

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 JUL 18 P1 50

SENATE

S. No. 916

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Introduced by Sen. Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

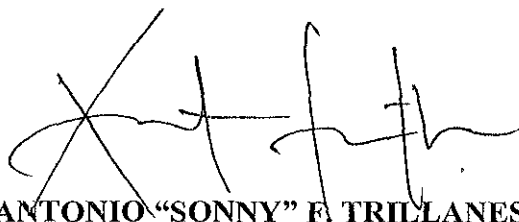
Explanatory Note

This bill seeks the creation of the Philippines Bamboo and Rattan Center (PBRC).

The creation of this Center will boost the efforts towards the development of the bamboo and rattan industry which is expected to eventually contribute to the growth of the Philippine economy for its high potentials of generating additional revenues for our farmers and processors. Said Center aims, among others, to promote bamboo and rattan as sources of food, furniture, light construction materials and other industrial products; to enable the farmers to avail themselves of high quality bamboo and rattan planting stocks at all times and at reasonable prices; to undertake training programs for farmers on the proper establishment procedure of bamboo and rattan plantations and its efficient processing thereafter; to encourage small farm owners to engage in bamboo and rattan plantation development and processing business; to undertake research activities in all disciplines leading to the improvement of the over-all productivity, of the bamboo and rattan.

In sum, the Philippine Bamboo and Rattan Center (PBRC) shall prioritize to increase the productivity and efficiency of the bamboo and rattan plantations through employing the socioeconomic researches that ensure economic viability and the development of appropriate technologies that are cost-effective, simple and practical for the industry. With this bill, the implementation of a bamboo and rattan distribution and propagation program to primarily benefit the smallholder farmers will be facilitated while the farmer-participants will be encouraged to establish strong farmer's associations or cooperatives to serve as focal point for government assistance in this industry.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly requested.



ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

Senator

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AN ACT

PROPOSING THE CREATION OF THE PHILIPPINE BAMBOO AND RATTAN CENTER (PBRC) TO CONSERVE, PROPAGATE AND PROMOTE BAMBOO AND RATTAN SPECIES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.-** This Act shall be known as the "*Bamboo and Rattan Act of 2013*".

2

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.-** The Constitution provides that the State shall develop a
4 self-reliant and independent national economy effectively controlled by Filipinos. It also
5 provides that the State shall support indigenous, appropriate and self-reliant scientific and
6 technological capabilities, and their application to the country's productive systems and national
7 life. Towards this end, the State shall establish various programs to conserve, propagate and
8 promote bamboo and rattan as sources of food, furniture and light construction materials.

9

10 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.-** As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

11 a) "Bamboo and Rattan Center" refers to the Philippine National Bamboo and Rattan Center at
12 the Pampanga Agricultural College in Magalang, Pampanga, the other bamboo and rattan centers
13 in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, and those that will be created pursuant to the enactment of this
14 Act;

15 b) "Rattan" refers to all members of the climbing palm belonging to Subfamily Calamoideae of
16 the Family Palmae or Arecaceae;

17 c) "Bamboo" refers to all members of the tall or shrubby grasses with woody culms under the
18 Subfamily Bambusoideae of the Family Graminae or Poaceae;

- 1 d) "Smallholder Farmer" refers to a farmer owning or cultivating a farmland of less than or equal
2 to five (5) hectares;
- 3 e) "Semi-Commercial Production" refers to a farmer owning or cultivating a farmland of more
4 than five (5) hectares.

5

6 **SEC. 4. *Creation of the Philippine Bamboo and Rattan Center.***- There is hereby created
7 a Philippine Bamboo and Rattan Center, hereinafter referred to as the PBRC, which shall be
8 under the supervision and control of the Department of Agriculture.

9

10 **SEC. 5. *Powers and Functions of the PBRC.***- The PBRC shall have the following
11 powers and functions:

- 12 a) Conserve, propagate and promote bamboo and rattan as sources of food, furniture and light
13 construction materials and other industrial products;
- 14 b) Enable the farmers, particularly smallholder farmers and CARP beneficiaries to avail
15 themselves of high quality bamboo and rattan planting stocks at all times and at reasonable
16 prices through an organized program of propagation, breeding, training and distribution;
- 17 c) Undertake training programs for farmers, particularly smallholder farmers and CARP
18 beneficiaries, designed to transfer technology on the proper processing of bamboo and rattan
19 products;
- 20 d) Encourage small farms owners to engage in bamboo and rattan plantation development and
21 processing business to improve their living conditions;
- 22 e) Undertake research activities in all disciplines that lead to the improvement of the over-all
23 productivity of the bamboo and rattan;
- 24 f) Increase the existing plantation of bamboo and rattan to keep with human population growth;
25 and
- 26 g) Enter into memoranda of agreement and receive donations through the Department of
27 Agriculture from local and foreign sources. Upon the recommendation of the PBRC Advisory
28 Board, the individual bamboo and rattan centers may enter into agreements directly with funding
29 agencies through their respective board of regents of head of agency.

