

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

20 FEB 12 P 4:18

**SENATE**

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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 47**

Submitted Jointly by the Committee on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform; Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Committee on Finance; and Committee on Ways and Means on \_\_\_\_\_.

Re: Senate Bill No. 1342 (Prepared by the Committees)

Recommending its approval in substitution of S. Nos. 147, 257, 280, 587 and 1264

Sponsor: Senator Cynthia A. Villar

**Mr. President:**

The Committee on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform and the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Finance; and Ways and Means to which were referred Senate Bill No. 147, introduced by Senator Villar and Sen. Binay, entitled:

"AN ACT  
MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL  
GARDENS IN ALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS,  
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, MAKING IT A REQUIREMENT FOR THE  
CREATION AND ISSUANCE OF PERMITS FOR SCHOOLS AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 257, introduced by Sen. Pangilinan, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROMOTING THE USE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE AND VERTICAL FARMING IN THE COUNTRY'S METROPOLITAN AREAS TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS AND REGENERATE ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 280, introduced by Sen. Lapid, entitled:

"AN ACT  
TO PROMOTE URBAN AGRICULTURE AND VERTICAL FARMING IN THE COUNTRY'S METROPOLITAN AREAS TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS AND REGENERATE ECOSYSTEM FUNCTIONS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

Senate Bill No. 587, introduced by Sen. Poe, entitled:

"AN ACT  
PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN FARMING TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS AND LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURPOSE"

Senate Bill No. 1264, introduced by Sen. Revilla, entitled:

"AN ACT  
PROMOTING INTEGRATED URBAN AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ALL METROPOLITAN AREAS NATIONWIDE TO ADDRESS FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, S. No. 1342, prepared by the Committees, entitled:

**AN ACT  
ADDRESSING FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS THROUGH INTEGRATING INSTRUCTIONAL GARDENS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULA AND PROMOTING THE USE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

be approved in substitution of S. Nos. 147, 257, 280, 587, and 1264 with Senators Cynthia A. Villar, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan, Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid, Grace L. Poe, and Ramon Bong Revilla Jr. as authors thereof.

*RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:*

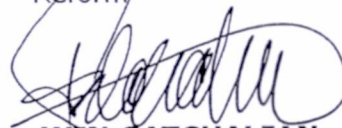


**SONNY ANGARA**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Finance*



**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform*

**PIA S. CAYETANO**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Ways and Means*



**WIN GATCHALIAN**  
*Chairperson, Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture*

Members

**PANFILO M. LACSON**

**RICHARD J. GORDON**



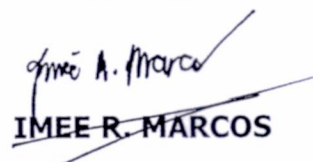
**JOEL VILLANUEVA**

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**MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID**

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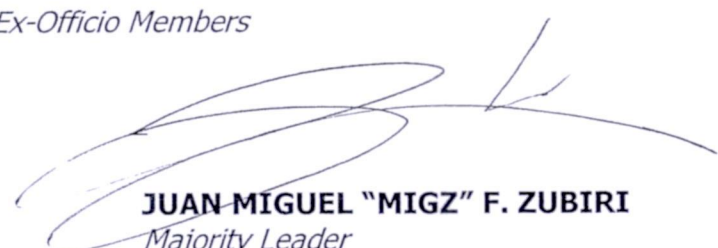


**FRANCIS "KITKO" PANGILINAN**

*Ex-Officio Members*



**RALPH G. RECTO**  
*President Pro-tempore*



**JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" F. ZUBIRI**  
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**FRANKLIN M. DRILON**  
*Minority Leader*

**HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III**  
*President*  
Senate of the Philippines



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**SENATE**

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**Senate Bill No. 1342**

**(In substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 147, 257, 280, 587, and 1264)**

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Prepared by the Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform; Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Finance; and Ways and Means with Senators Cynthia A. Villar, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan, Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid, Grace L. Poe, and Ramon Bong Revilla Jr. as authors thereof

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**AN ACT**

**ADDRESSING FOOD SECURITY CONCERNS THROUGH INTEGRATING INSTRUCTIONAL GARDENS IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRICULA AND PROMOTING THE USE OF URBAN AGRICULTURE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 "Instructional  
2 Gardens and Urban Agriculture Act of 2020."

