SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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Second Regular Session

18 FEB 21 P12 57

SENATE S.B. No. 1701

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10708, OR THE "TAX INCENTIVES MANAGEMENT AND TRANSPARENCY ACT," TO EXPAND ITS COVERAGE, IN VIEW OF FURTHER ENHANCING STATE FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Explanatory Note

Republic Act No. 10708, or the "Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act" (TIMTA), established a strict reportorial system of the tax incentives granted to registered investments. It was enacted to help address a significant question: Do the current tax incentives cost the government more compared to the benefits that the investments bring?

At present, there are 123 laws that provide investment-related tax incentives, which are administered by Investment Promotion Agencies (IPAs). Also, there are 192 laws that provide non-investment related tax incentives, which are administered by other government agencies (OGAs), such as the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), and the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR).

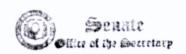
The rapid increase in the grant of these incentives, although with laudable aims, has resulted in considerable foregone revenue on the part of the government. This situation warrants a thorough evaluation of these incentives in terms of stimulating growth and other socioeconomic development, both actual and projected, in the concerned sector and in the Philippine economy. Hence, it is necessary to likewise subject these entities to the strict reportorial system of TIMTA.

At present, the coverage of TIMTA includes only business entities registered with IPAs, thus providing a limited view of the entire situation. Hence, this bill seeks to include within the coverage of TIMTA other registered entities enjoying tax incentives, which are administered by OGAs.

This expanded TIMTA coverage will provide for enhanced and more in-depth gathering, monitoring, review, and analysis of relevant data, resulting in more effective and accountable fiscal management of the government.

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

AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III



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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to further enhance its fiscal management by establishing greater transparency and accountability on the part of relevant government agencies in their grant of tax incentives.

SEC. 2. Section 3(a) of Republic Act No. 10708 (TIMTA) is hereby amended to read as follows:

a. *Investment Promotion Agencies* (IPAs) shall refer to government entities created by law, executive order, decree or other issuance, in charge of promoting investments, administering tax and non-tax incentives, and/or overseeing the operations of the different economic zones and freeports in accordance with their respective charters. These include the Board of Investments (BOI), Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA),

Clark Development Corporation (CDC), John Hay Management Corporation (JHMC), Poro Point Management Corporation (PPMC), [Bataan Technology Park, Inc. (BTPI),] Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA), Zamboanga City Special Economic Zone Authority (ZCSEZA), Phividec Industrial Authority (PIA), Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority (APECO), Authority of the Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB), Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), and ail other similar authorities that may be created by law in the future;

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SEC. 3. Section 3(b) of TIMTA is hereby amended to read as follows:

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b. *Tax incentives* shall refer to fiscal incentives such as those which come in the form of income tax holidays (ITH), exemptions, deductions, credits or exclusions from the tax base, as provided by law, to registered business entities **AND OTHER REGISTERED ENTITIES**; [and]

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SEC. 4. Section 3 is hereby amended to insert new subsections (d) and (e), as follows:

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D. OTHER REGISTERED ENTITY SHALL REFER ANY INDIVIDUAL, TO PARTNERSHIP. ORGANIZATION, CORPORATION, PHILIPPINE BRANCH OF A FOREIGN CORPORATION, OR **OTHER ENTITY INCORPORATED** AND/OR **ORGANIZED** AND **EXISTING** UNDER PHILIPPINE LAWS, AND REGISTERED WITH **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES** (OGA) ADMINISTERING TAX INCENTIVES.

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GOVERNMENT Ε. **OTHER** *AGENCIES ADMINISTERING* TAXINCENTIVES (OGA)SHALL REFER TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES OTHER THAN IPAS WHICH ADMINISTER TAX INCENTIVES OF ANY KIND TO ANY SPECIFIC AND/OR ENTITIES CLASS OF **PERSONS** PURSUANT TO ANY LAW. THESE SHALL INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA), DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR), AND OTHERS.

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SEC. 5. Section 4 of the TIMTA is hereby amended to read as follows:

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SEC 4. Filing of Tax Returns and Submission of Tax *Incentives Reports.* – All registered business entities **OTHER** REGISTERED ENTITIES. WHETHER TAXABLE OR EXEMPT, are required to file their tax returns and/**OR** pay their tax liabilities, on or before the deadline as provided under the National Internal Revenue Code (NIRC), as amended, using the electronic system for filing and payment of taxes of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR). *PROVIDED*, THAT FOR PURPOSES OF COMPLYING WITH THEIR **OBLIGATIONS**, **OTHER** REGISTERED ENTITIES WITHOUT ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC **FACILITIES SHALL FILE** WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE REVENUE DISTRICT **OFFICES** (RDOS).

