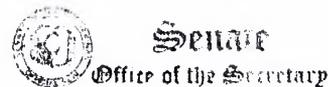


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 25 P 1 :27

SENATE

S. No. 832

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

**AN ACT
PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN AGRICULTURE AND
VERTICAL FARMING IN URBAN AREAS NATIONWIDE TO
ENSURE FOOD SECURITY AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS,
THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The right to adequate food and freedom from hunger is a protected human right under the 1987 Constitution.

In the 2021 Global Food Security Index, the Philippines ranked 64th among 113 countries.¹ The Social Weather Station (SWS) survey revealed that an estimated 3.1 million Filipino families who experienced hunger in the first quarter of 2022 live in urban areas. Around eighteen percent (18%) of these families live in Metro Manila. According to SWS, the hunger rate in Metro Manila is the highest it has ever been since July 1998.²

Statistics also show that, in 2020, around forty-seven percent (47.41%) of the Philippines' population will live in urban areas and cities.³ Urban areas and cities will

¹ The Economist Group, Global Food Security Index 2021, 32 (2021).

² <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1607293/3-1m-filipinos-experienced-hunger-in-q1-of-2022-sws-survey-shows>

³ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/455910/urbanization-in-philippines/#:~:text=Urbanization%20in%20the%20Philippines%202020&text=Urbanization%20means%20the%20share%20of,in%20urban%20areas%20and%20cities>

likely begin to house more than fifty percent (50%) of the country's population in the near future.

The need to ensure food security amid the looming population and urban congestion should be urgently addressed. Towards this end, urban agriculture and vertical farming will be crucial to addressing the foreseeable crisis of food insecurity and the steady increase in prices of food commodities. Access to fresh backyard produce and healthy food should now be prioritized.

Urban and vertical farming not only supports local and sustainable food systems but also helps improve the economic conditions of urban families as it can augment the household income by reducing the cost of food expenditures and potentially providing business opportunities to the family.

Moreover, urban agriculture reduces the carbon footprint of mass-produced goods and production-related emissions since it minimizes transportation costs and the corresponding consumption of fossil fuels.

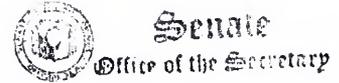
In this regard, this bill seeks to promote urban agriculture and vertical farming using cost-effective and green agriculture systems and technologies in all metropolitan areas of the country to ensure sustainable food security, promote a green lifestyle, minimize damages to the environment, and advance an improved quality of life.

For these reasons, the urgent passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



LOREN LEGARDA

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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AN ACT
PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN AGRICULTURE AND
VERTICAL FARMING IN URBAN AREAS NATIONWIDE TO
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THEREFOR

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

1 Section. 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Integrated Urban
2 *Agriculture and Vertical Farming Act of 2022*".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State shall promote and protect the
4 fundamental right of every person to adequate food and freedom from hunger.
5 Recognizing the challenges to food security and ecological balance in urban areas, the
6 State shall optimize the use and productivity of urban land resources and spaces to
7 support sufficient and sustainable food production.

8 Towards this end, the State shall promote the development of modern, cost-
9 effective, space-efficient, and environmentally-safe agriculture technologies in urban
10 areas to achieve sustainable food production and food security, promoting agro-
11 ecology, ensuring public and mental health and thus improving the quality of life of
12 urban populations.

13 In doing so, the State shall prioritize the conservation of the country's genetic
14 biodiversity, and endemic and heirloom flora and fauna as a strategy for climate
15 change adaptation, mitigation and resiliency. Accordingly, the State shall ensure the
16 integration of principles, strategies and technologies on urban agriculture in urban

1 planning, and instill a love of farming among urban dwellers most especially the
2 youth.