1 **SEC. 6. *Priorities.***- The PBRC shall give priority to the following activities:

- 2 a) Expand bamboo and rattan plantations and improve them per unit area productivity;
- 3 b) Development of bamboo and rattan plantation establishment procedure for backyard and semi-
- 4 commercial production, improving planting materials production efficiency, physiology and
- 5 schemes to reduce losses caused by pests and diseases;
- 6 c) Propagation, breeding, site species matching and plant nutrition;
- 7 d) Socio-economic researches to ensure economic viability and acceptance of technology by
- 8 farmers; and
- 9 e) Development of appropriate technologies that are cost-effective, simple and practical. At least
- 10 five (5) hectares bamboo setum and five (5) hectares rattan gene bank shall be established by
- 11 each bamboo and rattan center to ensure the preservation of the existing bamboo and rattan
- 12 genetic materials in the Philippines and provide option to the farmers.

13

14 **SEC. 7. *PBRC Advisory Board.***- The PBRC Advisory Board shall be composed of the

15 following:

- 16 a) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture or his representative, as Chairman;
- 17 b) Undersecretary for Regional Operations, Department of Agriculture, as Vice Chairman;
- 18 c) Executive Director, Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources,
- 19 Research and Development (PCARRD);
- 20 d) Director, Bureau of Agricultural Research, Department of Agriculture;
- 21 e) President of the Pampanga Agricultural College (PAC) in Magalang, Pampanga; Chancellor
- 22 of the UP Los Banos (UPLB) in Laguna; and the Presidents of Tarlac College of Agriculture
- 23 (TCA) in Camiling, Tarlac; Ramon Magsaysay Technological University (RMTU) in San
- 24 Marcelino, Zambales; Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) in Batac, Ilocos norte; Leyte
- 25 State University (LSU) in Baybay, Leyte; West Visayas State University (WVSU) in Iloilo;
- 26 Central Mindanao University (CMSU) in Bukidnon; Sultan Kudarat Polytechnic College
- 27 (SKPSC) in Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat; and Western Philippine University (WPU) in Aborlan,
- 28 Palawan; and the president of the state college or university where a rattan and bamboo center
- 29 may be established pursuant to this Act;

- 1 f) Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry;
- 2 g) Ecosystem Research and Development Bureau;
- 3 h) Executive Director of PBRC; and
- 4 (i) Farmers' representative to be appointed by the Board.

5

6 **SEC. 8. *Functions of the PBRC Advisory Board.***- The PBRC Advisory Board shall
7 perform the following functions:

- 8 a) Formulate policies, programs, and projects for the development of the bamboo and rattan
9 industry;
- 10 b) Review and recommend the annual budget of the PBRC;
- 11 c) Evaluate the implementation, efficiency, and effectiveness of the programs and projects of the
12 PBRC; and
- 13 d) Recommend the establishment or abolition of bamboo and rattan centers as may be deemed
14 necessary.

15

16 **SEC. 9. *Executive Director of the PBRC.***- The Executive Director of the PBRC shall be
17 appointed by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture. The Executive Director of the
18 PBRC shall perform the following functions:

- 19 a) Oversee the implementation of the policies, programs, and projects of the PBRC;
- 20 b) Assist the PBRC Advisory Board in the review, evaluation and monitoring of the Bamboo and
21 Rattan Program; and
- 22 c) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the PBRC Advisory Board.

23

24 **SEC. 10. *Appointment of Directors or Center Chiefs of Other Bamboo and Rattan***
25 ***Centers.***- The Directors or Center Chiefs of other bamboo and rattan centers shall be appointed
26 by the respective board of regents or head of agency.

1 **SEC. 11. *Functions of the Directors or Center Chiefs of Other Bamboo and Rattan***

2 **Centers.-** Subject to the policies of the PBRC, the Directors or Center Chiefs of other bamboo
3 and rattan centers shall perform the following functions:

- 4 a) Administer the policies, programs, and projects of the PBRC in their respective centers and
5 areas of responsibility;
- 6 b) Recommend the creation of divisions and sections including the staffing pattern of the centers;
- 7 c) Prepare the annual budget of their centers;
- 8 d) Approve the expenditures of their respective budgets;
- 9 e) Recommend to their respective heads of agency the appointment of personnel or consultants;
- 10 f) Recommend policies, programs, and projects to the Executive Director of the PBRC; and
- 11 g) Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Executive Director of the PBRC.
- 12

13 **SEC. 12. *Implementation and Coordination of the Program.-*** The PBRC Advisory

