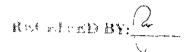
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



10 DEC -6 P4:29

SENATE

s. No. 2621



Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Explanatory Note

With the passage of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008 or RA 9520, a lot of changes are expected to happen in the cooperative sector. With these changes, the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) should be responsive enough to the sector. Unfortunately, the current charter of CDA under Republic Act No. 6939 could no longer meet such challenges. Thus, it is imperative that the charter of CDA must be amended as well and be attuned to the changes and amendments in the Philippine Cooperative Code.

Among the significant changes that this bill envisions for the CDA Charter are the following:

- 1. The bill clearly defines the regulatory and supervisory powers of the agency;
- 2. It also defines its developmental functions;
- 3. It also provides for the adjudicatory powers of the CDA over intra and intercooperative conflicts and disputes which were not settled before the voluntary arbitration and mediation bodies;
- 4. It amends the composition of the CDA Board from the current geographical representation to representation by the different types of cooperatives, and an additional four ex-officio members from government agencies;
- 5. It creates a Regional Cooperative and Adjudication Boards; and
- 6. It places the CDA under the Office of the President.

With the foregoing amendments to the CDA Charter, it is expected that the Authority will be more responsive and relevant to the cooperative sector.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

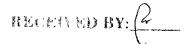
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



10 DEC -6 P4:29

SENATE

s. No. 2621



Introduced by Sen. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

AN ACT

TO RESTRUCTURE AND STRENGTHEN THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER OF THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "The New Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) Charter."

2

4

5

6

7

8

9

1

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the viability and growth of cooperatives as a potent vehicle for promoting equity, social justice and economic development. Towards this end, the State shall maintain an Authority that shall function and operate as a central policy, developmental, and regulatory governmental body in the discharge of its mandated responsibilities concerning cooperatives.

10

11

12

13

SEC. 3. The Cooperative Development Authority. — The Cooperative Development Authority created under Republic Act No. 6939, herein referred to as the Authority, is hereby restructured to carry out the provisions of this Act and those of Republic Act No. 9520, the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008.

14 15

16

17

18

The Authority shall have its principal place of business in Metro Manila, and may maintain offices, and branches in such other places as the proper conduct of its business may require. The Authority shall be an agency attached to the Office of the President.

SEC. 4. Powers and Functions of the Authority. — The Authority, after consultation with the cooperative sector, shall formulate and implement the necessary policies to further strengthen the cooperative sector. It shall likewise issue the necessary rules and regulations for the sound operations of all types of cooperatives, federations and/or unions in accordance with the provisions of R.A. 9520 and other pertinent laws. It shall have the following powers and functions:

I. Regulation and Supervision -

.13

- (a) Exercise the sole power to register all types and categories of cooperatives, transfer all or substantially all of the cooperative's assets and liabilities in case of dissolution and liquidation of cooperatives as provided under Chapter VII of R.A. 9520, and such other matters as may be required by the Authority.
- (b) Provide appropriate implementing rules and regulations, in consultation with the sector and other pertinent government agencies dealing with the different types of cooperatives, regarding inspection and audit of cooperatives, federations and unions, including their branches, subsidiaries and affiliates engaged in allied activities.
- (c) Regulate and, together with relevant government agencies, have supervision over inspection and audit of cooperatives, federations and unions, including their branches, subsidiaries and affiliates engaged in allied activities. *Provided, however,* that the Authority may delegate such power to an accredited cooperative federation and/or union on conditions and guidelines as may be prescribed by the Board.

(d) Suspend or revoke the certificate of registration of a cooperative not compliant with the provisions of R.A. 9520 and other pertinent laws, after due process and formally notifying the cooperative of its non-compliance.

(e) Establish the necessary standards, rules and regulations on cooperative governance, management and financial performance, in consultation with the sector and other relevant government agencies and the sector, in order to monitor and evaluate the cooperative's performance. The Authority shall also set the standards for the training and education undertaken by accredited cooperative federations or unions for their cooperative members.

