAL AUTONOMOUS GOVERNMENT EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM SHALL DEVELOP THE FULL POTENTIALS OF ITS HUMAN RESOURCES, RESPOND POSITIVELY TO THE CHANGING NEEDS AND CONDITIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT, AND INSTITUTIONALIZE NON-FORMAL EDUCATION TO INCLUDE LITERACY, NUMERACY AND INTENSIVE SKILLS TRAINING OF THE YOUTH AND ADULT, TO ALLOW THEM TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY AND PRODUCTIVELY IN THE MAINSTREAM OF REGIONAL AND NATIONAL LIFE.

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SEC 20. *Scholarship Program*

The regional government shall provide scholarships to qualified poor but deserving students in all levels of education. To this end, the regional government shall devote [ **at least fifteen percent (15%)**] **A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION** of its regular budget for education to support scholarships **FOR THE POOR BUT DESERVING CHILDREN OF SHUHADA OR ACCREDITED MNLF MEMBERS AND OTHER DEPRIVED MEMBERS OF SOCIETY INCLUDING NEEDY ORPHANS** and shall endeavor to augment the funds for scholarships from other sources of revenue, public or private.

SEC. 8. Section 1, Article X, Ancestral Domain, Ancestral lands and Agrarian Reform is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC.1. [ **Ancestral Domain; Lands of Indigenous Cultural Communities.** Subject to the Constitution and existing laws, the Regional Government shall undertake measures to protect the ancestral domain and ancestral lands of indigenous cultural communities.

All lands and natural resources in the autonomous region that have been possessed or occupied by indigenous cultural communities since time immemorial, except when prevented by war, force majeure, or other forms of forcible usurpation, shall form part of the ancestral domain. Such ancestral domain shall include pasture lands, worship areas, burial grounds, forests and fields, mineral resources, except strategic minerals such as uranium, coal, petroleum, and other fossil fuels, mineral oils, and all sources of potential energy; lakes, rivers, and lagoons; and national reserves and marine parks, as well as forest and watershed. Until laws are enacted that provide otherwise, fifty %50) percent of the revenues derived from the utilization and development of such strategic materials shall accrue to the Regional Government and the provinces, cities, municipalities, and barangay in the autonomous region. The sharing between the Regional Government and the local government units in the revenues derived from the strategic materials mentioned above shall be apportioned according to the formula set out in Section 5, Article XII of this organic Act.] **THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SHALL UNDERTAKE MEASURES TO PROTECT THE ANCESTRAL DOMAIN AND ANCESTRAL LANDS OF THE INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES.**

**PENDING THE ENACTMENT OF THE REGIONAL LAW ON ANCESTRAL DOMAIN AND ANCESTRAL LANDS, PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THE INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS ACT SHALL APPLY.**

SEC. 9. Sec. 5, (c), Article XII, Economy and Patrimony is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 5, (c) Sharing between Regional Government and Local Government Units in Strategic Minerals, Revenues, Taxes, or Fees. The share of the Regional Government [**mentioned above**] is hereby apportioned as follows: thirty (30) percent to the Regional Government; twenty (20) percent to all the provinces; fifteen (15) percent to all the cities; twenty (20) percent to all the municipalities; and fifteen (15) percent to all the barangays. If there are no cities in the autonomous region as of the date the sharing above mentioned is done, the share of the cities shall be divided equally by all the provinces, municipalities, and barangays in the autonomous region.

SEC. 10. Section 11, Article XVIII, Transitory Provisions is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 11. Annual Assistance. In addition to the regular annual allotment to fund **FOR** the regular operations [**of the Regional Government, such amounts as may be needed to fund the infrastructure projects duly identified, endorsed, and approved by the Regional Economic and Development Planning Board as created herein shall be provided by the central government or national government as annual assistance for six y(6) years after the approval of this Organic Act, and shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA). The annual assistance herein mentioned shall be appropriated and disbursed through a Public Works Act duly enacted by the Regional Assembly. ] AND THE REGULAR INFRASTRUCTURE FUND BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT SHALL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CATCH UP FUND FOR DEVELOPMENT TO THE REGIONAL GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE THE GAP OF THE REGION WITH OTHER REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY. THE AMOUNT OF THE CATCH UP FUND SHALL BE BASED ON THE CATCH UP PLAN IDENTIFIED, ENDORSED AND APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING BOARD. The national programs and projects in the autonomous region shall continue to be financed by central government or national government funds.**

SEC. 12. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.