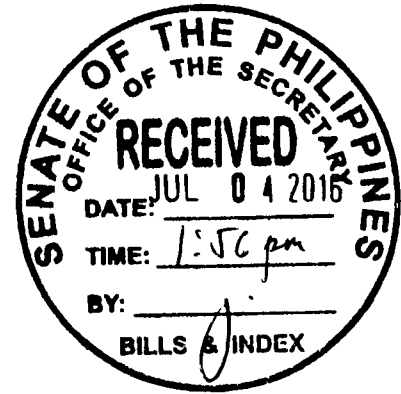


**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session**



SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 330

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

**AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR
AGRICULTURE TECHNOLOGY GENERATION AND TRANSFER AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is one of the pioneers in agricultural industry and well-known agricultural country in the world. Having almost 32 percent of land devoted to agriculture, the industry is considered to be one of the biggest sectors in the country's economy that provides not only food to people but also contributor of employment. However, Small farm holders and tenant farmers have depended mainly on the traditional subsistence level of farming systems, which results to gradual deterioration of the industry.

Modernization in agriculture sector could result to a more efficient and much productive farming that probably would realize to generate higher income. Modernization is lot essential to the Philippines to be able to compete the trend on international trading.

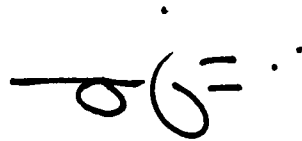
In spite of extension efforts made by different Government institutions and Non-Government organizations, these farmers have not been able to adapt to new agriculture technologies. Low investment in research and development (R&D), inadequate generation, and ineffective transfer of agricultural technologies are some of the primary reasons why the majority of small and marginalized farmers have remained technologically outdated and economically powerless.

This bill is in response to the strongly felt need to integrate R&D and technology generation and transfer into a single coherent and harmonious national system dedicated to the socio-economic well-being of the Filipino farmers and development of the nation. It aims to

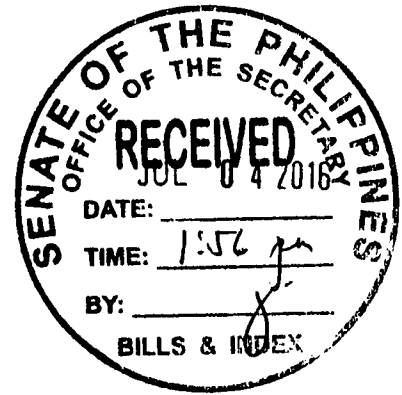
transform traditional agriculture to modern highly productive agriculture industry through generation and transfer of more productive and useful technologies of farming and rural living.

A sustained expansion of the national economy requires sustained growth in the agricultural sector. We must transform our farmers into a resource of renewed national vigor and creativity in our drive for global competitiveness.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Ejercito', with a horizontal line extending to the left of the first letter.

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO



SENATE

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

**CHAPTER I.
TITLE AND POLICIES**

1 **SECTION 1. Title-** This Act shall be known as the "**Agriculture**
2 **Technology Generation and Transfer Act of 2016.**"
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. -**
5

6 a) The State shall protect and promote the socio-economic
7 welfare and well-being of Filipino farmers, particularly those in the
8 countryside. Towards this end, it is the purpose of this Act to
9 establish an Integrated System of Agriculture Technology Generation
10 and Transfer that will most efficiently and effectively provide the
11 agricultural technology services as a means of empowerment of
12 farmers and enable them to help sustain a self-sufficient and self-
13 reliant food and agriculture production for its people and accelerate
14 agro-industrial development of the country.
15

16 b) The State also commits itself to the protection of the
17 environment and the promotion of sustainable agriculture
18

19 **SEC. 3. Scope.** This Act shall apply to, and govern all existing
20 agricultural research and extension activities of the National
21 Government, the local government units, farmer's and non-

1 government organizations and the state universities and colleges in
2 the country.

3
4 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms-** The following terms shall mean
5 as defined herein:

6
7 a) Agriculture - refers to the art, science and business of
8 cultivating the soil, planting of crops, growing of fruit trees,
9 management of forests, raising or catching or both of livestock poultry
10 or fish; including the harvesting and postharvest handling of such
11 products, and other activities and practices performed by persons
12 whether natural or juridical in conjunction with such operations.