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entities AND For registered business OTHER **ENTITIES** REGISTERED availing of incentives administered by the IPAs AND OGAS, they shall file with their respective IPAs **OR OGAS** a complete annual report of their income-based incentives incentives, value-added tax and duty exemptions, deductions, credits or exclusions from the tax base, INCLUDING **EXEMPTIONS FROM TAXES,** as provided in the charter of the IPA concerned **AND RESPECTIVE LAWS**, within thirty (30) days from the statutory deadline for filing of tax returns and payment of taxes.

39 40 The IPAs **AND OGAS** shall, within sixty (60) days from the end of statutory deadline for filing of the relevant tax returns, submit to the BIR, their respective annual tax incentives reports based on the list of the registered business entities who ha file said tax incentives report.

The details of the tax incentives reports, as provided in the preceding paragraphs, shall be provided in the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) of this Act.

The foregoing provisions shall be without prejudice to the right of the BIR and the Bureau of Customs (BOC) to conduct assessment within the prescribed period provided in the NIRC, as amended, and the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines (TCCP), as amended, respectively.

SEC. 6. Section 5 of the TIMTA is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 5. Monitoring of Tax Incentives. – The BIR and the BOC shall submit to the Department of Finance (DOF), notwithstanding any law to the contrary: (a) the tax and duty incentives of registered business entities **AND OTHER REGISTERED ENTITIES** as reflected in their filed tax returns and import entries; and (b) actual tax and duty incentives as evaluated and determined by the BIR and the BOC.

The DOF shall maintain a single database for monitoring and analysis of tax incentives granted.

For purposes of monitoring and transparency, the DOF shall submit to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) the aggregate data on a sectoral and per industry basis of: (1) the amount of tax incentives availed by registered business entities **AND OTHER REGISTERED ENTITIES**; (2) the estimate claims of tax incentives immediately preceding the current year; (3) the programmed tax incentives for the current year; and (4) the projected tax incentives for the following

year. Such information shall be given to the Oversight Committee created under Section 9 of this Act.

The aforesaid data shall be reflected by the DBM in the annual Budget of Expenditures and Sources of Financing (BESF), which shall be known as the Tax Incentives Information (TII) section; *Provided*, That the TII shall be limited to the aggregate data related to incentives availed of by registered business entities **AND OTHER REGISTERED ENTITIES** based on the submissions of the DOF and the concerned **IPAS AND OGAS**, categorized by sector, by IPA **OR OGA**, and **BY** type of incentive.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to diminish or limit, in whatever manner, the amount of incentives that EPAs may grant pursuant to their charters and existing laws; or to prevent, deter, or delay the promotion and regulation of investments, processing of applications for registrations, and evaluation of entitlement of incentives by IPAs.

SEC. 7. Section 6 of the TIMTA is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 6. Conduct of Cost-Benefit Analysis on Investment Incentives. — The FISCAL INCENTIVES AND REVIEW BOARD (FIRB) [National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)] is mandated to conduct cost-benefit analysis on the investment AND NON-INVESTMENT incentives to determine the impact of tax incentives on the RELEVANT SECTOR AND THE Philippine economy.

For this purpose, all heads of the IPAs AND OGAS shall submit to the FIRB [NEDA]: (1) the aggregate tax incentives[,] based on the submissions of registered business entities AND OTHER REGISTERED ENTITIES as provided in Section 4 of this Act; and (2) THE aggregate investment AND NON-INVESTMENT -related data [both on a sectoral or per industry basis]

PER REGISTERED ENTITY, which may include, but not BE limited to, APPROVED AND ACTUAL investment projects, investment cost, APPROVED AND actual employment GENERATED, [and] export SALES [earnings], AND FISCAL AND OTHER SOCIO-ECONOMIC BENEFITS.

SEC. 8. Section 7 of the TIMTA is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 7. Penalties for Noncompliance with Filing and Reportorial Requirements. — Any registered business entity **OR OTHER REGISTERED ENTITY** which fail[s] to comply with filing and reportorial requirements with the appropriate IPAs **OR OGAS** and/or which fail[s] to show proof of filing of tax returns using the electronic system for filing and payment of taxes of the BIR shall be imposed the following penalties **BY THE APPROPRIATE IPA OR OGA**:

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b. xxx

WITH THE IPA OR OGA. Provided, That if the failure to show such proof is not due to the fault of the registered business entity OR OTHER REGISTERED ENTITY, the same shall not be a ground for the suspension of the ITH and/or other income-based tax

incentives availment. **PROVIDED FURTHER**, THAT COLLECTIONS FROM THE PENALTIES SHALL ACCRUE TO THE GENERAL FUND.

c. Third (3rd) violation – cancellation of the registration

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SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*— All other laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of national circulation.

Approved,

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