Third Regular Session

Control of the Province

SENATE

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18 OCT -9 P3:02

COMMITTEE REPORT No. 489

Submitted by the Committees on Cooperatives; Civil^{RE}Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Finance; and Ways and Means on

OCT - 9 2018

Re: Senate Bill No. 2063 Prepared by the Committees

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 305, 1341 and 1934

Sponsor: Senator Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri

Mr. President:

The Committees on Cooperatives; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Finance; and Ways and Means, to which were referred Senate Bill No. **305**, introduced by Senator Zubiri, *entitled*:

"AN ACT

REORGANIZING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY"

Senate Bill No. 1341, introduced by Senator Aquino IV, entitled:

"AN ACT

CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

and

Senate Bill No. 1934, introduced by Senator Angara, entitled:

"AN ACT

REFORMING AND STRENGTHENING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY APPROPRIATING AND FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached **Senate Bill** N2063 prepared by the Committees, entitled:

"AN ACT

STRENGTHENING AND REORGANIZING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 305, 1341 and 1934 with Senators Zubiri, Aquino IV and Angara as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons

SEN. JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" F. ZUBIRI Committee on Cooperatives

SEN. ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation Member, Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. SONNY ANGARA *Committee on Ways and Means Vice-Chairperson Committee on Finance C Member, Committee on Cooperatives*

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SEN. FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO

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SEN. PANFILO M. LACSON *Committee on Finance E Committee on Ways and Means*

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Committee on Cooperatives Member, Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Ways and Means Kay wellate {

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SEN WIN GATCHALIAN

Committee on Ways and Means

Committee on Ways and Means

Committee on Finance

Committee on Finance

SEN. GRACE POE

Committee on Finance Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

Committee on Finance Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" PANGILINAN

Committee on Finance Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. EMMANUEL "MANNY" D. PACQUIAO

Committee on Cooperatives Committee on Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation

SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

Ex-Officio Members:

Members:

SEN. RALPH G. RECTO

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SEN. JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" F. ZUBIRI

Majority Floor Leader

SEN. FRANKLIŇ M. DRILON Mingrity Floor Leader

HON. VICENTE SOTTO III

Senate President Senate of the Philippines Pasay City

Part in the

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SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Third Regular Session

SENATE

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s.b. no._2063

(In Substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 305, 1341 and 1934)⁻⁹ P3:02

Prepared by the Committees on Cooperatives; Civil Service, Government Reorganization and Professional Regulation; Finance; and Ways and Means with Senators Zubiri, Aquino IV and Angara as authors thereof

AN ACT

STRENGTHENING AND REORGANIZING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6939, CREATING THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Cooperative
 Development Authority Charter of 2018."

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the viability and growth of cooperatives as instruments of equity, social justice and economic development and to create an agency, in fulfilment of the mandate in Section 15, Article XII of the 1987 Constitution.

Toward this end, the State shall recognize cooperatives as associations 7 organized for the economic and social betterment of their members, operating 8 9 business enterprises based on mutual aid, and founded upon internationally accepted cooperative principles and practices. The State recognizes the Cooperative 10 Development Authority as primarily responsible for the institutional development and 11 regulation of cooperatives through partnership with the cooperative sectors. 12 Accordingly, the State recognizes the right of the cooperatives to initiate and foster 13 within their own ranks cooperative promotion, organization, training, information 14 gathering, audit and support services, with government assistance where necessary. 15

In furtherance of this policy, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and Department of Finance (DOF) shall include the promotion of growth and expansion of cooperatives as major and indispensable components of national development plans.

5 The government and all its branches, subdivisions, instrumentalities and 6 agencies shall ensure the provision of technical guidance, financial assistance and 7 other services to enable the cooperatives to develop into viable and responsive 8 economic enterprises towards a strong cooperative movement, free from condition 9 which infringes upon the objectives and character of cooperatives. The State shall, 10 except as provided in this Act, maintain the policy of non-interference in the 11 management and operation of cooperatives.