The heads and the inspectors of the supervising and/or examining department of the Authority are hereby authorized to administer oaths to any director, officer, or employee of any institution under their respective supervision or subject to their examination and to compel the presentation of all books, documents, papers or records necessary, in their judgment, to ascertain the true condition of the concerned cooperative as well as the books and records of persons and entities relative to or in connection with the operations, activities or transactions of the institution under inspection, subject to the provisions of existing laws protecting or safeguarding the secrecy or confidentiality of deposits as well as investments of private persons, natural or juridical, and in debt instruments issued by the Government.

(f) Authorized to request from government offices and instrumentalities, including local government units, or government-owned or -controlled corporations, any data which it may require for the proper discharge of its functions and responsibilities.

The Authority, through the Executive Director or, in his/her absence, a duly authorized representative shall have, upon approval by the Board, the power to issue a subpoena and subpoena duces tecum for the production of the books and records of any cooperative. Those who refuse to supply the information or data requested or required, shall be subject to punishment for contempt in accordance with the provisions of the Rules of Court.

Data or information gathered from individual cooperatives, federations or unions, shall be held in the strictest confidentiality by the Authority and shall not be made available to any person or entity outside of the Authority, whether public or private, except under order of a court of law or under such conditions as may be prescribed by the Board: *Provided, however,* That aggregate or collective data on cooperatives may be released to interested parties or entities.

(g) Require all cooperatives, federations and unions to submit their annual financial statements, duly audited by certified public accountants, and general information sheets.

(h) Issue Certificate of Good Standing to cooperatives compliant to RA 9520 and other related laws governing cooperatives.

(j) Require all Board of Directors and officers of cooperatives to undergo cooperative governance and risk management courses to be conducted by any group or institution authorized or accredited by the Authority.

- (k) Periodically assess the required paid-up share capital of cooperatives and may increase it every five (5) years when necessary upon consultation with the cooperative sector and the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA).

(I) Determine types of cooperatives aside from those enumerated under R.A. 9520.

II. Developmental -

(a) Act as conduit of government funds to cooperatives. The Authority shall issue implementing rules and guidelines relative to this.

(b) Act as the sole coordinative body for all planning and execution of government projects and programs geared towards cooperative development, viability and sustainability. Monitor cooperative projects and programs funded and/or implemented by international organizations that are coursed through the Philippine government.

(c) Coordinate or liaise with other relevant government agencies and cooperative federations to provide the necessary technical assistance to cooperatives in the preparation of technical and project proposals, feasibility studies and similar undertakings needed to upgrade the cooperative's operations.

(d) Link cooperatives with qualified federations/or unions and other appropriate government agencies, to provide needed capability-building assistance.

III. Adjudication -

(a) Mediate, conciliate or adjudicate disputes within a cooperative or between cooperatives, upon the request of either or both parties: *Provided, however,* That before any party can validly file a complaint with the Authority for voluntary arbitration, it must first secure a certificate of non-resolution from its conciliation and mediation committee, and for cooperatives which are members of any federation or union, the Authority only takes cognizance of their case when there is a certificate of non-resolution from the federation or union to which it is affiliated: *Provided, further,* That the provisions of Article 137 of Chapter 18 of R.A. 9520 are strictly adhered to.

(b) Impose penalties and fines, after due process, on all cooperatives which are not compliant to the provisions of R.A. 9520.

(c) Investigate cooperative directors, officers and employees who have willfully
violated provisions of R.A. 9520 and other pertinent cooperative laws. The said
investigation shall be in close coordination with the present directors and officers of the
subject cooperative.

1 2

(d) Order the cancellation, after due notice and hearing, of a cooperative's certificate of registration for non-compliance with administrative requirements as provided for in this Act and R.A. 9520 and in cases of voluntary dissolution.

(e) Accredit a list of voluntary arbitrators whose jurisdiction shall be exclusive and original and their decisions shall be appealable to the Office of the President. The Authority shall issue and adopt the proper rules of procedure governing arbitration as the primary and exclusive mode for dispute resolution in accordance with R.A. 9285 or the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004.

