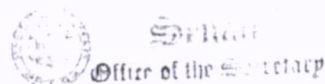


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

'19 JUL -2 A11 :17

S. No. 146

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by **Senator Cynthia A. Villar**

AN ACT
AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR THE
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Organic farming can be profitable and organic food appeals to consumers as both a healthy and ethical choice. Beyond money and ethics, though, organic farming practices result in numerous environmental benefits. Organic farming discourages environmental exposure to pesticides and chemicals, which results in many environmental issues. Organic farming helps combat serious soil and land issues, such as erosion and builds healthy soil, which is essential in growing healthy food. It likewise encourages healthy biodiversity, which plays a critical role in how resilient, or not, a farm is to issues like bad weather, disease and pests.¹

As defined during the World Food Summit in 2009, food security is the physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets the individual's dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. Organic agriculture provides good opportunities to ensure food security and nutrition. It promotes the use of natural and farm-based resources and inputs, and

¹<https://www.thebalancesmb.com/environmental-benefits-of-organic-farming-2538317> (last accessed 26 July 2018).

therefore, it does not require high input costs on the part of the farmers. It likewise ensures food availability by encouraging integrated cropping, which promotes and results to multiple harvests all year long. This prevents the use of chemical-based inputs, and thus, it ensures environmental integrity and enhances food safety and human nutrition.

Upon the enactment of the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010 (RA No. 10068), the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB) undertook a series of activities in order to form the National Organic Agriculture Program (NOAP) which was approved in January of 2012. The NOAP 2012-2016 envisions the organic agriculture sector to contribute to the country's over-all agricultural growth and development, in terms of sustainability, competitiveness and food security, where at least five percent (5%) of the Philippine agricultural land practice organic farming; and, where consumers both national and international increasingly support Philippine organic food products.

Essentially, the program aims to promote, propagate, further develop and implement the practice of organic agriculture in the Philippines towards a competitive and sustainable organic agriculture industry that contributes to:

1. Better farm incomes and sustainable livelihood;
2. Improved health of farmers, consumers and the public in general;
3. Protection of the environment, through enhanced soil fertility and farm biodiversity, reduced pollution and destruction of the environment;
4. Disaster risk reduction and resilience to climate change; and
5. Social justice in meeting the basic material needs and improving standard of living for all, upholding human rights, gender equality, labor standards, and the right to self-determination.²

With these potentials, therefore, there is a need to intensify the promotion of organic agriculture in our country as an organic food producer. A wider promotion

²<http://organic.da.gov.ph/index.php/2016-12-02-07-54-56/about-national-organic-agriculture-program>. (last accessed 23 February 2017).

and adoption of organic agriculture would only be possible in our country if appropriate and relevant institutional support systems will be set up by the concerned national government agencies. These include the provision of technical assistance to enhance the technical capacities of the smallholder farmers, effective linkage-building between the producers and the consumers to ensure the sustainable marketing of organic food products, and the review and amendment of the existing Organic Agriculture Act, particularly the certification standards that would be appropriate to the existing conditions of the small farmers who constitute a big chunk in the farming sector of the country.³

Promoting organic agriculture in our country is faced with several challenges at the farm and institutional levels, which needs to be addressed. Among these challenges are as follows:

1. Lack of financial and technical capacity of the small farmers to meet the certification required by the Organic Agriculture Act of 2010. The Organic Agriculture Act of the Philippines requires the certification of organic farms of small farmers by a third-party certifier, to facilitate labeling and marketing of products to markets. Ironically, this certification requires big financial capital, which is not affordable among the small farmers. Aside from the fees for certification, it requires a significant financial outlay for establishing the required facilities, maintaining cleanliness and orderliness in the farm, and keeping an updated record of farm activities. Hence, small farmers are not able to have their farms and products certified, which puts them at a disadvantage with conventional food products because of the lack of the organic label.
2. Problem on the emerging marketing arrangements with the traders. Because of the difficulty in achieving certification standards, the big supermarkets could not just accept organic food products, which are not labeled accordingly. Hence, only commercial-level organic farms could

³<http://www.ipcbee.com/vol67/012-ICFSN2014-N1008.pdf>. (last accessed 24 February 2017).

access the big market, which again deprives small farmers the opportunity to market their products in this type of environment.