Sec. 3. Cooperative Development Authority. – The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) created under Republic Act No. 6939, hereinafter referred to as the Authority, is hereby strengthened and reorganized to carry out the provisions of this Act and those of Republic Act No. 9520, otherwise known as the "Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008".

The Authority shall have its national or head office in the National Capital Region (NCR), and shall maintain regional and provincial offices and in such places as the proper conduct of its business shall require. In the case of the NCR, the same shall be comprised of field district offices and shall maintain offices and branches in such other places as the proper conduct of its business shall require.

The Authority shall be an agency attached to the Office of the President for policy and program coordination.

Sec. 4. *Powers, Functions and Responsibilities.* - The Authority shall
 have the following powers and functions:

- a) Develop and formulate, in consultation with the cooperative sector and other
 concerned institutions, appropriate regulations, standards, rules, orders,
 guidelines and/or circulars to implement this Act and the Philippine
 Cooperative Code of 2008 to ensure the effective and sound operation of
 cooperatives;
- b) Formulate, adopt and implement integrated and comprehensive plans and
 programs on cooperative development consistent with the national policy on

- cooperatives and establish an integrated framework on cooperative
 development for all government agencies;
- c) Register all cooperatives including amendments to the Articles of Cooperation
 and By-Laws (ACBL), division, merger, and consolidation.
- 5 d) Authorize the establishment of branches and satellite offices of cooperatives;
- e) Issue Certificate of Recognition to organized Laboratory Cooperatives;
- 7 f) Exercise supervision and jurisdiction over all types and categories of
 8 cooperatives registered with the Authority;
- g) Require the submission of annual reports, audited financial statements, and
 such reports in compliance with the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, in
 such forms as may be prescribed by the Authority;
- h) Create an information system from the reports and other documents
 submitted by cooperatives;
- i) Collect existing accounts receivables from the transfer of funds from the
 Department of Agriculture (DA) under PD 175, as amended, and such other
 funds coursed through the Authority, or to otherwise enter into compromise
 agreements or the condonation of said accounts, subject to rules and
 regulations as may be prescribed by the Authority and the Commission on
 Audit (COA);
- j) Promulgate and issue guidelines on the specific use and utilization of
 statutory funds and obligations that will achieve the real intent and spirit of
 establishing such funds and obligations for the benefit of the cooperatives
 and communities they serve;
- k) Prescribe and collect reasonable fees, fines or charges in the performance of
 its registration and regulatory functions;
- Require the cooperatives to develop business continuity plans to address all
 kinds of risks;
- m) Grant awards, recognition and incentives to cooperatives, cooperative leaders
 and partners;
- n) Administer all grants and donations exclusively intended for cooperatives
 coursed through the Authority for cooperative development, without

prejudice to the right of cooperatives to directly receive and administer such
 grants and donations upon agreement with the grantors and donors thereof;

o) Conduct regular inspection or examination of a cooperative in accordance
 with the rules and regulations promulgated by the Authority and, when
 deemed necessary, conduct special inspection and investigation to protect
 the interest and welfare of the members of cooperatives and the general
 public.

8 For this purpose, the assistance of the cooperative federations and unions 9 may be requested by the Authority, in accordance with the Philippine 10 Cooperative Code of 2008 and the implementing rules and regulations 11 issued;

p) Conduct investigations, file necessary charges, discipline, suspend and/or
 remove erring officers and members for violation of cooperative laws, rules,
 regulations, issuance of the Authority, the ACBL, after due process, and
 direct the general assembly to replace the suspended/removed officers, in
 accordance with the rules and regulations as may be promulgated by the
 Authority;

q) Order the suspension or cancellation of the Certificate of Registration of
 cooperatives and/or the revocation of the Letter of Authority and/or
 Certificate of Authority to establish and operate satellite or branch offices,
 respectively, after due notice and hearing for non-compliance with lawful
 orders, rules and regulations of the Authority, including the ACBL of the
 cooperative subject to conditions as defined in the implementing rules and
 regulations of this Act;