SEC. 5. *Organizational Structure.* – The Authority shall consist of the following units:

(a) Board of Directors – A collegial body composed of the Chairperson and six (6) regular directors and four (4) ex-officio directors. The members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the Office of the President, one per the following sectors based on the Types of Cooperatives under R.A. 9520, and from among their respective nominees:

- 1) Credit and Financial Services Cooperatives
- 2) Cooperative Banks and Insurance Cooperatives
- 3) Producers and Consumers covering Farmers, Agriculture, Agrarian Reform, Dairy and Marketing Cooperatives
- 4) Advocacy and Training including Education Cooperatives
- 5) Electric Cooperatives
- 31 6) Service Coops covering Housing, Transportation, Health Services,
 32 Water Services

The four (4) other Board Directors shall be the Deputy Director General of the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) and an Undersecretary each of the Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

1	(b) Executive Director – shall act as the Chief Executive Officer of the Authority; and		
2			
3	(c) Sta	ff Services - The Staff Services of the Authority shall be as follows:	
4			
5	1)	Administrative	
6	2)	Finance	
7	3)	Planning	
8	4)	Institutional Development with Special Sections for Financial Service and	
9		Credit Cooperatives, Public Service Cooperatives, Agri- Cooperatives	
10	5)	Supervision and Examination	
11	6)	Legal	
12	7)	Registration	
13			
14	(d) Regional and Field Officers - The Authority shall establish, operate and maintai		
15	regional offices as may be necessary, headed by regional directors who shall implemen		
16	the policies	and programs of the Authority in their respective regions.	
17			
18		 6. The Terms of the Board of Directors. — The Board of Directors from 	
19	the cooperative sector shall serve for a term of six (6) years without reappointment. Any		
20	vacancy in the Board shall be filled by appointment by the President in accordance with		
21	the provisions of the preceding Section: Provided, 'That a member so appointed shall		
22	serve only t	for the unexpired term.	
23			
24	SEC. 7. Powers and Functions of the Board The Board of Directors as the		
25	policy maki	ing body shall have the following powers and functions:	
26			
27	(a) F	Formulate policies, rules and regulations necessary in the operations of the	
28	Authority ar	nd, in consultation with the sector, promulgate policies, rules and regulations	
29	necessary f	for the sector: Provided, however, That such policies, rules and regulations	
30	are consiste	ent with the provisions of RA 9520.	
31			
32	(b) S	Set the strategic directions and plans of the Authority.	
33 34	(c) E	Formulate the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the Authority	
35		the provisions of this Act and consistent with Civil Service Code and	
36		of Budget and Management Rules and Regulations.	
50	Poharmett	or badget and management ixules and ixegulations.	

	(d) Establish a human resource management committee that shall govern the selection, hiring, appointment, transfer, promotion, or dismissal of all personnel of the Authority consistent with the Civil Service Code and Philippine labor policies. Such system shall establish professionalism and excellence at all levels of the Authority in accordance with sound principles and management;
	(e) Adopt and submit to the appropriate government agency, through the Office of the President, the Authority's proposed annual budget for inclusion to the General Appropriations Act (GAA).
	(f) See to it that cases or disputes filed with or referred to the Authority are acted upon without undue delay; and
	(g) Perform such other functions as may be required by law.
İ	The members of the Board of Directors shall be provided with reasonable honoraria, representation and travel expenses in the discharge of their duties.
	SEC. 8. Qualifications of Members of the Board. — No person shall be appointed Chair or member of the Board of Directors unless he/she possesses the following qualifications:
	(a) A natural-born Filipino citizen of legal age;
,	(b) Must not be more than 60 years old at the time of the appointment and must be in good health;
((c) Must have a Bachelor's Degree in cooperatives, economics, finance, agriculture, fisheries, veterinary medicine, business, social science, law, management, or in similar fields of study and five (5) years of experience as an official or officer of a cooperative, government agency, or non-government organization engaged in cooperative development;
tı	(d) Must be a member of the cooperative sector he/she represents for at least wo (2) years; and
C	(e) Must be endorsed by a reputable federation and/or union of cooperatives operating in good standing under the provisions of this Act and RA 9520.