3 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – As used in this Act:

4 (a) *Agro-ecology* refers to a scientific discipline and set of practices that
5 studies how different components of the agroecosystem interact and
6 seeks sustainable farming systems that optimize and stabilize yields. It
7 applies ecological concepts and principles to manage interactions
8 among plants, animals, humans and the environment for food security
9 and nutrition;

10 (b) *Community Gardens* refer to any piece of land cultivated by group of
11 people using either individual or shared plots on public or private land
12 with the consent of the owner, to produce edibles, such as herbs,
13 vegetables, fruits or ornamentals, as a form of sustainable land use
14 system for economic and societal development. Community gardens
15 may be found in neighborhoods and schools, or connected to
16 institutions such as hospitals, or located on the grounds or roofs of
17 shared housing, such as tenements and apartment complexes;

18 (c) *Food Forest Gardening* refers to multi-layered crop farming or low
19 maintenance and sustainable method of food production that is based
20 on woodland ecosystems, incorporating fruit and nut trees, shrubs,
21 herbs, vines, and perennial vegetables which yields are directly useful
22 to humans. It also refers to a system of agroforestry that creates a
23 diverse, productive, healthy, ecologically-sound and sustainable system
24 of land use

25 (d) *Food security* refers to a situation wherein all people have access to
26 sufficient, safe, nutritious food, at all times, to maintain a healthy and
27 active life;

28 (e) *Food system* refers to a complex web of activities involving the
29 production, processing, transport, and consumption of food. Issues
30 concerning the food system include the governance and economics of
31 food production, its sustainability, the degree to which we waste food,

1 how food production affects the natural environment and the impact of
2 food on individual and population health;

3 (f) *Good Agricultural Practices* refer to the practices that address
4 environmental, economic, and social sustainability for on-farm
5 processes, which result in safe and quality food and non-food
6 agricultural products;

7 (g) *Idle lands* refer to non-agricultural lands in urban and urbanizable areas
8 on which no improvements have been made by the owner, as certified
9 by the city, municipal or provincial assessor. "Idle government lands"
10 refer to lands owned by any government entity that have been idle and
11 have not been used for the purpose for which they have been reserved
12 for the past ten (10) years;

13 (h) *Indoor farming* refers to controlled environment agriculture which aims
14 to optimize plant growth to house vertical farming techniques in
15 greenhouses, warehouses, abandoned buildings, shipping containers,
16 tunnels, skyscrapers, and modern buildings using soilless farming
17 techniques such as hydroponics, aquaponics, and aeroponics;

18 (i) *Integrated urban agriculture* refers to the development paradigm that
19 encompasses principles, management technologies, and policies
20 relating to the practice and application of agricultural and fisheries
21 production of food and goods in urban areas;

22 (j) *Peri-urban areas* refer to areas where urban and rural features and
23 processes meet, interact, and intertwine, usually located between the
24 city and countryside. Peri-urban areas are semi-dense clusters with a
25 density of at least three hundred (300) inhabitants per square kilometer
26 and a population of five thousand (5,000) or more, but are neither
27 contiguous with nor within two (2) kilometers of an urban area;

28 (k) *Protected agriculture* refers to the use of technologies that enclose crops
29 to harvest higher yields, safer, cleaner, and of better quality even out of
30 season by modifying the natural environment and protect crops against
31 the elements which include high temperature, excessive rainfall,
32 humidity, wind, birds, and insects;

- 1 (l) *Social preparation* refers to the series of activities designed to prepare the
2 underprivileged and homeless families to cope with the changes
3 brought about by government development projects;
- 4 (m) *Soilless agriculture* refers to the method of growing plants that do not
5 rely on the soil as a source of nutrients and water; common methods
6 are hydroponics, aquaponics and aeroponics;
- 7 (n) *Urban areas* refer to classification as may be made by the Philippines
8 Statistics Authority (PSA) which under PSA Resolution No. 01, Series of
9 2017-098, covers any of the following:
- 10 (i) If a barangay has a population size of five thousand (5,000) or
11 more;
- 12 (ii) If a barangay has at least one establishment with a minimum of
13 one hundred (100) employees; and
- 14 (iii) If a barangay has five (5) or more establishments with a minimum
15 of zero (0) employee, and five (5) or more facilities within a radius
16 of two (2) kilometers from the barangay hall;
- 17 (o) *Urban planning* refers to multi-disciplinary art and science of analyzing,
18 specifying, clarifying, harmonizing, managing, and regulating the use
19 and development of land and water resources, in relation to their
20 environs, for the development of sustainable communities and
21 ecosystems in urban and urbanizable areas;
- 22 (p) *Urbanizable areas* refer to sites and lands which, considering the present
23 characteristics and prevailing conditions, display marked and great
24 potential of becoming urban areas within the period of five (5) years;
25 and
- 26 (q) *Vertical farming* refers to the methods or practices of increasing the
27 number of plants grown in an area by growing crops in vertically
28 stacked layers; such as generally done in greenhouses, warehouses,
29 abandoned buildings, shipping containers, tunnels, skyscrapers, and
30 modern buildings using soilless farming techniques such as
31 hydroponics, aquaponics, or aeroponics.