- r) Order the dissolution and liquidation of cooperatives as well as the transfer of
 all or substantially all of their assets and liabilities;
- S) Compel the cooperative to call a general or representative assembly, as
 deemed necessary, under the supervision of the Authority with the
 participation of their respective cooperative federations and/or unions,
 subject to the criteria or conditions to be defined in the implementing rules
 and regulations issued for this purpose;

- t) Hear and decide inter and intra cooperative disputes;
- u) Adopt and implement a dispute resolution mechanism that will settle conflicts
 between and among members, officers, and directors of cooperatives, and
 between and among cooperatives in accordance with Article 137 of Republic
 Act 9520, the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, and Republic Act No.
 9285, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004;
- v) Issue cease and desist orders to cooperatives and responsible parties
 specified under Article 137 of RA 9520;
- 9 w) Issue subpoena and summon witnesses to appear and produce documents in
 any proceedings of the Authority and in appropriate cases, order the
 examination of all documents, papers, files and records of any cooperative or
 person under investigation as may be necessary for the proper disposition of
 cases before it;
- 14 x) Cite for contempt any person guilty of misconduct in the presence of the 15 Authority which seriously interrupts any hearing or inquiry and impose a fine 16 of not more than Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000.00) or imprisonment of not 17 more than ten (10) days, or both. Acts constituting indirect contempt as 18 defined under Rule 71 of the Rules of Court shall be punished in accordance 19 with the said Rule;
- y) Implement and enforce its decision with the assistance of deputized law
 enforcement agencies or the local government unit concerned as may be
 necessary;
- 23 Z) Recognize and register an apex organization or national alliance representing
 all types and categories of cooperatives which shall function as the overall
 consultative and coordinating body with the Authority, for this purpose, the
 pertinent provisions of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008 are hereby
 amended accordingly;
- aa) Establish a consultative mechanism consistent with Section 18 in order to
 provide the cooperative sector a system to ensure participation on matters
 concerning government plans, programs, and policies affecting cooperatives;
- 31 bb) Coordinate with the provincial, city, or municipal cooperative offices the 32 adoption and implementation of national plans, programs and policies on

cooperative development, and to establish partnership in the promotion,
 organization, and development of cooperatives within the jurisdiction of the
 local government units;

- 4 cc) Establish the formation and organization of cooperative development councils
 5 in the national, regional, provincial, city and municipal levels in order to
 6 provide the cooperative movement a system for policy consultation and
 7 program coordination in accordance with the guidelines to be prescribed by
 8 the Authority;
- 9 dd) Collaborate with concerned agencies to provide technical, professional and 10 marketing assistance to ensure the viability, growth, competitiveness and 11 innovativeness of cooperatives, giving special concern for agriculture, fishery 12 and the economically depressed sectors;
- Provide assistance on cooperative product development and facilitate their
 marketing both in the domestic and international market in coordination with
 the concerned agencies;
- 16 ff) Represent the CDA in the sectoral and Regional Development Council (RDC)
 17 as a regular voting member thereof;
- 18 gg) Establish linkages with educational institutions;
- hh) Formulate, adopt and implement an educational and technological exchange
 program both in domestic or international levels;
- ii) Formulate, adopt and implement, in a manner consistent with Sec. 17 of this
 Act, a standard of training for cooperative officers or members which shall
 focus on basic cooperative principles and values, good governance, business
 and entrepreneurial management, human resource management, risk
 management, conflict management, and technical skills required for the
 efficient and effective operations of the cooperatives;
- 27 jj) Establish and maintain a continuing educational and capability-building
 28 program for the Authority; and
- kk) Exercise such other powers and functions as may be necessary to implement
 the provisions of this Act and of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008.
- 31 Sec. 5. *Members of the Board.* The Authority shall have a Board, which 32 shall be the collegial policy-making body of the Authority. It shall be composed of

the Chairperson, and six (6) members of the Board, all of whom shall be appointed by the President, chosen from among the nominees of the cooperative unions, and federations, with one director from each of the following representing a cluster of cooperatives:

5 a) Credit and financial services, banking and insurance

6 b) Consumers, marketing, producers, and logistics

7 c) Human services: health, housing, workers, and labor service

8 d) Education and advocacy

9 e) Agriculture, agrarian and aquatics: farmers, dairy, and fisherfolk

10 f) Public utilities: electricity, water, communications, and transport

11 The Secretary of DOF and President of the League of Cooperative 12 Development Officers of the Philippines (LCDOP) shall serve as ex-officio members 13 of the Board. The ex-officio members shall have the same voting rights as that of 14 the regular members of the Board. The ex-officio members shall not receive 15 additional remuneration except *per diem* on Board meetings actually attended.