3. Insufficient supply of organic inputs/fertilizers. There are farmers' groups who reported that at present, the organic farming practices are difficult, which imply the need for more capital to meet the labor requirement. They have also an insufficient supply of organic fertilizers, because it takes time to produce organic inputs, and sometimes, they could not follow the recommended rate because of the insufficient supply.⁴
4. Decrease in the quantity of harvest and changes in the quality of the produce are to be expected during the transition to organic farming, which may cause a sudden and substantial decrease in the income of a farmer.⁵

To address most of these problems, it is recommended that we encourage, promote and institutionalize Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS) in our country to help small organic farmers attain the organic certification they badly need to compete in local and global markets. PGS offers a complementary and low-cost system of quality assurance, with a heavy emphasis on social control and knowledge building. PGS, as a complementary method to third-party certification, is essential to the continued growth of the organic agriculture anywhere. This will encourage poor and small farmers to adopt organic agriculture standards and methods to the benefit of everyone.

The high cost of certification creates a very big barrier for small farmers to overcome, thus preventing them to participate, which ultimately hurts the growth and development of the organic movement. Even though certification requires a large financial outlay, it is still a risk worth taking for some farmers for it creates benefits in the form of easy market capturing, which results in higher and more

⁴*Ibid.*

⁵<http://www.uncapsa.org/?q=article/adding-value-fresh-and-processed-produce-through-product-certification-philippine-case>. (last accessed 26 February 2017).

stable prices for the produce. Complying with the set standards of the certifying body greatly improves the condition of the farm, quality of produce and welfare of the farmers. The right choice and proper application of fertilizer, pesticides and other farming inputs, which certification promotes, helps improve the condition and productivity of the farm and helps lessen the wastage incurred by the improper application of farm inputs.⁶

Providing a low cost and efficient alternative to third party certification is seen as a solution to help boost the participation of small farmers and the development of organic agriculture in the Philippines.

Likewise, we need to increase private sector participation in the NOAB as expertise in organic agriculture and understanding of the practical challenges of the organic law lies mostly with the private sector. It will be beneficial to add a few more seats to increase organic expertise and achieve a more balanced public-private partnership on the NOAB.

Hence, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

⁶*Ibid.*

SENATE

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Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT
AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR THE
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010

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

1 Section 1. Sec. 2 on Declaration of Policy of Republic Act (RA) No. 10068 is
2 hereby amended to read as follows:

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared
4 the policy of the State to promote, propagate, develop
5 further and implement the practice of organic **FARMING**
6 **AND OTHER SUSTAINABLE** agriculture **PRACTICES** in
7 the Philippines that will cumulatively condition and enrich
8 the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity **AND**
9 **FARMERS' INCOMES**, reduce pollution and destruction
10 of the environment, prevent the depletion of natural
11 resources, further protect the health of farmers,
12 consumers, and the general public, **[and]** save on
13 imported farm inputs, **AND PROMOTE FOOD SELF**
14 **SUFFICIENCY.** Towards this end, a comprehensive

1 program for the promotion of community-based organic
2 agriculture systems which include, among others, farmer-
3 produced purely organic fertilizers such as compost, **BIO-**
4 pesticides and other farm inputs, together with a
5 nationwide educational and promotional campaign for
6 their use and processing.

7 **LIKewise, A NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL**
8 **AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AMONG CONSUMERS**
9 **ON THE BENEFITS OF CONSUMING ORGANIC**
10 **PRODUCTS TO BOOST LOCAL PRODUCTION OF**
11 **ORGANIC FOOD AND NON-FOOD PRODUCTS,** as well
12 as adoption of organic agriculture system as a viable
13 alternative shall be undertaken.

14 The State recognizes and supports the central role of
15 the farmers, indigenous people and other stakeholders at
16 the grassroots in this program.

