

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

'04 JUN 30 P4:13

RECEIVED BY: Osmeña

S E N A T E

S. No. 329

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the new millenium, governance is an art, the practice of which will be increasingly hinged on a wide range of information – information regarding policy targets, options, and their implications. Any government that wishes to deliver sustainable long-term development to its constituents must ensure that its policy decisions are anchored on a unifying strategic vision. Otherwise, the leadership could end up finding themselves with no more than a patchwork of incoherent policies responding to disparate and fragmented demands placed on it by various sectors and segments of society.

This bill proposes the expansion of the Center of International Relations and Strategic Studies so that it can cover researches aimed at formulating strategic options for national, economic and national security policies. Designed to conduct studies of political, economic and military issues of domestic and international significance, the Center will provide useful inputs so that Philippine government can benefit from a better-informed policy making and implementation.

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



SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

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

'04 JUN 30 P4:13

RECEIVED BY: Ordo

S E N A T E

S. No. 329

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

AN ACT
EXPANDING THE CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND
STRATEGIC STUDIES TO INCLUDE RESEARCH AND FORMULATION OF
STRATEGIC OPTIONS FOR NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND SECURITY
POLICIES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Expansion of the Center for International Relations and*
2 *Strategic Studies.* – The Center for International Relations and Strategic Studies
3 is hereby expanded to include research and formulation of strategic options for
4 national and economic security policies in its operational scope and activities.

5 SEC. 2. *General Objectives.* – The Center's general objectives are as
6 follows:

7 1. To enhance understanding by the executive and legislative
8 branches of fundamental, current, and emerging domestic and international
9 issues by assisting the Government in formulating policy and strategic
10 perspectives thereon.

11 2. To undertake studies of domestic and international, political,
12 economic, military, socio-cultural, and techno-scientific significance in an inter-
13 discipline and integrative manner.

14 3. To carry out such other programs and projects as may contribute to
15 the attainment of its mission.

16 SEC. 3. *Specific Objectives.* -

1 1. To examine Philippine foreign and domestic policy issues and
2 identify problems in their conceptualization, formulation and implementation.

3 2. To assess social, economic, political and security developments
4 and trends in our country and in various parts of the world and help formulate
5 appropriate policy responses and strategies.

6 3. To study the experiences of other governments and nations insofar
7 as to draw lessons from them and/or anticipate their repercussions on the
8 Philippines.

9 4. To examine the global presence of Filipino nationals and their
10 impact upon our national development and foreign relations and help project
11 constructive policies in this regard.

12 5. To develop expertise in area studies as well as resource bases on
13 international relations, economic security and national development to serve the
14 long-term needs of our country.

15 6. To develop networks and information dissemination among various
16 sectors in Philippine society and counterpart organizations in the international
17 community for the above purposes and as a contribution to the enhancement of
18 global understanding and cooperation.

19 SEC. 4. Divisions. – The Center shall have the following Divisions under
20 it:

21 a) The Strategic Studies Division shall conduct long-term and
22 comprehensive studies on major strategic global issues and their probable
23 impact on the Philippines.

24 b) The International Relations Division shall undertake studies on
25 Philippine bilateral and multilateral relations.

26 c) The National Policy Issues Division shall concentrate on studies
27 dealing with national concerns in the political, economic and security areas.

1 d) The Cultural and Scientific Policy Studies Division shall deal with
2 studies regarding national concerns in the socio-cultural and techno-scientific
3 fields.

4 e) The Library shall serve as the information repository of the
5 Department and the Institute.

6 SEC. 5. *Research Fellows.* – There shall be designated research fellows
7 to conduct and direct research work and strategic studies in the various
8 functional/area programs consistent with their disciplines and expertise
9 individually or collegially. They are to be commissioned by the Center to conduct
10 studies or to serve as project directors / consultants for in-house studies.

11 Depending on the nature and scale of the project, fellows recruited as
12 consultants will be paid monthly honoraria for the duration of the project.
13 Alternatively, a memorandum of agreement may be signed between the fellow or
14 the agency he represents and the Center for needed studies.

15 The Center shall hire research consultants and commission projects in
16 special cases where the in-house staff has no technical capability or where other
17 individuals or institutions have expertise.

18 SEC. 6. *Council of Advisers.* - The Center shall organize a Council of
19 Advisers. It will be composed of eminent scholars and practitioners from
20 government and non-government institutions/entities that maintain units engaged
21 in policy research and strategic studies.

22 The Council shall be consulted regularly by the Center on the research
23 agenda. Its member-entities will be entitled to copies of regular CIRSS
24 publications and access to the Center's library and data bank. In employing
25 visiting research fellows, the Center shall give priority to researches and analysts
26 of the Council's member-entities if found qualified. In return, the member-entities
27 will link up with the CIRSS information network and grant the Center's research
28 fellows access to their indexed reference materials subject to clearance.

1 SEC. 7. *Repeal of Inconsistent Laws.* – All laws, decrees and executive
2 orders inconsistent herewith are hereby modified or repealed accordingly.

3 SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is
4 declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and enforceability
5 of the other provisions not affected thereby.

6 SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This shall take effect upon its approval and
7 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,