13
14 b) Research and Development (R&D) - pertains to all organized
15 activities designed to search for new knowledge or modify existing
16 ones, develop new methods and techniques of operation, tools,
17 equipment or types of organisms through the application of the
18 scientific method.

19
20 c) Technology Generation - R&D activities that are directed
21 principally towards the development of such methods, techniques,
22 computer software and hardware, tools, equipment, or types of
23 organisms that may be used or applied for the benefit of man. The
24 product of such activities may be referred to as technologies.

25
26 d) Technology Transfer - pertains to all organized activities
27 designed to enable individuals or groups to effectively adapt a
28 particular technology.

29
30 e) Farmer -any person who engages in any agricultural activity

31
32 f) Sustainable Agriculture - any principle, method and/or
33 practice that aims to make agriculture economically viable,
34 ecologically sound, socially just, and culturally appropriate.

35 36 **CHAPTER II.**

37 **THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM FOR AGRICULTURE** 38 **TECHNOLOGY GENERATION AND TRANSFER**

39
40
41 **SEC.5. The Integrated System of Agriculture Technology**
42 **Generation and Transfer (ISATGaT)** - All government agencies and
43 institutions, including local government units, farmers and non-
44 government organizations that are engaged in R&D, training and
45 extension activities in agriculture shall be organized and formed into
46 an Integrated System of Agriculture Technology Generation and
47 Transfer (ISATGaT). It shall be organized into hierarchical and
48 interlocking councils at the national, regional and provincial levels.
49 The national and regional councils shall be concerned with both the

1 technology generation and transfer activities while the provincial
2 councils shall be concerned with technology transfer activities.

3
4 **SEC. 6. Purpose.** - The purpose of the ISATGaT is to most
5 effectively and efficiently respond to and provide for the technology
6 needs of farmers and enable them to attain higher productivity and
7 market competitiveness in the context of sustainable agriculture
8 principles and practices.

9
10 **SEC. 7. Components of the System.-**

- 11
12 a) Department of Agriculture
13 b) Institutes and Centers for Agricultural Research Development and
14 Training
15 c) Local Government Units
16 d) State Universities and Colleges
17 e) Farmers' and Non-Government Organizations
18
19

20 **CHAPTER III.**
21 **ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF COMPONENT UNITS IN EACH**
22 **LEVEL OF THE SYSTEM**
23
24

25 **SEC. 8. The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall:**

26 a) Provide the office of the Chairman and the Secretarial of the
27 National Integrated System for Agriculture Technology Generation and
28 Transfer (NISATGaT) Council:

29
30 b) Organize and operate a Bureau of Agriculture Technology
31 Generation and Transfer (BATGaT) out of its existing research centers
32 and outreach stations and training institutes for purposes of
33 addressing agriculture technology issues or for national concern; and
34

35 c) Coordinate the activities of the NISATGaT Council with that of
36 the other units within its department and with other agencies and
37 instrumentalities of the Government in order that such activities shall
38 be consistent with and in pursuit of the National programs and
39 objectives of the country.
40

41 **SEC. 9. The Autonomous National Institutes and Centers**
42 **for Agricultural Research, Development and Training shall:-**

43
44 a) Undertake such technology generation and transfer activities
45 as may be recommended by the NISATGaT Council; and
46

47 b) Maintain and improve high level technical manpower and
48 appropriate facilities to be able to effectively undertake whatever

1 technology generation and transfer activities may be deemed
2 necessary.

