

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

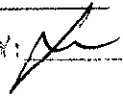
SENATE  
S. No. 2614

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution under Article 14, Section 12 provides:

The State shall regulate the transfer and promote the adaptation of technology from all sources for the national benefit...

Historically, our country has produced countless great scientists that have been recognized for their work, both locally and internationally. Many of our scientists have had the opportunity to train and interact with scientists from other countries, and to work for foreign research firms on projects funded by foreign countries with their national policies behind it. As a sovereign nation, we must also find a way to support our national policies with solid research and development, building upon collective advances in science and technology around the world.

This bill provides for the establishment of an office that will ensure science and technology cooperation with our international partners.

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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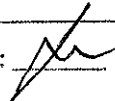
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1 AN ACT

2 TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE TO IDENTIFY AND  
3 COORDINATE INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION THAT  
4 CAN STRENGTHEN THE DOMESTIC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ENTERPRISE AND  
5 SUPPORT PHILIPPINE FOREIGN POLICY GOALS

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

6 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as “International Science and  
7 Technology Cooperation Act.”

8 SECTION 2. *Establishment.* – The Secretary of Science and Technology shall establish a  
9 committee under the National Academy of Science and Technology Executive Council with the  
10 responsibility to identify and coordinate international science and technology cooperation that  
11 can strengthen the Philippine science and technology enterprise, improve economic and national  
12 security, and support Philippine foreign policy goals.

13 SECTION 3. *Committee Leadership.* – The committee established under Section 2 shall  
14 be co-chaired by senior level officials from the National Academy of Science and Technology  
15 Executive Council and the Department of Foreign Affairs.

16 SECTION 4. *Responsibilities.* – The committee established under Section 2 shall—

17 (a) plan and coordinate interagency international science and technology cooperative  
18 research and training activities and partnerships supported or managed by government agencies  
19 to help plan and coordinate the international component of national science and technology  
20 priorities;

21 (b) establish national priorities and policies for aligning, as appropriate, international  
22 science and technology cooperative research and training activities and partnerships supported or  
23 managed by government agencies with the foreign policy goals of the Philippines;

1 (c) identify opportunities for new international science and technology cooperative  
2 research and training partnerships that advance both the science and technology and the foreign  
3 policy priorities of the Philippines;

4 (d) in carrying out paragraph (c), solicit input and recommendations from non-  
5 government science and technology stakeholders, including universities, scientific and  
6 professional societies, industry, and relevant organizations and institutions, through workshops  
7 and other appropriate venues;

8 (e) work with international science and technology counterparts, both non-governmental  
9 and governmental (in coordination with the Department of Foreign Affairs), to establish and  
10 maintain international science and technology cooperative research and training partnerships, as  
11 identified under paragraph (c); and

12 (f) address broad issues that influence the ability of Philippine scientists and  
13 engineers to collaborate with foreign counterparts, including barriers to collaboration and access  
14 to scientific information.

15 SECTION 5. *Report to Congress.* – The Secretary of Science and Technology shall  
16 transmit a report annually to Congress containing a description of the priorities and policies  
17 established under Section 4(b), the ongoing and new partnerships established in the previous  
18 fiscal year, and how stakeholder input, as required under Section 4(d), was received.

19 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts  
20 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified  
21 accordingly.

22 SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is  
23 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not  
24 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

25 SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
26 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,