The Chairperson of the Board shall have the rank and privileges of an Undersecretary, while the members shall have the ranks and privileges of an Assistant Secretary.

The Secretary of DOF as an ex-officio member of the Board may designate an alternate in a permanent capacity who shall be at least Assistant Secretary in rank and whose acts shall be considered as the acts of the principal.

There shall be at least one lawyer member of the Board, as well as women from the cooperative sector shall be represented in the Board.

Sec. 6. *Powers and Functions of the Board.* – The Board as a collegial body shall be responsible for policy formulation, strategic planning and direction setting of the agency.

a) Formulate policies, rules and regulations consistent with the provisions of
 the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008 and this Act;

b) Adopt implementing rules and regulations for the conduct of the internal
 operations of the Authority;

31 c) Organize the operating structure and functions of the Authority;

- 1 d) Approve and adopt the annual budget of the Authority;
- e) Provide executive direction to the Authority, delineating the respective roles
 of the governments, local government units (LGUs), people's organizations,
 private sector and non-government organizations (NGOs) in the promotion
 and development of the cooperative sector;
- f) Approve annual, medium-term and long-term cooperative development plans
 of the Authority consistent with the over-all socio-economic development
 policy of the national government;
- g) Conduct regular policy consultations with the cooperative sector, government
 agencies, LGUs, people's organizations, private sector, NGOS, and other
 stakeholders on the Authority's policies, programs and initiatives;
- h) Decide cases involving cooperatives that are submitted to the Board forresolution;
- i) Authorize the Chairperson or the Administrator to enter into contracts or
 agreements in behalf of the Authority;
- j) Adopt and submit the annual proposed budget of the Authority to the
 President through the Department of Budget and Management (DBM); and
- 18 k) Formulate rules and regulations and exercise such other powers as may be
 19 required to implement the objectives of this Act.

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Sec. 7. Qualifications of the Chairperson and the Members of the

Board. – The Chairperson and the Members of the Board must possess the
 following qualifications:

23 a) Natural-born Filipino citizen;

- 24 b) Holder of any bachelor's degree;
- c) With five (5) years of experience as an officer of a cooperative in the cluster

26 that he or she represents; and

27 d) Shall be residents of the Philippines for at least five (5) years prior to
 28 appointment.

Any person appointed as Chairperson or Member of the Board shall, upon appointment, divest himself or herself of any direct or indirect pecuniary interest or dealings with any cooperative.

Sec 8. Term of Office. – The Chairperson and Members of the Board shall
 serve for a term of six years.

Sec 9. *Removal from Office.* - The Chairperson and the Members of the
 Board may be removed from office for cause.

5 The person appointed for the unexpired term shall be eligible for 6 reappointment provided the unexpired term is less than one-half of the full term.

Sec. 10. *Meetings of the Board.* – The Board shall meet at least once a month for the transaction of its regular business. Under exceptional circumstances, special meetings may be called by the Chairperson or majority of the Members to discuss and decide urgent matters. A majority vote by the entire Board shall be required for a decision. The Chairperson shall only vote in case of a tie.

The meeting shall be presided by the Chairperson. However, in the absence of the Chairperson, the most senior Member of the Board in terms of appointment shall serve as the Acting Presiding Officer, or in his absence the Board shall elect from among themselves an Acting Presiding Officer.

All regular and special meetings of the Board shall be held at the head office of the Authority or in any other place as may be determined by the Board.