17 Sec. 2. Sec. 3 on Definition of Terms of RA No. 10068 is hereby amended to
18 read as follows:

19 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this
20 Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:
21

22 xxx

23 **(O) PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS**
24 **(PGS) ARE LOCALLY FOCUSED QUALITY ASSURANCE**
25 **SYSTEMS THAT ARE ACTUALLY PRACTICING**
26 **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. THEY CERTIFY**
27 **PRODUCERS BASED ON ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF**

1 **PRODUCERS AND FARMERS ACTUALLY PRACTICING**
2 **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, AND ARE BUILT ON A**
3 **FOUNDATION OF TRUST, SOCIAL NETWORKS AND**
4 **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE.**

5 **(P) SMALL FARMERS ARE DEFINED AS THOSE**
6 **CULTIVATING NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5) HECTARES**
7 **OF LAND AND/OR ARE ENGAGED AS SMALL**
8 **POULTRY/LIVESTOCK RAISERS DEFINED AS THOSE**
9 **RAISING NOT MORE THAN THE FOLLOWING:**

- 10 • **POULTRY – 1,000 POULTRY LAYERS OR**
11 **5,000 BROILERS**
- 12 • **SWINE – 10 SOW LEVEL OR 20**
13 **FATTENERS**
- 14 • **CATTLE – 10 FATTENERS OR 5 BREEDERS**
- 15 • **DAIRY – 10 MILKING COWS**
- 16 • **GOAT – 50 HEADS**

17 **(Q) AGRIBUSINESS REFERS TO**
18 **AGRICULTURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES THAT PUT**
19 **FARMERS, PROCESSORS, DISTRIBUTORS AND**
20 **CONSUMERS WITHIN A SYSTEM THAT PRODUCES,**
21 **PROCESSES, TRANSPORTS, MARKETS AND**
22 **DISTRIBUTES AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.**

23 Sec. 3. Section 4 on Coverage of RA No. 10068 is hereby amended to read as
24 follows:

25
26 Sec. 4. *Coverage.* - The provisions of this Act shall apply to
27 the development and promotion of organic agriculture and
28 shall include, but not limited to, the following:

xxx

(c) Promotion and encouragement of the establishment of facilities, equipment and processing plants that would accelerate the production and commercialization of organic fertilizers, **BIO**-pesticides, **BIO**-herbicides and other appropriate farm inputs; and

(d) Implementation of organic agricultural programs, projects and activities, including the provision and delivery of support services with focus on the farmers, **PRIORITIZING SMALL FARMERS AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS**, and other stakeholders.

Sec. 4. Section 7 on the Composition of the NOAB of RA No. 10068 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7. Composition of the NOAB. – The NOAB shall consist of:

xxx

(j) A representative each from the **FOLLOWING SECTORS: NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs)** involved in sustainable agriculture for at least three (3) years; agricultural colleges and universities; and private sector or agribusiness firms **INVOLVED IN OR PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR THE LAST THREE (3) YEARS**, as members.

(K) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL PARTICIPATORY GUARANTY SYSTEMS (PGS)

FORMED, TO BE CHOSEN AMONG THEMSELVES.

XXX

The representatives of small farmers and NGOs, and of agricultural colleges and universities, shall be chosen by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Science and Technology, respectively, from among nominees submitted to the agency concerned by their respective national organizations. These representatives must **REPRESENT FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS NATIONWIDE, ACTUALLY AND ACTIVELY PRACTICING, PROMOTING ORGANIC AND OTHER SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRACTICES**, be conversant in organic agriculture and committed to the policies and programs provided under this Act. **THE THREE SEATS GIVEN TO SMALL FARMERS SHALL BE CHOSEN FROM THE LIVESTOCK AND CROP SECTORS, WHICH SHALL HAVE ONE (1) AND TWO (2) SEATS RESPECTIVELY.**

XXX

Sec. 5. Section 8 on Organization of the NOAB of RA No. 10068 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7. *Organization of the NOAB.* –

XXX

The Chairperson shall call the members of the NOAB, or a majority thereof, if not all have been designated, to a meeting to organize themselves and prescribe its rules and procedure for the attainment of this Act. A majority of all

1 the members of the NOAB shall constitute a quorum. **THE**
2 **MEMBERS OF THE NOAB SHALL MEET AT LEAST**
3 **ONCE EVERY QUARTER AFTER ITS ORGANIZATION.**

