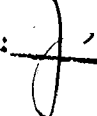




Senate
Office of the Secretary

'16 JUL 19 P4:47

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

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 563

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
TO ESTABLISH THE NATIONAL RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND
EXTENSION CENTER FOR PINEAPPLE, AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION
OF FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is among the top producers of pineapple fruit in the world. In 2004, fresh pineapples were mainly exported to Japan and South Korea while canned pineapples were mainly exported to USA (excluding Hawaii and Alaska). In 2004, 80 countries produced 13,705,091 of which Thailand was the leading producer with 15% share of the world's output, Philippines with 13% share.

Pineapple is extensively cultivated in the country. Large plantations on Mindanao mainly export the fruits while those on Luzon and in the Visayas supply the domestic markets. A total of 48,238 ha were planted to pineapple, producing 1.7M tonnes (2004). Major producing regions are Northern Mindanao, SOCCSKSARGEN (Southern Cotabato, Cotabato Province, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, General Santos City), Bicol and Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon).

Pineapple market is worldwide and highly competitive. Pineapple is the third most important tropical fruit next to banana and mango. However, in many countries, resources for pineapple research have notably declined in these most recent years possibly due to poorer earnings. Moreover, there is a gap between public research and private needs for pineapple development.

The legislation envisions the creation of a National Research, Development and Extension Center for Pineapple to bridge this gap, in as far as the Philippine pineapple industry is concerned. This center is tasked to undertake comprehensive research on the advancement of pineapple cultivation and post-harvest handling. Its powers and functions shall be in line with the research, development and extension programs of concerned government agencies which include the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and Central Mindanao University.

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


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator



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

1 **SECTION 1. *National Research, Development and Extension Center for Pineapple***
2 - The National Research, Development and Extension Center for Pineapple (hereinafter
3 referred to as NRDECP), which shall be based in the Central Mindanao University in Musuan,
4 Bukidnon, is hereby established.

5
6 **SEC. 2. *General Powers and Functions of the Center.*** - The Center shall have the
7 following general powers and functions in line with the research, development and extension
8 programs of the Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR),
9 Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),
10 National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and Central Mindanao University:

- 11
12 a) to educate and train all stakeholders of the pineapple industry;
13
14 b) to undertake basic and strategic research for developing technologies to enhance
15 productivity and utilization of pineapple;
16
17 c) to explore various approaches such as, but not limited to hybridization, utilization of
18 clonal variability and induced mutation in suckers, in vitro culture and hybrid seeds,
19 in developing new varieties in pineapple;
20
21 d) to provide leadership and coordinate the network research for generating location
22 varieties, technology and for solving specific constraints of pineapple production;
23
24 e) to standardize the management practices and to provide farm advisory services in all
25 aspects of pineapple production; and
26

- 1 f) to collaborate with relevant national and international agencies in achieving the above
2 objectives.
3

4 **SEC. 3. *Specific Powers and Functions of the Center.*** - The Center shall have the
5 specific powers and functions:
6

- 7 a) to develop productive, high yielding, good quality varieties of pineapple;
8
9 b) to develop efficient, economic and productive pineapple production technologies;
10
11 c) to develop effective and sound pineapple processing technologies for outstanding
12 varieties of pineapple;
13
14 d) to develop effective production systems for all pineapple varieties;
15
16 e) to establish and maintain germplasm collection and gene bank for pineapple;
17
18 f) to develop effective and efficient marketing systems for pineapple;
19
20 g) to evolve productive pineapple-based farming systems;
21
22 h) to develop and implement appropriate and suitable technology packages and effective
23 technology transfer schemes, especially the conduct of training programs;
24
25 i) to upgrade the skills of development facilitators, extensionists and farmers through
26 trainings, seminars and workshop on pineapple production and postharvest handling
27 and processing;
28
29 j) to establish national and international linkages for pineapple research, development,
30 extension and production activities; and
31
32 k) to coordinate with other government/non-government agencies involved in the
33 development of pineapple industry.
34

35 **SEC. 4. *Executive Director of the Center.*** - The Center shall be headed by an
36 Executive Director who shall be responsible for the planning, implementation, and
37 supervision of the Center's program of activities. The Executive Director:
38

- 39 a) must have completed substantial and relevant education and experience on pineapple
40 research and development; and
41
42 b) must be of good moral character and has not been involved in a legal case involving
43 moral turpitude.
44

1 All other officers and employees of the Center shall be appointed by the Executive
2 Director consistent with the provisions of the Civil Service laws, rules and regulations.
3

4 **SEC. 5. *Advisory Board.*** - The plans and programs of the Center shall be reviewed
5 annually by the Advisory Board which shall be composed of:
6

- 7 a) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman;
8
9 b) The University President of the Central Mindanao University as Vice Chairman;
10
11 c) The Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry as member;
12
13 d) One (1) representative from a non-governmental organization (NGO) working on
14 pineapple production, research and development and processing;
15
16 e) One (1) representative from the group of pineapple traders;
17
18 f) One (1) representative from the group of pineapple processors; and
19
20 g) One (1) representative from the group of pineapple growers.
21

22 **SEC. 6. *Quorum.*** - The presence of at least five (5) members at the time of the
23 meeting shall constitute the quorum. Provided, however, that the Chairman, in his absence,
24 the Vice Chairman shall preside.
25

26 **SEC. 7. *Authorization and Exemption.*** - The Center is hereby authorized to plan,
27 construct, develop, improve, acquire, or lease buildings, farms, fields and other facilities, to
28 purchase machineries, equipment, materials and supplies locally or abroad as may be
29 necessary to carry out its functions and objectives. Moreover, the Center shall enjoy
30 exemption from taxes and other duties in the importation of such machineries, development
31 and extension programs, subject to the provisions of Section 105(s) of the Tariff and Customs
32 Code, Section 103(f) of the National Internal Revenue Code and to the provisions on
33 Automatic Appropriations under the General Appropriations Act.
34

35 **SEC. 8. *Location of the Center.*** - The main offices, experimental area and nursery of
36 the Center shall be located at the Central Mindanao University in Musuan, Bukidnon. The
37 Center may hereafter establish similar facilities in its other service areas in order to promote
38 the development of the pineapple industry in the country.
39

40 **SEC. 9. *Appropriations.*** - To carry out the provisions of this Act, the amount of Two
41 million pesos (P2,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated from the funds of the National Treasury.
42 Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary to maintain the operations of the Board shall be
43 included in the General Appropriations Act.
44

1 **SEC. 10. *Revolving Funds.*** - Any and all savings and income of the Center shall
2 constitute a revolving fund which shall not be reverted to the General Fund and which shall
3 be used by the Center in the furtherance of its goals and objectives.
4

5 **SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - The Advisory Board shall jointly
6 promulgate rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.
7

8 **SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations
9 inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed
10 accordingly.
11

12 **SEC. 13. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
13 complete publication in the National Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
14 circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,