

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

SECRETARY
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 22 19:46

SENATE
S. No. **1880**

RECEIVED BY: *RS*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Executive Order No. 18, creating the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), was promulgated to promote the growth and development of the sugar industry through greater participation of the private sector. One of its objectives is "to establish and maintain such balanced relations between production and requirement of sugar and such marketing conditions as will ensure stabilized prices at a level reasonably profitable to the producers and fair to the consumers." The higher cost of sugar in the local market compared to world market prices shows that the SRA has failed to realize this objective.

The iniquitous composition of the Sugar Board, the governing body of the SRA, is blamed for the problem. Under the law, the Board is composed of a Chairman to be appointed by the President of the Philippines and two members - one representing the millers and the other representing the planters. Being composed of representatives of sugar producers, the Board would formulate self-serving policies. The interest of consumers is not protected.

To rectify this situation, the Board's composition must be expanded to provide additional members representing sugar consumers.*

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

10 JUL 22 09:46

SENATE
S. No. **1880**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 EXPANDING THE COMPOSITION OF THE SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
3 (SRA) SUGAR BOARD, AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 18

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

4 SECTION 1. Section 4 of Executive Order No. 18 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 "Section 4. *Governing Body: Sugar Board.* – All corporate powers of the
6 Sugar Regulatory Administration shall be vested in, and exercised by, the Sugar
7 Board. The Board shall be composed of an Administrator, who shall act as its
8 Chairman, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, and **FOUR (4)**
9 **MEMBERS** [two (2) members]. The **FOUR (4)** [two (2)] members of the Board
10 shall likewise be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the
11 recommendation of the sugar industry with one representing **THE MILLERS,**
12 **THE PLANTERS, FOOD PROCESSORS AND CONSUMERS,**
13 **RESPECTIVELY** [the millers and the other representing the planters]. The
14 Sugar Board shall meet in regular session once a month, the Board may be called
15 by the Chairman **OR ANY MEMBER** [both private sector representatives] to a
16 special session as the need arises. The Administrator shall act as the Chief
17 Executive Officer of the Sugar Regulatory Administration."

18 SECTION 2. Section 5 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 "Section 5. *Tenure.* – The Administrator shall hold office at the pleasure
20 of the President of the Philippines. The **FOUR (4)** [two (2)] members from the
21 private sector shall hold office for a period of three (3) years unless sooner

1 removed for cause. No reappointment of the members shall be made immediately
2 upon termination of their respective terms of office. Any member appointed to a
3 vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired term of the member whom he
4 succeeds.”

5 SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
6 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
7 valid and subsisting.

8 SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
9 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent
10 with, the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

11 SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) days after its
12 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,