14 Board through the Executive Director shall coordinate, monitor, and evaluate the implementation
15 of the bamboo and rattan programs. It shall identify, through the Directors of bamboo and rattan
16 centers and Center Chiefs from the various implementing stations, the programs and projects in
17 the areas of propagation, breeding, distribution, soil requirement plant nutrition, and processing
18 of bamboo and rattan raw material. It shall formulate strategies relative to the propagation and
19 distribution of the bamboo and rattan. Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao shall initially have a total
20 of ten (10) bamboo and rattan centers. The centers in Luzon shall be located at Pampanga
21 Agricultural College (PAC) in Magalang, Pampanga; UP Los Banos (UPLB) in Laguna; Tarlac
22 College of Agriculture (TA) in Camiling, Tarlac; Ramon Magsaysay Technological University
23 (RMTU) in San Marcelino, Zambales; Mariano Marcos State University (MMSU) in Ilocos
24 Norte. The centers in Visayas shall be at Leyte State University (LSU) in Baybay, Leyte; and
25 West Visayas State University (WVSU) in Iloilo. The centers in Mindanao shall be at Central
26 Mindanao University (CMU) in Bukidnon; Sultan Kudarat Polytechnic State College (SKPSC)
27 in Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat; and Western Philippine State University (WPSU) in Aborlan,
28 Palawan. These centers shall specialize in the development of technology on propagation,

1 breeding, plant nutrition, site species matching, and processing of bamboo and rattan raw
2 materials.

3
4 **SEC. 13. *Farmer's Participation.***- The farmer-participants shall be encouraged to
5 establish strong farmers' association or cooperatives to serve as focal point for government
6 assistance in the propagation and distribution of bamboo and rattan and the dissemination of
7 technology on bamboo and rattan.

8
9 **SEC. 14. *Beneficiaries.***- The beneficiaries of the CARP and other smallholder farmers
10 shall be given priority in the bamboo and rattan distribution program.

11
12 **SEC. 15. *Participation of the Department of Agriculture and Local Government Units.***-
13 The bamboo and rattan centers, the regional and provincial offices of the Department of
14 Agriculture, specifically the Bureau of Plant Industry, and the local government units shall
15 implement a bamboo and rattan distribution and propagation program within their respective
16 areas in accordance with the national policy and program of the PBRC. The PBRC shall adopt a
17 national dispersal program to primarily benefit the smallholder farmers and CARP beneficiaries.
18 Any income from the sale of bamboo and rattan shall be placed in a revolving fund to be used in
19 the propagation and distribution of bamboo and rattan.

20
21 **SEC. 16. *Use of Funds.***- Not more than fifty percent (50%) of funds allocated under this
22 Act and in subsequent annual appropriations shall be used for personal services, and maintenance
23 and operating expenses, ten percent (10%) for research and development, forty percent (40%) for
24 bamboo and rattan dispersal and distribution. All income generated by the PBRC, as well as
25 donations, shall be used to augment the budget of the center with an annual expenditure program
26 to be recommended and approved by the Board. The Office of the President, through PAGCOR,
27 shall also allocate P50 million yearly for Bamboo and Rattan Processing and entrepreneurship
28 assistance to farmers/growers; bamboo processors and for research/development and extension
29 activities.

1 **SEC. 17. Annual Report** - The PBRC shall submit an annual report to the Office of the
2 President, the Senate, and the House of Representatives indicating among others hectarage of
3 established bamboo and rattan plantations, the number of bamboo and rattan distributed, and the
4 names of the beneficiaries.

5
6 **SEC. 18. Transfer of Bamboo and Rattan Programs to the PBRC.**- Upon approval of
7 this Bill, the extending Bamboo and Rattan programs and projects implemented by various
8 agencies shall be transferred to the PBRC.

9
10 **SEC. 19. Appropriation.**- The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act
11 shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law
12 thereafter.

13
14 **SEC. 20. Separability Clause.**- If any part, section, or provision of this Act shall be held
15 invalid or unconstitutional, the rest of the provisions shall not be affected thereby.

16
17 **SEC. 21. Repealing Clause.**- All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts
18 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly:
19 *Provided*, however, That nothing in this Act shall amend, modify or repeal the provision of
20 Republic Act No. 160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code.

21
22 **SEC. 22. Effectivity.**- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its
23 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

1 7) Gym area, to include parallel bars, mirror, weights and assistive devices (canes,
2 crutches and walker);

3 8) Evaluation tools;

4 9) Adequate utilities (water, electricity and consumables);

5 10) First aid kit with basic CPR equipment.