3

4       **SEC. 2.** *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to  
5 promote food security, food quality, improved health, fight hunger and  
6 malnutrition, poverty alleviation, improved quality of environment through  
7 greening, reduction in pollution, and creation of savings in household  
8 expenditures. Towards this end, key reforms for the development of  
9 appropriate, cost-effective, and environmentally safe agricultural practices are

1 hereby encouraged in order to ensure the food security of the country.

2

3 **SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.***- For purposes of this Act, the following  
4 terms shall be defined as follows:

5

- 6 a) *Instructional Gardens* refer to a program of instruction in all elementary  
7 and secondary schools, where knowledge and skills, not only in urban  
8 agriculture and vertical farming, but in agricultural food production in  
9 general, are imparted to school children through relevant theories and  
10 actual engagement in agricultural cultivation/production. The theories  
11 and actual production shall revolve around the concepts of composting,  
12 waste management techniques, healthy and nutritious farm produce,  
13 sustainable farm practices, among others.
- 14 b) *Urban Agriculture* refers to the practice of cultivating, processing and  
15 distributing of food in or around a village, town or city. Urban agriculture  
16 also involves animal husbandry, aquaculture, agro-forestry and  
17 horticulture.
- 18 c) *Vertical Farming* refers to the method of farming that is brought to the  
19 urban space by employing the concepts of indoor agriculture in sky  
20 scrapers and other modern buildings.

21

22 **SEC. 4. *Promotion of and Comprehensive Research on Urban***  
23 *Agriculture and Vertical Farming.* – For purposes of this Act, the  
24 respective Secretaries of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the  
25 Department of Science and Technology (DOST) are hereby mandated to  
26 promote the use of urban agriculture and vertical farming in the  
27 country's urban areas and in other areas in the country where such  
28 farming methods are suited, as an intervention mechanism for further  
29 addressing food security concerns of the country.

30

31 Idle and/or abandoned government lots and buildings owned by  
32 either the national government or local governments or available land

1 resources in state universities and colleges shall be considered for  
2 growing crops, raising livestock, and producing food using the said  
3 methods.

4  
5 **SEC. 5. *Institutionalization of Instructional Gardens in School***  
6 *Curricula.*- Instructional Gardens program shall be integrated in the  
7 academic curricula for elementary and secondary level students of both  
8 public and private academic institutions, particularly in subjects in  
9 Agriculture, Practical Arts, Home Economics, and/or other related  
10 subjects.

11 The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the  
12 Department of Agriculture, shall promulgate the necessary rules and  
13 regulations for the implementation of this Section within six (6) months  
14 from the effectivity of this Act.

15  
16 **SEC. 6. *Local Government Units' Participation.*** – Local  
17 government units shall formulate a policy on the practice of urban  
18 agriculture and vertical farming, utilizing unused spaces and idle lands.  
19 This shall require the enactment of local legislation institutionalizing  
20 urban agriculture in all levels of the LGU. Local government units shall  
21 also grant necessary incentives to their constituents who actively  
22 participate in urban farming activities.

23  
24 **SEC. 7. *Tax Incentives.*** – All allocations of grants, endowments,  
25 donations, or contributions and technical assistance provided by private  
26 individuals or corporations to schools for the promotion and  
27 implementation of Institutional Gardens in the school curricula, as  
28 certified by the Department of Education (DepEd), shall be exempt from  
29 taxes and duties.

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31 **SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).*** – Within six  
32 (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agriculture

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and the Department of Science and Technology shall promulgate the necessary IRR to implement the provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 9. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included and incorporated in the annual general appropriations of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Science and Technology, and the Department of Education.

**SEC. 10. Separability Clause.**- If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 11. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 12. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

*Approved,*