3
4 **SEC. 10. The Local Government Units (LGUs) shall:-**

5
6 a) Designate a Provincial Agriculture Officer (PAO) - in each
7 province who will represent the respective provinces in the Regional
8 Integrated System for Agriculture Technology Generation and Transfer
9 (RISATGaT) Council and coordinate all activities pertaining to
10 agricultural technology services to farmers in
11 his/her provinces; and
12

13 b) In collaboration with a duly recognized provincial college of
14 agriculture,
15 shall organize a Provincial Agriculture Technology Transfer (PAT)
16 Council whose members will include the head of the agricultural
17 institution, the PAO, Municipal Agricultural Officers, representatives
18 of recognized local farmers' and non-government organizations.
19

20 **SEC. 11. The State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) shall:**

21
22 a) Designate an Agriculture Technology Generation and Transfer
23 (ATGaT) Coordinator who will represent the institution in the Regional
24 Integrated System for Technology Generation and Transfer (RISATGaT)
25 Council in the case of duly accredited regional SUCs;
26

27 b) Designate an Agriculture Technology Transfer (ATT)
28 Coordinator for the institution and who will represent the institution
29 in the Provincial Integrated System for Agriculture Technology
30 Transfer (PISATT) Council in the case of duly accredited provincial
31 agricultural colleges or provincial technical institutes of agriculture;
32

33 c) Undertake research, technology generation and/or technology
34 transfer on such areas as may be recommended by the NISATGaT,
35 RISATGaT or PISATT Council in the case of duly accredited national,
36 regional or provincial agricultural institution(s), respectively;
37

38 d) Provide the office of the Chairman and Secretariat of the
39 RISATGaT Council in the case of the regional state agricultural
40 institution or of the PISATT Council in the case of the provincial
41 agricultural institution as may be designated by the NISATGaT
42 Council; and
43

44 e) Provide facilities and staff for and conduct training of
45 agricultural technologies, technicians and farmers in the utilization of
46 the various agricultural technologies.
47

48 **SEC. 12. Farmers and Non-Government Organizations**
49 **(NGOs) shall:-**

1
2 a) Volunteer facilities or certain portions of their farms for tests
3 and/or
4 demonstration of certain agricultural technologies that are of potential
5 benefit to
6 them;

7
8 b) Actively participate in the problem/ opportunity identification,
9 planning
10 and implementation of research and development of promising
11 technologies; and
12

13 c) Share in the cost of research and development of technologies
14 that are
15 potentially beneficial to them.
16

17 **SEC. 13. Creation of the National Integrated System for**
18 **Agriculture Technology Generation and Transfer (NISATGaT)**
19 **Council.**- To carry out the programs for generation and transfer of
20 agriculture technologies of the country, the National Integrated
21 System for Agriculture Technology Generation and Transfer
22 (NISATGaT) Council is hereby created and attached to the Department
23 of Agriculture for administrative purposes only, with the following
24 composition and functions:
25

26 a) Composition. The following shall serve as members of the
27 NISATGaT Council with its Chairman to be elected from among its
28 members and serve for a period of three (3) years:
29

30 1) One outstanding scientist from each of the fields of Crop
31 Science, Animal Science, Agricultural Engineering, Fisheries, Forestry
32 and Veterinary Medicine who shall be nominated by heads of faculties,
33 scientific or professional groups for a term of three (3) years, and from
34 among themselves, a Cochairperson shall be chosen;
35

36 2) The Director of the Bureau of Agriculture Research,
37 Technology Generation and Transfer (BARTGaT) who shall also serve
38 as the Executive Director of the Secretariat of the Council;
39

40 3) The Dean, College of Agriculture of the University Council of
41 the Philippines at Los Banos;
42

43 4) The President of the Philippine Association of Agricultural
44 Colleges and Universities;
45

46 5) The Executive Director of the Philippine Council for
47 Agriculture and Resources Research and Development (PCARRD);
48

1 6) One representative of the National Farmers' Organizations
2 and one representative of the National NGOs involved with
3 agricultural technology transfer;

4
5 7) Chairperson of each of the RISATGaT Councils;

6 8) The Director, Bureau of Animal Industry; and

7
8 9) The Director, Bureau of Plant Industry; and

9
10 10) The Director, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources.

