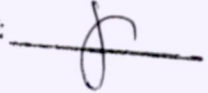




SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 1290

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ENERGY RESEARCH AND POLICY
DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE, DEFINING ITS OBJECTIVES, POWERS
AND FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

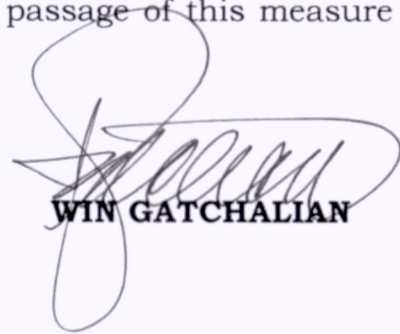
Explanatory Note

The energy sector is naturally characterized by rapidly changing technologies which most of the country's policy instruments cannot keep up with due to given limitations in local research and technical capacity. This deficiency can be seen in the sparse academic and policy programs in universities and research centers focusing on energy. As a result, the government has sought assistance from private foreign funded institutions for the needed assistance for energy policy and regulation.

This bill seeks to bridge the research and policy gap in the energy sector by creating a Philippine Energy Research and Policy Development Institute. It recognizes the importance of rigorous multidisciplinary research in making sound energy policies and legislation and thus charges the Institute to undertake collaborative energy research and policy development among the academe and stakeholders; provide timely technical assistance to the government on energy issues needing policy direction and advise; create and administer programs intended to build the capacity of government agencies, energy stakeholders, and the academe; and ensure that the results of energy research and policy

development activities are utilized to improve the energy sector, the economy, and the lives of the people.

Given all the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is sought.



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1 issues, and challenges in the country's energy sector; and formulate
2 multidisciplinary research-based policies and strategies for the cost-effective
3 use of energy resources towards environmentally-sound energy development.

4
5 **SECTION 3. Establishment of the Philippine Energy Research and Policy**

6 **Institute.** - Pursuant to the national policy of enhancing the country's
7 capability for energy research and policy development, there is hereby
8 established in the School of Economics of the University of the Philippines (UP)
9 Diliman, a Philippine Energy Research and Policy Development Institute,
10 hereinafter referred to as the Institute.

11
12 **SECTION 4. Objectives of the Institute.** – The objectives of the Institute are:

- 13 a) To promote collaborative and multidisciplinary energy research and
14 policy development among the academe, and public and private
15 stakeholders;
- 16 b) To provide timely technical assistance to the government on energy
17 issues needing policy direction and advise;
- 18 c) To create and administer programs intended to build the capacity of
19 government agencies, public and private energy stakeholders, and the
20 academe including graduate, and post-graduate students;
- 21 d) To establish mechanisms for the dissemination and utilization of
22 research and policy development outputs;
- 23 e) To ensure that the results of energy research and policy development
24 activities are utilized to improve the energy sector, the economy, and the
25 lives of the people.

26
27 **SECTION 5. Functions of the Institute.** – The powers and functions of the
28 Institute shall include but shall not be limited to:

- 1 a) Establishing research and policy development programs and capacity-
2 building trainings on energy;
- 3 b) Formulating and conducting research on energy discoveries, public
4 policy issues in energy markets, and other pressing issues and problems,
5 all backed by rigorous empirical evidence;
- 6 c) Enhancing the masters and doctoral pool of researchers and faculty in
7 the field of energy;
- 8 d) Providing common research support facilities while maximizing the
9 utilization of its expert support staff;
- 10 e) Establishing local and foreign linkages in energy research and policy
11 development;
- 12 f) Serving as the repository of all energy-related researches and studies to
13 be generated by the Institute and other academic institutions;
- 14 g) Proposing and allocating its annual budgetary resources while optimizing
15 resource generation and utilization; and
- 16 h) Receiving and managing grants, aid, donations or any kind of assistance
17 for achieving its objectives, in accordance with the rules and regulations
18 of UP.

19 The Advisory Council may give additional powers and functions to the
20 Institute *Provided*: That it shall be in accordance with the objectives of the
21 Institute as stated in this Act.

22

23 **SECTION 6. Organizational Structure.** – The Institute shall be administered
24 by an Executive Director and overseen by an Advisory Council.

25

26 **SECTION 7. The Executive Director.** – The Executive Director shall be a
27 tenured faculty member of UP and a recognized scholar in energy research and
28 policy development. The Board of Regents shall appoint the Executive Director

1 who shall serve for a term of three (3) years which can be renewed for another
2 three (3) years.

3
4 **SECTION 8. Advisory Council of the Institute.** – There shall be an Advisory
5 Council of the Institute to be composed of the following:

- 6 a) Chancellor of UP Diliman as the Chairperson;
- 7 b) Dean of the UP College of Engineering;
- 8 c) Dean of the UP College of Law;
- 9 d) Dean of the UP College of Science;
- 10 e) Dean of the UP School of Statistics;
- 11 f) Dean of the UP School of Economics; and
- 12 g) One (1) other member who is a recognized scholar in energy research and
13 policy development to be appointed by the Board of Regents upon
14 recommendation of the UP President.

15 The Executive Director shall concurrently serve as a Member-Secretary
16 of the Board. The Chancellor of UP Diliman, and the Deans of the College of
17 Engineering, College of Law, College of Science, School of Statistics, and School
18 of Economics shall serve in an ex-officio capacity. The one other member shall
19 serve for a term of two (2) years.

20
21 **SECTION 9. Functions of the Advisory Council.** – The Advisory Council shall
22 have the following powers and functions:

- 23 1. To recommend the general directions and determine the priorities of the
24 Institute;
- 25 2. To recommend research and policy areas for study and investigation by
26 the Institute based on its evaluation of the energy policy landscape
27 including the needs and demands of the country and the people;

- 1 3. To recommend to the Board of Regents the establishment of the
- 2 component units of the Institute;
- 3 4. To generate resources and obtain logistical and financial support for the
- 4 programs and component units of the Institute;
- 5 5. To provide advice to the Institute on any matter relating to the
- 6 development of a research and/or policy area and the administration of
- 7 research and policy programs; and
- 8 6. To monitor and review all the activities and operations of the Institute as
- 9 implemented by the Executive Director.

10

11 **SECTION 10. Appointment of Faculty and Staff.** – The human resource
12 complement of the Institute shall be organized and set-up by the Executive
13 Director in accordance with the existing rules and regulations of UP and upon
14 approval by the Board of Regents.

15

16 **SECTION 11. Public Access.** – The public and other energy institutions shall
17 have access to the research findings, facilities, and other resources of the
18 Institute, as provided in the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

19

20 **SECTION 12. Trust Fund.** – A trust fund, which is designated as the Energy
21 Research Fund, is hereby established for the support of the Institute, including
22 the purchase of research equipment and facilities, compensation and honoraria
23 to researchers, whether in government service or otherwise, and such other
24 necessary expenses to carry out the purpose of this Act. The Energy Research
25 Fund shall consist of the amounts appropriated by the Government under this
26 Act, and such sums as may be derived from private endowments, donations,
27 and other sources.

1

2 **SECTION 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within fifteen (15)
3 days from the effectivity of this Act, the UP Board of Regents, in coordination
4 with the Department of Energy, shall formulate the rules and regulations
5 necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

6

7 **SECTION 14. Separability Clause.** – If, for any reason, any provision of this
8 Act is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof
9 which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force or effect.

10

11 **SECTION 15. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
12 regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with or contrary to the
13 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

14

15 **SECTION 16. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
16 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.