1 Sec. 4. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover idle or abandoned government or private
2 lands, buildings, shipping containers, subdivisions or villages, public housing, open
3 spaces in all urban, peri-urban, and urbanizable areas in the country; and all available
4 land resources and buildings in schools, state or private universities and colleges,
5 military camps suitable for growing crops and raising poultry, livestock and
6 aquaculture: *Provided, That,* the utilization of idle lands for urban agriculture purposes
7 shall not be used as grounds for the eviction of informal settler families occupying the
8 lands: *Provided further,* That, the raising of poultry and livestock shall be limited to
9 urbanizable areas and all livestock raising shall be subject to health and safety
10 standards and regulations issued by the Department of Health (DOH), Department of
11 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Human Settlements and
12 Urban Development (DHSUD), and other relevant government agencies.

13 Sec. 5. *Urban Farming.* – Local government units (LGUs) shall formulate a policy
14 on the practice of integrated urban farming and the utilization unused spaces and idle
15 lands. This shall require enactment of local legislation institutionalizing urban
16 gardening or agriculture in all levels of the LGU. This shall also require LGUs to enact
17 measures or ordinances that shall include urban gardening or agriculture as a regular
18 component in budget appropriations of the LGU.

19 LGUs shall identify and develop these idle government and private lands and
20 buildings, without prejudice to the rights of owners of private lands, buildings, and
21 open spaces, within their jurisdiction, for full or partial conversion solely to
22 community gardens, food forest gardens, indoor farms and/or vertical farms to
23 support food security and community nutrition: *Provided, That,* food forest gardens
24 and urban farms adopting agroecological principles shall be the priority form of urban
25 agriculture wherever applicable and feasible: *Provided further,* That, spaces allocated
26 for urban agriculture and aquaculture shall not be prime lots. All LGUs, in
27 coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Cooperative
28 Development Authority (CDA), shall capacitate neighborhood associations and
29 people’s organizations, facilitate the organization and registration of community-
30 based cooperatives, undertake community gardening, and establish community
31 farmers’ markets.

1 Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit or extinguish the rights of
2 owners to their private lands and spaces without their consent or without their receipt
3 of just compensation, in case of expropriation.

4 The DHSUD shall ensure that the design and development of the subdivision,
5 condominium, and public housing projects have provisions for adequate spaces for
6 community gardens, food forest gardens, greenhouse agriculture, roof gardens,
7 indoor farms, and vertical farms. Towards this end, the DHSUD, in coordination with
8 the DA, shall capacitate homeowners' associations to undertake community
9 gardening and vertical farming.

10 The DA shall provide the necessary technical assistance and support services,
11 including the provision of seeds and seedlings and gardening tools, access to loans
12 from government financial institutions, and training workshops that shall capacitate
13 various stakeholders. It may assist in the design, establishment, promotion, and
14 regulation of indoor and vertical farming machinery and facilities to ensure the full
15 productivity of community gardens, school gardens, food forest gardens, greenhouse
16 farms, roof gardens, and indoor and vertical farms. The DA shall ensure that the
17 technical assistance it provides is consistent with Philippine Good Agricultural
18 Practices (PHILGAP) or a set of standards and regulations ensuring food quality and
19 safety, facilitation of market access, the establishment of community farmers' markets,
20 and reduction in non-compliance with issuances regarding permitted pesticides and
21 other contamination hazards, as provided under Republic Act No. 10611, otherwise
22 known as the "*Food Safety Act of 2013*", and relevant laws.