7

9

12

11

13 14

15 16

17

18 19

20 21

23 24

25

22

26 27

29 30

31

32

28

33

34 35

36 37

38

post in the cooperative. 8 member of the Board for any of the following reasons: 10

(a) If the member is subsequently disqualified under the provisions of this Act and appropriate provisions of RA 9520;

Any person appointed as Chairperson or regular member of the Board of

Directors shall divest himself of any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in or dealings

with cooperatives upon his/her appointment and if an officer of the cooperative prior to

appointment as Chairperson or regular member of the Board shall relinquish his/her

SEC. 9. Removal of the Board of Directors. - The President may remove any

- (b) If he/she is physically or mentally incapacitated that he/she cannot properly discharge the duties and responsibilities of her/his position and such incapacity has lasted for more than six (6) months; and
- (c) If the member is guilty of acts or omissions which are fraudulent or illegal in character or which are manifestly opposed to the aims, objectives and interests of the Authority.
- SEC. 10. Meetings of the Board. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month for the transaction of its regular business. Special meetings may be called by the Chairperson or majority of the members to consider specific matters. A majority vote by the entire Board shall be required for a decision. All meetings of the Board may be held at the office in Metro Manila or at any other place as may be determined by the Board.

SEC 11. Cooperative Adjudication Board. – Regional Cooperative Adjudication Boards (RCAB) are hereby created under the supervision of the Board of Directors. It shall establish 2 RCABs for Luzon; 1 for Visayas; and 2 for Mindanao. The RCAB shall be composed of a Chairman and two (2) members all of whom are members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines with at least 3 years law practice.

Notwithstanding Article 137 of RA 9520, the RCAB shall have jurisdiction over all cooperative cases falling under their respective territorial jurisdictions only upon receipt of a Certificate of Non-Resolution issued by the Mediation and Conciliation Committee of the cooperative concerned and/or Certificate of Non-Resolution issued by the

1	r ederation and/or Onion to which the cooperative belongs.
2	
3	SEC. 12. Functions of the Regional Cooperative Adjudication Board In aid
4	of their adjudicative functions, the RCAB may exercise any or all of the following:
5	
6	(a) Order the conduct of an operational and financial audit of the cooperative
7	involved in a pending case;
8	•
9	(b) Evaluate and award damages, including attorney's fees;
10	
11	(c) Require the attendance of witnesses, and/or production of pertinent
12	cooperative records and/or documents through the issuance of subpoenas;
13	
14	(d) Enlist the aid and support of and/or deputize any law enforcement officer in
15	the implementation and enforcement of decisions, orders or resolutions; and
16	
17	. (e) Punish any person, officers and/or members of a cooperative for acts
18	constituting direct or indirect contempt.
19	
20	Decisions, orders and resolutions of the RCAB shall be appealable to the Board
21	of Directors, sitting en banc, within fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt thereof. The
22	decisions, orders and resolutions of the Board of Directors, sitting en banc, shall be
23	appealable to the Office of the President within fifteen (15) calendar days from receipt
24	thereof. The Office of the President shall decide on the appeal within forty five (45)
25	calendar days from receipt thereof otherwise the appeal shall be considered denied.
26	The appellant may then bring the case to the proper court.
27	
28	SEC. 13. The Secretariat The Board shall appoint its secretary and such
29	other personnel necessary to enable it to perform its duties and functions.
30	
31	SEC. 14. The Chairperson. – The President shall appoint the Chairperson of the
32	Board with a fixed term of six (6) years without reappointment. The Chairperson of the
33	Board shall have the rank and privileges of a department undersecretary.
34	·
35	SEC. 15. Powers and Functions of the Chair The Chairperson of the
36	Authority shall have the following powers and functions:
37	ı
38	(a) Preside over the meetings of the Board of Directors;

as may be required from time to time by the President or Congress;

2 (c) Implement and/or execute the policies, directives, programs and projects 3 formulated and adopted by the Board of Directors;

4 5

(d) Delegate authority for the performance of any function to offices and employees under his direction;

7 8

6

(e) Appoint and discipline personnel of the Authority subject to the confirmation by the Board of Directors;

10

11

9

(f) Prepare the agenda for deliberation by the Board of Directors:

12

13

(g) Submit the proposed annual and supplemental budgets of the Authority for the consideration and approval of the Board of Directors.

14 15

16

17

18

19

20

SEC. 18. Deputy Executive Director. - There shall be a Deputy Executive Director who shall assist the Executive Director in the performance of his/her functions and shall act as the Deputy Executive Officer. The Executive Director shall recommend for appointment by the Board of Directors the Deputy Executive Director who shall be a career service officer.

21

22

23

24

In the absence of the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director shall act as the Executive Director of the Authority and shall exercise the powers and duties appurtenant thereto.