Sec. 11. *Office of the Administrator.* – The Administrator of the Authority shall be the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and shall be appointed by the President from among the recommendees of the Board, and shall have the rank of Assistant Secretary. The Administrator who shall be a career officer, shall execute and administer the policies, decisions, orders and resolutions approved by the Board and shall have the general executive direction and supervision of the work and operation of the Authority.

The Administrator shall be assisted by four (4) Deputy Administrators who will be assigned to the following specific concerns:

27 a) Support Services;

28 b) Institutional Development;

29 c) Legal affairs & Registration; and

30 d) Supervision, Examination and Field Operations

Sec. 12. *Qualifications of the Administrator*. – The Administrator must
 possess the following qualifications:

- 1 a) Natural-born Filipino citizen;
- 2 b) Holder of any bachelor's degree;

3 c) Must possess the necessary Civil Service Eligibility; and

d) With five (5) years of experience as an officer of a cooperative or official or
 employee in a government office or non-governmental organization dealing
 with cooperatives.

Any person appointed as Administrator shall, upon appointment, divest himself or herself of any direct or indirect pecuniary interest or dealings with any cooperative.

10 Sec. 13. *Powers and Functions of the Administrator.* - The 11 Administrator of the Authority shall have the following powers and functions:

- a) Prepare, consolidate and submit periodic reports for the consideration of the
 Board;
- b) Implement a human resource management system in accordance to existing
 Civil Service laws, rules and regulations that will promote professionalism and
 excellence in accordance with sound principles of management;
- 17 c) Prepare the proposed annual and supplemental budget of the Authority for
 18 the consideration and approval of the Board;
- d) Submit report to the President of the Philippines and Congress on the
 performance and accomplishment of the Authority on an annual basis;
- e) Perform such other functions as may be required by law.

Sec. 14. *Registration for Tax Exemption.* – The Authority shall furnish the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), LGUs which include provincial, highly urbanized and independent cities, and other concerned agencies a certified list of duly registered cooperatives for purposes of tax exemptions.

Any public official or employee who violates or in any manner circumvents this provision shall be dealt with in accordance with Article 140 of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008.

Sec. 15. *Prohibition.* – Except as provided for under Article 130 of the
 Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, the use by any person or organization of the

word "cooperative", "coop" and "koop" in their business name, unless duly
registered with the Authority, shall be prohibited and shall be penalized under Article
140 of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008.

Sec. 16. Settlement of Disputes. – As far as practicable, disputes between
and among members, officers, and directors of cooperatives, and between and
among cooperatives shall be settled in accordance with Article 137 of Republic Act
9520, the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, and Republic Act No. 9285, The
Alternative Dispute Resolution Act of 2004, and Section 4 (u) of this Act.

Sec. 17. Training Standards for Cooperative Officers and Members. –
 The Authority, in partnership with learning and training institutions with the
 cooperative sector, shall formulate standards of training requirements for
 cooperative officers and members to ensure compliance thereof.

The Authority may accredit organizations other than cooperatives but duly registered under Philippine laws and engaged in cooperative promotion, organization, research and education, as non-academic training institutions.

¹⁶ Upon request of cooperatives, State colleges and universities (SUCs) shall ¹⁷ provide technical assistance and guidance to cooperatives in the communities where ¹⁸ they are located. The SUCs may tap the support and participation of unions and ¹⁹ federations of cooperatives in the implementation of this provision.

Sec. 18. Partnership with the Cooperative Sector. A strong partnership between the Authority and the cooperative sector comprised of cooperative unions and federations and the academe shall be established in implementing the developmental functions of the authority as stated herein Section 4, paragraphs (a), (b), (aa), (bb), (cc), (dd), (ee) and (ii), and Section 17 to ensure the maximum participation of the cooperative sector on matters of government plans, projects and policies affecting cooperatives.

The Authority and the cooperative unions and federations and the academe shall promulgate guidelines for the implementation of the partnership that may give rise to the recognition of an apex organization or national alliance representing all types and categories of cooperatives, as provided for under Section 4 (z) of this Act, that shall function as overall consultative and coordinating body with the Authority.

1 The Authority shall recognize cooperative unions and federations registered 2 under Articles 24 and 25 of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, and issue 3 guidelines to promote and develop these secondary cooperatives.