23 The DA, in coordination with the Department of Science and Technology
24 (DOST), DENR, the Department of Energy (DOE), and the Department of Public
25 Works And Highways (DPWH) shall also undertake the establishment of rainwater
26 harvesting facilities in compliance with Republic Act No. 6716, entitled, "*An Act*
27 *Providing for the Construction of Water Wells, Rainwater Collectors, Development of Spring*
28 *and Rehabilitation of Existing Water Wells in All Barangays in the Philippines,*" renewable
29 energy systems and solid waste management systems, including waste-to-energy
30 facilities, to provide a sustainable supply of water, energy, and compost to community
31 gardens, food forest gardens, and urban farms.

1 Sec. 6. *Urban Agriculture and Aquaculture in Urban Planning.* – The DHSUD, in
2 coordination with the DA, shall ensure the integration of concepts and principles of
3 urban agriculture and its relationship to other processes in the food system in urban
4 planning. Accordingly, the DHSUD and DA shall promote sustainable, smart, and
5 organic food production systems that harness the benefits of new technologies and
6 methods in soil, nutrient, water, and energy management, such as composting,
7 rainwater harvesting, and utilization of renewable energy. The DHSUD shall also
8 ensure the rational use of land resources in urban planning to promote a sustainable
9 peri-urban interface, as well as for the spatial requirements of supply chain
10 management and logistics to strengthen urban-rural foodshed linkages.

11 Towards these ends, the DHSUD shall promulgate guidelines for the
12 harmonization of the comprehensive land use plans and zoning ordinances of LGUs
13 with urban agriculture policies, frameworks, strategies, and standards. All LGUs are
14 hereby mandated to incorporate urban agricultural development in their respective
15 Annual Development Plans, Annual Investment Plans, Physical Framework Plans,
16 and Development Master Plans including the hiring of agriculturists and agricultural
17 and biosystems engineers to carry out urban agriculture program.

18 Likewise, LGUs, with the assistance of the DA, Department of Interior and
19 Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Information and Communications
20 Technology (DICT), shall establish and maintain a digital information system to
21 facilitate the efficient collection, management, and analysis of urban food systems,
22 agriculture and nutrition data, as well as the monitoring and evaluation of LGU
23 performance vis-a-vis the food system, agriculture and nutrition targets, to inform
24 local planning, policy-making and programming bodies, and to ensure open public
25 access to data.

26 Sec. 7. *Urban Agriculture/Aquaculture Education.* – The Department of Education
27 (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), with the technical
28 assistance of the DA, shall integrate urban agriculture into the academic curriculum
29 for elementary, secondary, and tertiary level students of both public and private
30 academic institutions offering courses in Agriculture, Practical Arts, Home Economics
31 and other subjects related to agriculture. A course curriculum on gardening shall be
32 developed and included in the regular curriculum of elementary and secondary

1 education. Instructional materials shall likewise be developed utilizing advanced
2 techniques of crop and food animal production, urban agriculture and farming, and
3 cultivating awareness and appreciation of genetic biodiversity, heirloom, and
4 endemic flora and fauna, and agroecological principles.

5 The DepEd, with the assistance of the DA, shall strengthen the implementation
6 of its *Gulayan sa Paaralan* Program in elementary and secondary schools. The
7 establishment of school gardens shall be encouraged to ensure a continuous supply
8 of vegetables for school feeding, in accordance with Republic Act No. 11037,
9 otherwise known as the "*Masustansyang Pagkain Para sa Batang Filipino Act*".

10 For universities and colleges, urban agriculture shall form part of the required
11 period of time spent by students in the National Service Training Program. A plan for
12 the utilization or maximization of space occupied by schools shall be formulated
13 specifically for urban agriculture purposes.

14 The DepEd, in coordination with the CHED, shall promulgate the necessary
15 rules and regulations for the implementation of this Section within six (6) months
16 from the date of effectivity of this Act.