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32 33

SEC. 19. Collection and Payment of Fees. - Primary cooperatives that are subject to the direct supervision and examination of the Authority, within the first thirty (30) days of each year, shall pay an annual fee in an amount equal to some percentage, as may be prescribed by the Board, of its average net worth during the preceding year as shown on its end-of-month balance sheets: Provided, however, That for primary cooperatives under the delegated supervision and examination of accredited federations and unions, such fees shall be directly paid to the federation or union concerned under the guidelines, rules and regulations to be established by the Authority. Such fees may be deducted from the CETF remitted by the primary cooperative to the accredited federation or union.

35 36

SEC. 20. Cooperatives in the Education System. – The history, philosophy, values, principles and practices of cooperatives and their important role in the national economy shall be disseminated both in formal and non-formal education.

1 2

The cooperative education and training program of government agencies, local government units and non-governmental organizations duly registered under Philippine laws shall be subject to accreditation standards set by the Authority upon consultation with the cooperative sector.

State colleges and universities as well as local universities and colleges shall be allowed to offer formal and non-formal courses in cooperatives and shall provide guidance and technical assistance to cooperatives in the communities wherein they operate. They shall also include a 3-unit subject in cooperatives in the curricula of business, accountancy, social sciences, agriculture and other courses which can be instrumental in the development of cooperatives. Private colleges and universities shall be encouraged to offer cooperatives as a 3-unit subject or as a formal degree course. Special incentives shall be formulated and defined by the Authority for students taking up degree courses on cooperatives.

Technology and vocational schools, both public and private, shall also be encouraged to offer a course on cooperatives in relevant disciplines.

The Department of Education (DepEd) shall include cooperatives as a major topic in relevant subjects in high school and elementary school education specifically in practical arts and/or *makabayan*, in consultation with advocacy cooperatives or the cooperative sector in general.

SEC. 21. Cooperatives in the Banking System. – The development of cooperative banks as part of the Philippine banking system shall be a major concern of the Authority. Pursuant to Chapter 12 of RA 9520; the Authority shall undertake the necessary program towards this end in collaboration with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and the cooperative sector concerned.

SEC. 22. *Prohibition.* – No organization shall be allowed to use the title "cooperative" in its name unless it follows all generally accepted cooperative principles, applicable cooperative laws, and is duly registered under RA 9520 and this Act. The Authority shall be properly guided by the provisions of RA 9520 under Chapter 19, Articles 139 and 140.

9

10

11

15 16

14

18 19

20

21

17

22 23

24

25 26 27

28

29

30 31

> 33 34

32

35

36 37

38

5 6

months.

SEC. 24. Appropriations. - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriation of the CDA. However, to carry out the additional functions and powers of the CDA as provided in this Act shall be drawn from the Contingent Fund of the President. Thereafter, such sums as maybe necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 23. Information Campaign. - Upon the effectivity of this Act and

promulgation of its Implementing Rules and Regulations, the Authority is mandated to

conduct an intensive information campaign on the provisions of this Act, for six (6)

- SEC. 25. Transitory Provisions. (a) All 'cooperatives registered under RA 9520, prior to the effectivity of this Act, shall be deemed registered with the Authority.
- (b) Electric cooperatives who have failed to register with the Authority under RA 9520 shall not be entitled to the benefits and privileges provided to cooperatives.
- (c) Upon the effectivity of this Act, the personnel of the restructured Cooperative Development Authority shall, unless removed for cause and after due process, continue to perform their duties and responsibilities and shall receive their corresponding salaries and benefits.
- SEC. 26. Repealing Clause. All acts, presidential decrees, specifically Section 17 of Presidential Decree 269, as amended, general orders, executive orders specifically Executive Order No. 332, Series of 2004, letters of implementation, letters of instruction, regulations or circulars, or parts thereof, inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. In case of doubt, the same shall be resolved in favor of the cooperatives
- SEC. 27. Separability Clause. If for any cause, any part of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the rest of the provisions shall remain in full force and effect.
- SEC. 28. Implementing Rules and Regulations. The Authority, through its Board of Directors in consultation with the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Cooperatives, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the Act. Such rules and regulations shall take effect upon its

publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SEC. 29. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.