4 Sec. 6. Section 10 on the Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product
5 Standards (BAFPS) of the DA of RA No. 10068 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 Sec. 10. *The Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product*
7 *Standards (BAFPS) of the DA.* – The BAFPS of the DA shall
8 be strengthened and empowered in terms of establishing
9 functional divisions and incremental staffing to serve as the
10 national technical and administrative secretariat of the
11 NOAB with the member agencies providing additional staff
12 support as the need arises. **THE BAFPS, ACTING AS THE**
13 **SECRETARIAT OF THE NOAB, WILL COORDINATE**
14 **THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC**
15 **AGRICULTURE PROGRAM PROMULGATED BY THE**
16 **NOAB. IT WILL BE THE PRIMARY ADMINISTRATOR**
17 **OF THE PROGRAM AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE TO**
18 **MAINTAIN A DATABASE AND SHOWROOM OF ALL**
19 **AVAILABLE ORGANIC PRODUCTS AND**
20 **TECHNOLOGIES IN THE MARKET, WHICH CAN BE**
21 **ACCESSED READILY BY THE PUBLIC.**

22 Sec. 7. A new section on Participatory Guarantee Systems is hereby inserted
23 after Section 10 of RA No. 10068 to read as follows:

24 **SEC. 11. A. PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS**
25 **(PGS). - PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATIONS**
26 **FROM ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS, WHO ARE**
27 **ACTUALLY PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE,**
28 **ORGANIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE WILL BE PROMOTED**

1 **AND ACCEPTED. PRODUCTS CERTIFIED BY THESE**
2 **GROUPS CAN ONLY BE TRADED IN THE DOMESTIC**
3 **MARKET.**

4 **AN ASSOCIATION OR GROUP UNDER THE PGS**
5 **MUST ADHERE TO PHILIPPINE NATIONAL**
6 **STANDARD FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND THE**
7 **FOLLOWING BASIC ELEMENTS AS DESCRIBED BY**
8 **THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF ORGANIC**
9 **AGRICULTURAL MOVEMENT (IFOAM):**

- 10 **1. SHARED VISION**
- 11 **2. PARTICIPATORY**
- 12 **3. TRANSPARENCY**
- 13 **4. TRUST – INTEGRITY BASED APPROACH**
- 14 **5. LEARNING PROCESS**
- 15 **6. HORIZONTALITY**

16 **LIKewise, ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS UNDER**
17 **THE PGS MUST ADOPT THE FOLLOWING FEATURES:**

- 18 **I. NORMS CONCEIVED BY THE**
19 **STAKEHOLDERS THROUGH A DEMOCRATIC**
20 **AND PARTICIPATORY PROCESS, BUT**
21 **ALWAYS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE**
22 **COMMONLY UNDERSTOOD SENSE OF**
23 **WHAT CONSTITUTES AN ORGANIC**
24 **PRODUCT. THE NORMS SHOULD**
25 **STIMULATE CREATIVITY, WHICH IS A**
26 **CHARACTERISTIC OF ORGANIC FARMERS,**
27 **INSTEAD OF INHIBIT IT.**

1 **II. GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION. - THE**
2 **PARTICIPATORY CERTIFICATION SHOULD**
3 **BE PERCEIVED AS A RESULT OF A SOCIAL**
4 **DYNAMIC, BASED ON AN ACTIVE**
5 **ORGANIZATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS.**

6 **III. APPROPRIATE TO SMALLHOLDER**
7 **AGRICULTURE, BECAUSE THE**
8 **PARTICIPATORY NATURE AND**
9 **HORIZONTAL STRUCTURE OF THE**
10 **PROGRAMS ALLOWS FOR MORE**
11 **APPROPRIATE AND LESS COSTLY**
12 **MECHANISMS OF CERTIFICATION, AND**
13 **ACTUALLY HIGHLIGHTS AND CELEBRATES**
14 **AND ENCOURAGES CONSUMERS TO SEEK**
15 **OUT SMALLHOLDERS.**

16 **IV. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES THAT ENHANCE**
17 **THE LIVELIHOODS AND WELL BEING OF**
18 **FARMING FAMILIES AND PROMOTE**
19 **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.**

20 **V. DOCUMENTED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**
21 **AND PROCEDURES - THERE MAY BE**
22 **MINIMAL PAPERWORK REQUIRED OF**
23 **FARMERS BUT THERE WILL BE WAYS IN**
24 **WHICH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO**
25 **DEMONSTRATE THEIR ORGANIC**
26 **COMMITMENT AND INTEGRITY, THESE**
27 **WAYS SHOULD BE DOCUMENTED BY THE**
28 **PGS.**

29 **VI. PROVIDE MECHANISMS TO VERIFY**
30 **FARMER'S COMPLIANCE TO THE**

1 ESTABLISHED NORMS, WHICH IS ABLE TO
2 STIMULATE PARTICIPATION,
3 ORGANIZATION, AND WHICH ALLOW A
4 LEARNING PROCESS FOR ALL THE
5 STAKEHOLDERS.

