

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

SENATE

S. No. 887



*19 AUG 13 A9:20

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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AN ACT

UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICER INTO THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine economy has experienced tremendous growth in the past years. Unfortunately, this growth is yet to be enjoyed by all Filipinos, particularly the poor and those living in the rural areas.

Basic technology we often take for granted, such as electricity, water and waste management, or access to the Internet, is still significantly lacking in rural areas. There is no doubt of the pressing need for technology transfer to these regions. We must equip Filipinos nationwide with the appropriate skills and technical innovations that can aid in the development of their locale. Let us use the power of science and technology to uplift the lives of our countrymen.

This bill seeks the improvement of the provincial centers of Science and Technology, which is responsible for the development and transfer of technologies to agriculturists, local businesses, and educators in rural areas. By promoting the Provincial Science and Technology Officer to a Provincial Science and Technology Director (PSTD), we are bringing the necessary resources and manpower to regional science and technology centers so that they may empower local communities with

technology. The PSTD would also be responsible for spearheading the policy direction and program formulation toward the advancement of science and technology in their respective province. The end goal is to enhance the living standards of, and create sustainable sources of livelihood for more and more Filipino families.

In view of this foregoing, immediate enactment of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Provincial Science and
2 Technology Directors Act.”

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to fast track the
4 transfer of relevant and appropriate technologies and services to the rural areas
5 particularly in the enhancement and development of technology-based livelihood
6 enterprises in the countryside.

7 Pursuant to this policy, the Provincial Centers of the Department of Science and
8 Technology which are the principal instruments of technology transfer and
9 development of technology-based enterprises of the government in the rural areas
10 are upgraded through this Act.

11 Sec. 3. *Provincial S&T Directors.* – The position of the Office of the Provincial
12 Science and Technology Officers headed by a Senior Science Research Specialist shall
13 be upgraded to the rank of Provincial Science and Technology Directors in each
14 province under the Department of Science and Technology with a Salary Grade of
15 twenty-six (26). The Provincial Science and Technology Director shall have the
16 following duties and responsibilities:

- 1 a) Formulate the Provincial S&T plan, programs, and projects designed to
- 2 promote science ad consciousness among the people in the province;
- 3 b) Implement and monitor the technology promotion and commercialization
- 4 projects under the Small and Medium Enterprise Technology Upgrading
- 5 Program (SMETUP) of the DOST in the provinces;
- 6 c) Promote the adoption of the appropriate technologies by micro, small and
- 7 medium enterprises (MSMes) to improve operational efficiency and increase
- 8 productivity and to harness the results of scientific researchers and
- 9 innovations to produce new and competitive products;
- 10 d) Disseminate S&T related information and R&D results through the conduct
- 11 of trainings;
- 12 e) Maintain effective liaison with the public and private academic institutions
- 13 and other government agencies engaged in scientific and technological
- 14 research, education and training;
- 15 f) Coordinate with LGUs and academic institutions for the promotion of
- 16 scholarship programs aimed to attract the science oriented students to
- 17 pursue basic and applied sciences in order to broaden the S&T manpower-
- 18 base in the province;
- 19 g) Coordinate with the public and private organizations in the implementation
- 20 of manpower and institutional development programs in the province
- 21 h) Act as focal person for the inter-agency meetings, conferences, and other
- 22 coordinative activities in the province;
- 23 i) Responsible for the over-all supervision of services and operations of the
- 24 PSTC;
- 25 j) Ensure that the quality management system is properly implemented and
- 26 maintained in accordance with ISO 9001-2008 standard in all aspects of
- 27 operations of the PSTC; and
- 28 k) Perform other related functions as may be assigned by higher authorities
- 29 from time to time.

30 *Sec. 4. Qualifications of the Provincial S&T Director.* – The DOST in consultation
31 with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and Civil Service Commission
32 (CSC) shall formulate the necessary qualification standards commensurate to the

1 upgraded position of the Provincial Science and Technology Director at Salary Grade
2 twenty-six (26). The current PSTO holding the position for more than 20 years, shall
3 have preference in the selection for Provincial Science and Technology Director
4 position.

5 *Sec. 5. Remuneration and other Benefits of the Provincial Director.* – The
6 remuneration of the Provincial Science and Technology Director shall be equivalent to
7 that of the same Salary Grade twenty-six (26) in the government service and shall be
8 entitled to reimbursable representation and transportation allowance commensurate
9 to his office and other benefits as prescribed by law.

10 *Sec. 6. Staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office.* — There shall be
11 a minimum of six (6) technical staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office in
12 addition to the Provincial Director and in addition of one non-technical officer. The
13 DOST shall determine the level of these positions, provided that prescribed
14 qualifications shall be in accordance with Civil Service laws and regulations.

15 *Sec. 7. Appropriations.* —The funds necessary for the continuous and effective
16 operation of the various offices established under this Act shall be included in the
17 appropriations of the Department of Science and Technology in the annual General
18 Appropriations Act.

19 All fees and charges collected as a result of S&T services rendered by the PSTOs
20 such as, but not limited to, metrological work and calibration services shall be used by
21 the PSTOs in the enhancement of their capabilities and in the maintenance of their
22 equipment and facilities.

23 *Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* — Within sixty (60) days from the
24 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Science and Technology, and other relevant
25 government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the
26 effective implementation of this Act.

27 *Sec. 9. Separability Clause.* — Should any provision herein be declared
28 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this
29 Act.

30 *Sec. 10. Repealing Clause.* — This Act repeals or modifies accordingly pertinent
31 provisions of Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Republic Act No. 6959 and any law, decree, order,
32 rule, and regulation, executive order, proclamation, or other issuances or parts

1 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
2 accordingly.

3 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
4 publication in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation
5 in the Philippines.

6

7 *Approved,*