17 Sec. 8. *Urban Agriculture Awareness Campaign.* – The DILG, National Nutrition
18 Council, and LGUs are mandated to formulate policies on urban farming in
19 consonance with the provisions of this Act and be at the forefront of community-based
20 education and awareness campaigns. For this purpose, LGUs shall mobilize existing
21 structures and local bodies such as the provincial, city, and municipal agricultural
22 offices, the provincial, city, municipal and barangay agriculture and fishery councils,
23 the provincial, city, municipal, and barangay federation of *Sangguniang Kabataan* (SK)
24 and the youth sector represented in any local special body under LGUs.

25 The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) shall integrate
26 urban agriculture and community nutrition into the seminar, workshops, and training
27 programs to educate qualified household beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang
28 Filipino Program (4Ps).

29 Sec. 9. *Comprehensive Research and Development on Urban Agriculture.* – The DA
30 and the DOST, as well as relevant state universities, government research and
31 development institutions, and the private sector shall intensify research on methods
32 and technologies to support urban agriculture, including the development and

1 operation of sustainable demonstration urban community gardens, food forest
2 gardens, greenhouse, indoor, roof, and vertical farms, as an instrument to address
3 food security concerns and regenerate ecosystem functions in the Philippines.

4 Idle and/or abandoned government lots and buildings owned by either the
5 National Government or LGUs or available land resources in state universities and
6 colleges shall be considered for growing crops, raising livestock, and producing food
7 using the said methods.

8 The DA and DOST shall support and launch research activities to expand the
9 knowledge and understanding of urban agriculture and vertical farming to be used
10 in food production. A renewed investment in advanced technology research in order
11 to adopt state-of-the-art technologies to improve agricultural productivity shall be
12 launched pursuant thereto.

13 Sec. 10. *Incentives.* – Compliance by subdivision and condominium developers
14 and owners with Section 5 of this Act may qualify them for incentives provided for
15 under Republic Act No. 10771, otherwise known as the “*Philippine Green Jobs Act of*
16 *2016*”, subject to the rules and regulations promulgated by the Department of Finance
17 and the DHSUD.

18 LGUs shall also grant necessary incentives to their constituents who actively
19 participate in urban farming activities.

20 The commitment and performance of LGUs in the implementation of this Act
21 shall be included in the criteria for the awarding of the Seal of Good Local Governance
22 and the provision of incentives, provided for under Republic Act No. 11292, otherwise
23 known as “*The Seal of Good Local Governance Act of 2019.*”

24 Loans extended by the government and private banks to participating
25 individuals, corporations and partnerships shall be treated in compliance with
26 Republic Act No. 10000, otherwise known as “*The Agri-Agra Reform Credit Act of 2009.*”

27 Sec. 11. *Inter-Agency Coordination.* – There is hereby established a National
28 Convergence Program on Urban Agriculture and Aquaculture. The DA is hereby
29 designated as the Lead Implementing Agency and the Secretariat of the Convergence
30 Program. The following agencies shall perform duties and responsibilities in order to
31 develop and sustain concerted action to promote urban agriculture:

- 1 (a) The DA shall provide technical assistance and support services to LGUs,
2 community-based cooperatives, homeowners' associations,
3 neighborhood associations, and people's organizations to ensure the
4 viability and cost-effectiveness of urban agriculture projects and
5 through its Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Engineering, shall
6 provide the design, specifications, establishment strategies, promotion,
7 regulation and technical assistance in the fabrication of production
8 models of indoor farming, vertical farming, and other urban agriculture
9 machinery, equipment, and facilities;
- 10 (b) The DHSUD shall encourage the integration of urban agriculture
11 principles, policies, strategies, frameworks, and standards in the design
12 and development of subdivisions and condominium projects. The
13 DHSUD shall ensure such integration in public housing projects and in
14 the preparation or updating of development and investment plans,
15 CLUPs, and zoning ordinances of LGUs. The DHSUD shall also
16 promulgate the necessary rules and monitor compliance therewith. The
17 DHSUD shall provide assistance to homeowners' associations to
18 strengthen their capacity to undertake urban agriculture or aquaculture
19 projects in their neighborhoods and communities;
- 20 (c) The DILG shall monitor the compliance of LGUs with the provisions of
21 this Act in order to determine their qualification for the incentives
22 provided under R.A. No. 11292;
- 23 (d) The DepEd shall integrate the principles and practice of urban
24 agriculture using advanced crop production techniques like soilless
25 agriculture, indoor farming, or vertical farming to include modern
26 methods of irrigation and automated systems into the primary and
27 secondary education curricula, including the establishment of school
28 gardens under the *Gulayan sa Paaralan* Program. The DepEd shall ensure
29 adequate capacity-building programs such as training-workshop,
30 hands-on training, or immersion program for teachers and the
31 development of appropriate instructional materials such as educational
32 videos and manuals for this purpose;