6 VII. PROVIDE MECHANISMS FOR SUPPORTING
7 FARMERS TO PRODUCE ORGANIC
8 PRODUCTS AND BE CERTIFIED AS
9 ORGANIC FARMERS, TO INCLUDE FIELD
10 ADVISORS, NEWSLETTERS, FARM VISITS,
11 WEBSITES ETC.

12 VIII. SHOULD HAVE A BOTTOM-LINE
13 DOCUMENT, FOR EXAMPLE A FARMER'S
14 PLEDGE STATING HIS/HER AGREEMENT
15 WITH THE ESTABLISHED NORMS.

16 IX. INTRODUCE SEALS OR LABELS PROVIDING
17 EVIDENCE OF ORGANIC STATUS.

18 X. DEFINE A CLEAR AND PREVIOUSLY
19 DEFINED CONSEQUENCES FOR FARMERS
20 NOT COMPLYING WITH STANDARDS,
21 ACTIONS RECORDED IN A DATA BASE OR
22 MADE PUBLIC IN SOME WAY.

23 B. *REGISTRATION.* - A PGS SHALL BE REGISTERED
24 BEFORE THE BAFPS ONLY IF IT HAS AT LEAST 5
25 MEMBERS COMING FROM DIFFERENT FARMS IN THE
26 LOCALITY WHO ARE ACTUALLY PRACTICING ORGANIC
27 AGRICULTURE.

28 ITS REGISTRATION SHALL BE RENEWED EVERY

1 THREE YEARS. BAFPS SHALL APPROVE OR DENY THE
2 REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE WITHIN 15 DAYS OF
3 ANY APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY ANY PGS. THE
4 BAFPS SHALL NOT CHARGE ANY REGISTRATION OR
5 APPLICATION FEES.

6 A PGS MAY BEGIN TO OPERATE ONCE IT IS
7 RECOGNIZED BY THE SANGGUNIAN PANGBAYAN OR
8 PANGLUNGSOD.

9
10 **C. ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS. -**

11 **1. CORE GROUP. - EVERY PGS SHOULD AT LEAST**
12 **HAVE 4 FARMERS FROM A COMBINATION OF**
13 **EITHER CROPS AND/OR LIVESTOCK SECTORS OR**
14 **BOTH THAT LIVE IN THE SAME MUNICIPALITY OR**
15 **CITY THAT REGULARLY INTERACT WITH EACH**
16 **OTHER, 1 MEMBER OF THE ACADEME OR FROM THE**
17 **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (GRADESCHOOL OR**
18 **HIGHSCHOOL PROFESSOR TEACHING TECHNOLOGY**
19 **AND LIVELIHOOD EDUCATION) AND THE LGU**
20 **AGRICULTURIST/VETERINARIAN AS AN**
21 **INDEPENDENT MEMBER. THE LGU**
22 **AGRICULTURIST/VETERINARIAN IS INSTALLED AS**
23 **A MEMBER TO MAKE SURE EVERY PGS IS**
24 **PRACTICING THE PROPER ORGANIC STANDARDS.**
25 **EACH CORE GROUP WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING**
26 **DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

27 **I. DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE**
28 **ORGANIC STANDARDS;**