11
12 b) Functions- The NISATGaT Council shall have the following
13 duties and functions:

14
15 1) Scan the environment of the Philippine agriculture and study
16 new development and trends where problems and opportunities could
17 arise and taken
18 advantaged of in the development of new technologies;

19
20 2) Study new technologies in agriculture and related fields and
21 determine whether these could be advantageously adapted by Filipino
22 farmers;

23
24 3) Formulate policies that will encourage and promote the
25 expeditious generation and transfer of technologies that are most
26 beneficial to the Filipino people;

27
28 4) Prioritize national programs for research, technology
29 generation and transfer that government should support;

30
31 5) Make representation with the Department of Budget and
32 Management and see to the timely and sufficient allocation of funds
33 for agriculture research, technology generation and transfer programs
34 as recommended by NISATGaT; and

35
36 6) Formulate policies regarding technology, protection,
37 commercialization and dissemination.

38
39 **SEC. 14. Creation of the Regional Integrated System for**
40 **Agriculture Technology Generation and Transfer Councils-** To
41 carry out the regional programs for generation and transfer of
42 technologies appropriate for each of the regions, a Regional
43 Agricultural Technology Generation and Transfer (RISATGaT) Council
44 is hereby created in each of the geographical regions of the
45 country and attached to a chartered regional state university or
46 college as designated by the NISATGaT Council.
47

1 a) Composition. - The RISATGaT Council shall be composed of
2 the following members whose Chairman shall be elected by its
3 members for a term of three (3) years and assisted by a Secretariat;

4
5 1) The Heads of the accredited agricultural university(ies) and
6 college(s) in the region;

7
8 2) The Directors/ Heads of Regional Integrated Agriculture
9 Research Center and of other duly recognized agricultural commodity
10 research and training centers in the region;

11
12 3) The Manager/ head of the Regional Outreach Station;

13
14 4) The Provincial Agricultural Officers of each province of the
15 region;

16
17 5) The President (s) or Chairperson (s) of duly recognized
18 farmers and non-government organizations involved in the promotion
19 of agriculture in the region; and

20 6) The Coordinator of Agriculture Technology Generation and
21 Transfer of the institution to which the RISATGaT is attached and who
22 shall also serve as in charge of the Secretariat.

23
24 b) Functions.- The RISATGaT Council shall have the following
25 duties and functions:

26
27 1) Periodically discuss problems and opportunities for
28 developing agriculture in the region and plan and cause the
29 implementation of research, technology generation and transfer
30 programs that will most effectively address such issues;

31
32 2) Coordinate the research, technology generation and
33 technology transfer activities in the region and see that they are
34 consistent with the plans and programs approved by the RISATGaT;

35
36 3) Determine the priorities for research, technology generation
37 and transfer that may be implemented in the region and accordingly
38 recommend financial support by the Government or by any interested
39 parties;

40
41 4) Periodically review on-going research and development
42 projects and programs and see that they squarely address their
43 objectives; and

44
45 5) Plan and facilitate the transfer of new and appropriate
46 agricultural technologies to farmers and other end-users in the region.
47

1 **SEC. 15. Creation of Provincial Integrated System for**
2 **Agriculture Technology Transfer Council-** To effectively transfer
3 agriculture technologies to
4 farmers in the provinces and municipalities, the Provincial Agriculture
5 Technology
6 Transfer (PAT) Council shall be established in each of the provinces
7 and attached to the provincial agricultural college designated by the
8 RISATGaT Council.

9
10 a) Composition- The PATT Council shall be composed of the
11 following members with the Chairman to be elected from among the
12 members and serve for three (3) years:

13
14 1) The Head(s) of recognized provincial agricultural college(s) or
15 institute(s):

16
17 2) The Provincial Agricultural Officer (PAO) who shall also serve
18 as Coordinator of Technology Transfer and in-charge of the PATT
19 Council Secretariat;

20
21 3) The Municipal Agricultural Officer of each municipality; and

22
23 4) The chairperson(s) of duly recognized farmers and non-
24 government organizations involved in agriculture in the province.

25
26 b) Functions- The PATT Council shall have the following duties
27 and functions:

28
29 1) Periodically discuss problems and opportunities for
30 developing agriculture in the province and plan and cause the
31 implementation of appropriate technology for transfer to farmers and
32 other local end-users;

33
34 2) Coordinate all technology transfer activities in the province
35 and see that they are consistent with its approved plans and
36 programs;

37
38 3) Determine priority technology transfer activities that may be
39 implemented in the province and accordingly recommend financial
40 support by the
41 local government or by any interested parties;

42
43 4) Periodically review on-going technology transfer activities in
44 the province and see that they squarely address their objectives; and

45
46 5) Plan and facilitate the transfer of new and appropriate
47 agriculture technologies to farmers and other end-users in the
48 province.