- 1 (e) The DOST shall conduct research on modern, cost-effective methods
2 and technologies to support urban agricultural production, as well as
3 post-harvest handling of surplus produce from urban agriculture
4 projects;
- 5 (f) The DTI shall provide technical assistance in the processing and
6 packaging of surplus produce from urban agriculture and aquaculture
7 projects and ensure access of local government units, cooperatives,
8 homeowners' associations, and people's organizations to markets;
- 9 (g) The Department of Finance (DOF) shall administer the grant of
10 incentives under Section 10 of this Act to qualified persons based on
11 their compliance with Section 5 of this Act;
- 12 (h) The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) shall ensure
13 adequate funding for the functions and programs provided by this Act;
- 14 (i) The CHED shall develop and implement a curriculum on capacity-
15 building programs such as training-workshop, hands-on training or
16 immersion program, and related standards and instructional materials
17 in support of urban agriculture;
- 18 (j) The DPWH in compliance with R.A. No. 6716 is mandated to undertake
19 the construction of water wells, rainwater collectors, development of
20 springs, and rehabilitation of existing water wells in all barangays in the
21 Philippines, taking into consideration the population, hydrologic
22 conditions, costs of project development, and operations, financial and
23 economic factors and institutional arrangements;
- 24 (k) The National Nutrition Council and the Food and Nutrition Research
25 Institute shall assist the DepEd in identifying the crops to be cultivated
26 on school farms and in preparing nutritious food, pursuant to
27 standardized menus to ensure child nutrition provided for under R.A.
28 No. 11037, and in developing the modules on nutrition;
- 29 (l) The CDA shall provide guidance and assistance to LGUs in the
30 development of cooperatives within their jurisdiction;
- 31 (m) The Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor shall undertake social
32 preparation activities to encourage participation and empower poor

1 and underprivileged communities from the preparation and planning
2 to implementation and evaluation of urban development projects;

3 (n) The Philippine Information Agency shall undertake a nationwide
4 information campaign, utilizing all forms of media, to raise awareness
5 and encourage the participation of the public in the implementation of
6 this Act, in close coordination with other cultural agencies such as the
7 National Commission for Culture and Arts (NCCA) and the Film
8 Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP);

9 (o) The Council for the Welfare of Children shall integrate urban agriculture
10 in the formulation of programs and measures providing dynamic
11 leadership in ensuring a child-friendly and child-sensitive society; and

12 (p) The National Youth Commission, as the Philippine government's sole
13 policy-making body on youth affairs and consistent with its role in
14 coordinating and implementing programs designed to help the youth
15 become more aware of the issues surrounding them, shall include an
16 appreciation of urban agriculture.

17 Sec. 11. *Performance Report to Congress.* - The DA and partner agencies in the
18 National Convergence Program on Urban Agriculture and Aquaculture shall submit
19 annual performance reports to Congress.

20 Sec. 12. *Appropriations.* - The funds necessary to carry out the initial
21 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the respective budget of
22 concerned agencies for the current year. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary
23 for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
24 Appropriations Act.

25 Sec. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within ninety days (90) from the
26 effectivity of this Act, the agencies under the National Convergence Program on
27 Urban Agriculture and Aquaculture shall promulgate the necessary implementing
28 rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

29 Sec. 14. *Separability Clause.* - If any part or provision of this Act shall be declared
30 unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts or provisions hereof, which are not
31 affected thereby, shall continue to remain in full force and effect.

1 Sec. 15. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
2 regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
3 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

4 Sec. 16. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
5 complete publication either in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
6 general circulation.

Approved,