- 1 **II. MAKE SURE FARM PRACTICES ARE**
2 **COMPLIANT;**
- 3 **III. MAKE A PLEDGE THAT THEY UNDERSTAND**
4 **AND ADHERE TO THE ORGANIC**
5 **STANDARDS;**
- 6 **IV. PARTICIPATE IN APPRAISALS/**
7 **INSPECTIONS OF MEMBER FARMS. AT**
8 **LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF**
9 **THE CORE GROUP SHOULD BE PRESENT TO**
10 **SIGN OFF ON EACH APPRAISAL;**
- 11 **V. INITIATE KEY FIELD TRAININGS TO**
12 **MEMBER FARMERS AND RESIDENTS IN**
13 **THEIR LOCALITY TO PROMOTE ORGANIC**
14 **AGRICULTURE;**
- 15 **VI. ATTEND PROVINCIAL PGS MEETINGS,**
16 **SHARE INFORMATION AND IMPROVE THE**
17 **CAPACITY OF THE GROUP OF THE WHOLE;**
- 18 **VII. RECOMMEND WHICH FARMS WILL BE**
19 **CERTIFIED;**
- 20 **VIII. TAKE ACTIONS ON DEFAULTS/NON-**
21 **COMPLIANCE AS PER SANCTION**
22 **GUIDELINES TO BE PROVIDED BY THE**
23 **BAFPS AND PROVINCIAL PGS; AND**
- 24 **IX. ASSIST DEFAULTING AND NON-**
25 **COMPLIANT MEMBERS TO REGAIN**
26 **CERTIFICATION STATUS.**

27 **2. PROVINCIAL PGS. - THIS CAN BE FORMED BY**
28 **THE PROVINCIAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR BY THE**

1 DIFFERENT CORE GROUPS THAT WILL RECOGNIZE,
2 PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND
3 IMPLEMENT TRAINING PROGRAMS TO ITS
4 MEMBERS.

5 3. NATIONAL PGS. - A NATIONAL PGS SHOULD BE
6 COMPOSED OF AN UNLIMITED NUMBER OF
7 PROVINCIAL PGS, NGOS, CONSUMER GROUPS, AND
8 A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF
9 AGRICULTURE, WHICH WILL COORDINATE
10 NATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS / WORKSHOPS;
11 ACCREDIT PROVINCIAL PGS; MAINTAIN DATABASE
12 OF ORGANIC PRACTITIONERS AND FARMS; AND
13 COORDINATE NATIONAL LEVEL EDUCATION,
14 OUTREACH AND MARKETING ABOUT ORGANIC
15 AGRICULTURE.

16 D. PROMOTION. - THE BAFPS SHALL ACTIVELY
17 PROMOTE AND FIND ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS
18 THAT PRACTICE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE TO BE
19 REGISTERED AS PGS AS DEFINED IN THIS LAW.
20 THE BAFPS SHALL MAKE SURE THAT EACH
21 PROVINCE IN THE COUNTRY HAS A PGS. EVERY
22 PGS SHALL TRAIN AND PROMOTE ORGANIC
23 AGRICULTURE IN THEIR SPECIFIC LOCALITIES TO
24 STRENGTHEN AND BOOST THE NUMBER OF
25 ORGANIC FARMS BY AT LEAST 1% ANNUALLY PER
26 PROVINCE MEASURED BY AREA CULTIVATED.

27
28 E. TRAINING AND INSPECTION. - THE BAFPS IS
29 MANDATED TO TRAIN AND CONDUCT RANDOM
30 INSPECTIONS TO MAKE SURE ALL PGS' FORMED ARE

1 COMPLIANT WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
2 STANDARDS ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. BAFPS
3 SHALL KEEP A RECORD OF COMPLIANT PGS' IN THE
4 COUNTRY AND SHALL PUBLISH SUCH LIST AT LEAST
5 ONCE A YEAR.

6
7 F. INCENTIVES. - ANY ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
8 ENTITY / FARMER AND ORGANIC INPUT
9 PRODUCER CERTIFIED TO BE COMPLIANT FOR A
10 PERIOD OF 5 YEARS BY A REGISTERED PGS
11 WITHOUT ANY OFFENSE OR INFRACTION SHALL BE
12 ELIGIBLE FOR A FULL GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY OF
13 THE COST FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION
14 ACCREDITATION PER SCOPE.