Sec. 19. Cooperatives in the Education System. – The history,
philosophy, concepts, values, principles and practices of cooperatives and their role
in nation building, shall be part of the curriculum of both in formal and non-formal
education.

8 Notwithstanding existing laws, memorandum orders and directives, 9 cooperativism as a tool for self-empowerment and nation building shall be included 10 in the curricula of senior students in all the secondary educational institutions and in 11 the syllabus of any social and civic studies subject in the K-12 level.

Cooperatives development and administration may be offered as a field of 12 study in the baccalaureate, post baccalaureate and masteral programs in SUCs: 13 Provided, That SUCs may also offer the courses on a non-traditional approach under 14 the equivalency program of such SUCs accrediting the equivalent training that an 15 officer has undertaken to the relevant subject offering in the curriculum: Provided, 16 further, that in cases where the SUCs do not offer a separate academic program in 17 cooperative development and administration, the SUCs shall include a 3-unit subject 18 in the curricula of accountancy, agribusiness, agriculture, agricultural economics, 19 business, community development, economics, education, environmental sciences, 20 social sciences, political economy and other curricula that can be instrumental in the 21 development of cooperatives. 22

Sec. 20. *Cooperatives in the Agriculture Sector.* – The promotion and development of agricultural cooperatives, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and its attached agencies and government-owned and controlled corporation (GOCCs), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP) shall be a priority program of the Authority to ensure food security and reduce rural poverty.

Sec. 21. *Cooperatives in the Banking System.* - The promotion and development of cooperative banks, as part of the banking system and of financial service cooperatives as defined in the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008, shall be a special concern of the Authority which shall undertake the necessary program

towards this end in collaboration with the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP) and the
 cooperative sector concerned.

Sec. 22. Cooperatives Engaged in Services Covered by Other Laws. –
 Registered cooperatives shall secure the necessary licenses, franchises, certificate of
 authority and permits from other appropriate agencies with jurisdiction over their
 activities, if required by other existing laws, rules and regulations.

Sec. 23. *Reorganization of the Authority.* - The Authority shall be
 reorganized within one hundred twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act.

9 Sec. 24. *Transitory Provisions.* – Upon the effectivity of this Act, the 10 personnel of the Authority shall, unless removed for cause and after due process, 11 continue to perform their duties and responsibilities without diminution of their rank, 12 salaries and other emoluments.

The CDA created under Republic Act No. 6939 is hereby reorganized and its employees are hereby absorbed in accordance with its staffing pattern, subject to Civil Service Commission (CSC) laws, rules and regulations and DBM rules and regulations: Provided, finally, that those who opt to retire or to separate from office voluntarily shall be given separation pay computed based on DBM guidelines and regulations.

The incumbent Chairperson and Administrators shall continue to serve and act as Chairperson and Members of the Board until the new composition of the Board shall have been appointed.

All assets and liabilities of the current CDA as well as the unexpended appropriations shall be transferred to the reorganized CDA.

Sec. 25. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation
 of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 26. *The Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on Cooperatives (JCOCC).* - The Joint Congressional Oversight Committee created under Article 138 of the Philippine Cooperative Code of 2008 shall review and monitor the implementation of this Act.

30 Sec. 27. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Board shall, in 31 consultation with the cooperative sector and other concerned government agencies, 32 formulate the implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days upon the

effectivity of this Act. The implementing Rules and regulations shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation. All subsequent amendments to the implementing rules and regulations shall also be published before taking effect.

Sec. 28. Information Campaign. - The Authority is mandated to conduct a
 massive information campaign on the provisions of this Act.

Sec 29. *Repealing Clause.* - Republic Act No. 6939, creating the
 Cooperative Development Authority, is hereby repealed. All other laws, decrees,
 executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the
 provisions of this Act are hereby amended or modified accordingly.

11 Sec. 30. *Separability Clause* - If for any cause, any part of this Act is 12 declared unconstitutional, the rest of the provisions shall remain in full force and 13 effect.

Sec. 31. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

17 Approved,