

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



'16 JUL 18 P6:07

S E N A T E

S.B. NO. 394

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

**AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8439, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
"AN ACT PROVIDING A MAGNA CARTA FOR SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS,
RESEARCHERS AND OTHER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL IN
THE GOVERNMENT"**

Explanatory Note

The Republic Act No. 8439 otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers, and other Science and Technology (S&T) personnel in the government" was enacted last December 1997 in recognition of Science and Technology as an essential element in the attainment of the country's progress and development.

In recognition of the role that scientists, engineers, researchers and other workers play for inclusive and sustainable growth, and to further empower them, this legislative measure proposes the following:

- a. To remove set limits on additional salary or honoraria for S & T personnel; and
- b. To ease the process of accessing the benefits of S & T personnel in government entities other than the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) by allowing their respective heads of agency to facilitate the approval.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is requested.


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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Office of the Secretary

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

1 **SEC. 1.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8439 is hereby amended to read as follows:
2

3 "Section 6. *Salaries.* – The existing law on salary scale of government employees
4 shall not apply in determining the salary scale of science and technology
5 personnel as defined in Section 5 of this Act. A new salary scale shall be
6 developed by the Department in consultation with the Department of Budget and
7 Management and the Civil Service Commission, subject to the approval of the
8 President. **IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE NO SET LIMIT TO THE AMOUNT**
9 **OF ADDITIONAL SALARY OR HONORARIA THAT SCIENTISTS CAN RECEIVE**
10 **AS COMPENSATION FOR INTERNALLY OR EXTERNALLY FUNDED GRANTS-**
11 **IN-AID, PROVIDED THIS IS PART OF A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BUDGET**
12 **FROM THE FUNDING AGENCY AND DOES NOT ENTAIL ADDITIONAL USUAL**
13 **EXPENSE TO THE GOVERNMENT."**
14

15 **SEC 2.** Section 8 is also hereby amended to read as follows:
16

17 "Section 8. *Non-DOST S & T personnel.* – S & T personnel not employed by the
18 Department, who are involved in STA may avail of the benefits under this Act
19 upon certification of the [Secretary of the Department] **HEAD OF THE AGENCY**
20 **WHERE THEY ARE INVOLVED IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND/OR**
21 **OTHER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES."**
22

23 **SEC 3. Separability Clause.** – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
24 unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain valid and effective.
25

26 **SEC. 4. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions
27 thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby
28 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
29

30 **SEC. 5. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
31 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
32

33 Approved,