6 c) A secondary Rehabilitation Medicine facility shall have the following:

7 1) At least one PBRM Board certified physiatrist;

8 2) At least one licensed Physical therapist and Occupational therapist;

9 3) Rehabilitation Medicine Consultation and Management, Physical Therapy and
10 Occupational Therapy services;

11 4) Compliance with the primary category set-up plus deep heating modality, manual
12 traction and therapeutic exercise equipment for the gym area.

13 d) A tertiary Rehabilitation Medicine facility shall have the following:

14 1) At least one PBRM Board certified physiatrist;

15 2) At least one licensed Physical therapist and Occupational therapist;

16 3) Rehabilitation Medicine Consultation and Management, Physical, Occupational
17 Therapy, Prosthetist/Orthotist in house or referral services, speech therapy in house or referral
18 services;

19 4) Compliance with the secondary category set-up and equipment, with additional two
20 superficial heating modalities, medium frequency modality, mechanized traction, ultraviolet or
21 cold laser intermittent compression unit, mechanized intermittent traction and tilt table with
22 additional gym equipment;

23 5) A Training/Service and Research facility, which shall fulfill all the requirements as a
24 residency training institution in accordance with PBRM guidelines;

25 6) A specialized facility which should cater to subspecialty conditions in Rehabilitation Medicine
26 (Cardiac, Pain, Pediatric, Pulmonary, Sports, among others) shall be hospital-based facility with
27 a multi-disciplinary set-up.

1 **SEC. 10. *Management and Operation of a Rehabilitation Medicine Facility.***- A

2 Rehabilitation Medicine Facility shall be headed by a Rehabilitation Medicine specialist who is
3 either a Philippine Board of Rehabilitation Medicine Certified or Eligible Rehabilitation
4 Medicine specialist who must assume technical and administrative supervision and control of the
5 activities in the said facility. An adequate and effective system of documentation, recording and
6 records keeping must be maintained for all consultations and services in the facility. The rates for
7 consultation and services shall be in accordance with the standards of the Philippine Medical
8 Association and PhilHealth.

9
10 **SEC. 11. *Application for Registration and Issuance of License.***- Applications for

11 registration and issuance of a license shall be filed by the owner or his duly authorized
12 representative with the DOH-Bureau of Health Facilities and Services together with an
13 Information sheet to be filled up by the physiatrist-in-charge. Upon receipt of the said application
14 together with the license fee, a technical committee team will inspect the facility within sixty
15 (60) days. Certificates of licenses shall be issued and approved by the Head of the Bureau of
16 Health Facilities and Services. A provisional license may be granted to facilities with insufficient
17 requirements for special cases for a period of one (1) year.

18
19 **SEC. 12. *Terms and Validity of License.***- The license to operate will only be valid for a

20 period of two (2) years. Application for renewal of the license shall be made during the last six
21 (6) months of validity. The license must be placed in a conspicuous place within the facility. A
22 copy of the' rules and regulations should also be readily available. Upon violation of the
23 standards provided, a license may be revoked. Investigation of all charges or complaints against
24 a Rehabilitation Medicine facility or any of its personnel shall be made to the PBRM (when
25 complaint is against the physiatrist) and to the Department of Health- Bureau of Health Facilities
26 and Services for appropriate investigation.

27
28 **SEC. 13. *Penalties.*** - Any person, partnership, association, or corporation who

29 establishes, operates, conducts, manages or maintains a rehabilitation medicine facility within the

1 meaning of this Act without first obtaining a license or violates any provision of this Act or its
2 Implementing Rules and Regulations shall be liable to a fine of not less than Twenty Thousand
3 Pesos (P20,000.00) but not to exceed Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) for the first offense,
4 and not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) but not to exceed One Hundred Thousand
5 Pesos (P100,000.00) for the second offense, and not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos
6 (P100,000.00), but not to exceed Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00) for the third and
7 each subsequent offense. Each day that a facility or other related facility shall operate after the
8 first violation shall be considered a subsequent offense. In addition to the penalties specified in
9 the preceding paragraph, the Bureau, upon the approval of the Secretary, may summarily order
10 the closure of any rehabilitation medicine facility found operating without a license.

11

12 **SEC 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).***- To implement the provisions of
13 this Act, the Department of Health - Bureau of Health Facilities and Services (DOH-BHFS), in
14 coordination with the national professional organization duly recognized by the Professional
15 Regulation Commission, shall promulgate the rules and regulations, including the technical
16 standards and requirements for the registration, operation and maintenance of rehabilitation
17 medicine facilities, within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act.

18

19 **SEC. 15. *Separability Clause.***- If any part or provision of the Act shall be held
20 unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions hereof which are not affected hereby shall continue
21 to be in full force and effect.

22

23 **SEC. 16. *Repealing Clause.***- All laws, decrees, rules and regulations inconsistent with
24 the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

25

26 **SEC. 17. *Effectivity.***- This shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in
27 two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,