15
16 G. PENALTIES. - ANY PGS FOUND TO HAVE ISSUED
17 A CERTIFICATION TO A FARM OR PRODUCER
18 FOUND TO BE NOT IN COMPLIANT WITH ANY OF
19 THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS ON
20 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SHALL BE PENALIZED AS
21 FOLLOWS:

22
23 FIRST OFFENSE: WRITTEN WARNING;
24 SECOND OFFENSE: SUSPENSION OF
25 ACCREDITATION

26 Sec. 8. Sections 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of RA No. 10068 are hereby
27 renumbered accordingly to read as follows:

28
29 Sec. ~~[11]~~12. *Functions, Duties and Responsibilities of*
30 *the BAFPS.* - xxx

Sec. ~~[12]~~13. *Work Plan.* - xxx

Sec. ~~[13]~~14. *Organic Agriculture and Protection of the Environment.* - xxx

Sec. ~~[14]~~15. *Local Executive Committees.* - xxx

Sec. ~~[15]~~16. *Accreditation of Organic Certifying Body.* - xxx

Sec. 9. Section 16 on the Registration of Organic Food and Organic Input Producers of RA No. 10068 is hereby renumbered as Section 17 and amended to read as follows:

Sec. **[16]17.** *Registration of Organic Food and Organic Input Producers.* - All organic food and input establishments must register with the director, BAFPS, registration under this section shall begin within ninety (90) days of the enactment of this Act. Each such registration shall be submitted to the director through an electronic portal and shall contain such information as the director by guidance may determine to be appropriate. Such registration shall contain the following information:

XXX

(G) IN CASE OF DIRECT SELLING TO CONSUMERS, DONE BY SMALL OR FAMILY FARMERS, PREVIOUSLY REGISTERED WITH BAFPS OR LGU COUNTERPART, CERTIFICATION IS OPTIONAL.

Sec. 10. Section 17 on the Labeling of Organic Produce of RA No. 10068 is

hereby renumbered as Section 18 and amended to read as follows:

Sec. ~~[17]~~**18.** *Labeling of Organic Produce.* – The label of organic produce shall contain the name, logo or seal of the organic certifying body and the accreditation number issued by the BAFPS. ~~[Only third party certification is allowed to be labeled as organically produced.]~~ **THE ORGANIC LABEL SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE TRADE NAME AND ORIGIN ADDRESS OF THE PRODUCE.**

PRODUCTS FROM THIRD-PARTY CERTIFIED AND GUARANTEED ORGANIC PRODUCTION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING PGS SHALL BE ALLOWED TO BE LABELLED AND SOLD AS ORGANIC.

ALL OTHER PRODUCTS, NON-CERTIFIED PRODUCTS AND FIRST-PARTY CERTIFIED PRODUCTS, SHALL BE PROHIBITED FROM BEING LABELLED AS ORGANIC.

Sec. 11. Section 19 on Availability of Trading Post for Organic Inputs of RA No. 10068 is hereby renumbered as Section 20 and amended to read as follows:

Section ~~[19]~~**20.** *Availability of Trading Post for Organic Inputs.* – Local chief executives shall establish, as far as practicable, at least one (1) trading post for organic inputs for every LGU in the area of jurisdiction. **THE AREA SHOULD BE IN AN AREA STRATEGICALLY LOCATED, NAMELY AT THE PUBLIC MARKET AREA, CENTERS OF TRADING AND LOCAL BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.**

Sec. 12. The subsequent sections of RA No. 10068, namely Sections 20, 21,

22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32 of RA No. 10068 are hereby
renumbered accordingly to read as follows:

Sec. **[20]21.** *Research, Development and Extension.* –

xxx

Sec. **[21]22.** *Creation of Organic Agriculture RDE Network.*

–

xxx

Sec. **[22]23.** *RDE Centers.* –

xxx

Sec. **[23]24.** *Organic Agriculture in the Formal and Non-
formal Sectors.* –

xxx

Sec. **[24]25.** *Incentives.* –

xxx

Sec. **[25]26.** *Appropriations.* –

xxx

Sec. **[26]27.** *Penal Provisions.* –

xxx

Sec. **[27]28.** *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* –

xxx

Sec. **[28]29.** *Annual Report.* –

xxx

Sec. **[29]30.** *Congressional Oversight Committee.* –

xxx

Sec. **[30]31.** *Separability Clause.* –

xxx

Sec. ~~[31]~~32. *Repealing Clause.* –

XXX

Sec. ~~[32]~~**33**. *Effectivity.* –

XXX

Sec. 13. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provisions hereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in force and effect.

Sec. 14. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent or contrary to the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 15. *Effectivity.* –This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,