49

1 **SEC. 16. Budgetary Scheme shall be as follows:**
2

3 a) The current appropriations or budgets for agriculture
4 research, technology generation and transfer program of the state
5 agencies, institutes and centers and local government units and SUCs
6 shall be increased from the present level by annual increment of 0.2%
7 of the Gross Value Added (GVA) of the agriculture sector for the next
8 ten (10) years as recommended by the NISATGaT Council and
9 approved by the Department of Budget and Management and shall be
10 included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.
11

12 b) This Act hereby allocates an endowment lumpsum amount of
13 Fifty million pesos (P50,000,000.00) per annum for the next ten (10)
14 years and shall be included in the General Appropriations Act starting
15 2011. This fund shall be called the Agriculture Technology Generation
16 and Transfer Fund to support high priority technology generation and
17 transfer programs of the NISATGaT Council the RISATGaT Councils
18 and the PATT Councils: Provided, That such fund shall be invested in
19 government bonds and securities and managed by the NISATGaT
20 Council using only the interest earnings of the said fund.
21

22 c) The operations of the Bureau of Agriculture Research,
23 Technology Generation and Transfer shall be funded initially from the
24 DA allocation for the operation of both its Bureaus of Agricultural
25 Research (BAR) and Agricultural Training Institute (ATI). Upon the
26 effectivity of this Act, the BAR and ATI shall be replaced by the
27 BARTGaT. Subsequently, the appropriation of the BARTGaT shall be
28 incremented according to the provisions of subsection (a) hereof.
29

30 **SEC. 17. Grants, Fiduciary and Revolving Funds** - The
31 Fiduciary and Revolving Funds centralized under P.D. 711 are hereby
32 authorized and reallocated to the government agencies, institutions,
33 centers and SUCs participating in the ISATGaT to encourage them to
34 demonstrate the economic benefits of the technologies that have been
35 developed; furthermore endowment funds shall be authorized to be
36 accumulated in the institutions out of the funds generated from
37 earnings and from grants and other external sources to be used as
38 incentives for research fellowships, incentives and awards for
39 excellence in technology generation and transfer and the like. Such
40 funds shall be disbursed in accordance with the law and the
41 guidelines set by the NISATGaT Council and the Commission on
42 Audit.
43

44 **CHAPTER IV.**
45 **INCENTIVES, PRIVILEGES AND BENEFITS**
46

47 **SEC. 18. Incentives for Private Institutions-** Private
48 institutions and organizations may avail of the research, technology
49 generation and transfer fund:

1 *Provided*, That their Programs are approved for funding by the
2 NISATGaT Council. Furthermore, their expenditures for research and
3 development activities shall be eligible for tax exemptions: *Provided*,
4 That the information that they derive therefrom are shared with the
5 community of researches through scientific
6 publications, seminars, symposia and the like.
7

8 **SEC. 19. Incentives and Benefits for Technologists and**
9 **Technicians and Farmers Participating in Technology**
10 **Generation and Transfer -**
11

12 a) Technologist and technicians involved in research, technology
13 generation and transfer shall be paid salaries at least or equal to the
14 teaching staff of the SUCs of equivalent academic training and
15 qualifications. They shall also be given corresponding incentives and
16 benefits for any patent on products or processes that they have
17 developed.
18

19 b) Farmers who participate in the planning and implementation
20 of technology generation and transfer activities or make available
21 certain areas of their farm lots or farm facilities for such activities
22 shall be entitled to certain incentives and benefits as may be
23 recommended by the supervising Council and
24 approved by the Commission on Audit.
25

26 **SEC. 20. Repealing Clause** - All existing laws, rules and
27 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
28 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
29

30 **SEC. 21. Separability Clause**- If any part, section or provision
31 of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, no other part,
32 section or provision hereof
33 shall be affected thereby.
34

35 **SEC. 22. Effectivity**- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
36 after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation
37
38

39 *Approved*,