

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES**

First Regular Session



**Senate**  
Office of the Secretary

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**SENATE**  
**S.B. NO. 1350**

RECEIVED BY

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Executive Order No. 128 series of 1987 established the Department of Science and Technology as the premier science and technology agency in the country charged with the mandate of providing central direction, leadership, and coordination of all science and technology activities in the country and formulating science and technology policies, programs, and projects in support to the national development.

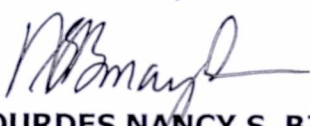
In order to accelerate the application and transfer of benefits of modern science and technology to the people, the Provincial Science and Technology Center (PSTC) was created under Republic Act No. 6595, as an arm of the DOST in disseminating transfer technologies and provide technological support services for the development of small and medium enterprises in the rural areas. For almost three (3) decades, the PSTCs has been supervised by a rank and file employee with a rank of Senior Science Specialist with Salary Grade (SG) 19 and supported by two (2) – three (3) plantilla staff.

Nonetheless, despite the lack of necessary resources, the PSTCs were able to deliver Science and Technology (S&T) services in their respective jurisdictions empowering and capacitating local communities with technology and by providing them with the appropriate skills and technical innovations that can aid in the development of communities.

Unfortunately, the DOST is lagging behind from other National Government Agencies (NGAs) in terms of the human resources complement of their respective provincial offices, which in said NGAs are headed by a Provincial Director at SG 26. While the DOST recognized the impact of RA 6959 had in the rural areas, they believe that it is high time that said law be amended in order to strengthen the existing PSTCs by converting these into Provincial S&T Offices per Civil Service Commission/Department of Budget and Management Index of Occupational Services (IOS), thereby enable them to empower more local communities through a more efficient delivery of Science and Technology Innovation.

This bill seeks to improve and strengthen the PSTCs in order that their mandate of providing S&T Innovations in the rural areas will create more sustainable sources of livelihood to more Filipino Families.

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

  
**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**  
Senator

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**AN ACT**  
**UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND**  
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**THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AMENDING**  
**REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE AND**  
**FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Title.* — This Act shall be known as the "Provincial Science and  
2 Technology Officers Act".

3

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

8

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



1

2   **SEC. 3. *Provincial Science and Technology Officers.*** — The position of the Office  
3 of the Provincial Science and Technology Officers (PSTOs) headed by a Senior  
4 Science Research Specialist shall be upgraded to the rank of Provincial Science  
5 and Technology Directors in each province under the DOST with a Salary Grade  
6 of twenty-six (26). The Provincial Science and Technology Director shall have the  
7 following duties and responsibilities:

8

9       (a) Formulate the Provincial S&T plan, programs, and projects designed to  
10       promote science and consciousness among the people in the province;

11       (b) Implement and monitor the technology promotion and commercialization  
12       projects under the Small and Medium Enterprise Technology Upgrading  
13       Program (SETUP) of the DOST in the provinces;

14       (c) Promote the adoption of the appropriate technologies by micro, small and  
15       medium enterprises (MSMEs) to improve operational efficiency and  
16       increase productivity and to harness the results of scientific researchers  
17       and innovations to produce new and competitive products;

18       (d) Disseminate S&T related information and Research and Development  
19       (R&D) results through the conduct of trainings;

20       (e) Maintain effective liaison with the public and private academic institutions  
21       and other government agencies engaged in scientific and technological  
22       research, education, and training:

- 1 (f) Coordinate with local government units and academic institutions for the  
2 promotion of scholarship programs aimed to attract the science oriented  
3 students to pursue basic and applied sciences in order to broaden the S&T  
4 manpower-base in the province;
- 5 (g) Coordinate with the public and private organizations in the implementation  
6 of manpower and institutional development programs in the province:
- 7 (h) Act as focal person for the inter-agency meetings, conferences, and other  
8 coordinative activities in the province; Responsible for the over-all  
9 supervision of services and operations of the Provincial Science and  
10 Technology Center (PSTC);
- 11 (i) Ensure that the quality management system is properly implemented and  
12 maintained in accordance with ISO 9001-2008 standard in all aspects of  
13 operations of the PSTC; and
- 14 (j) Perform other related functions as may be assigned by higher authorities  
15 from time to time.

16

17 SEC. 4. Qualifications of the Provincial Science and Technology Director. — The  
18 DOST in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management and Civil  
19 Service Commission shall formulate the necessary qualification standards  
20 commensurate to the upgraded position of the Provincial Science and  
21 Technology Director at Salary Grade twenty-six (26). The current PSTO holding

the position for more than twenty (20) years. shall have preference in the selection for Provincial Science and Technology Director position.

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

**SEC. 6.** *Staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office.* — There shall be a minimum of six (6) technical staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office in addition to the Provincial Science and Technology Director and in addition of one non-technical officer. The DOST shall determine the level of these positions: Provided, That prescribed qualifications shall be in accordance with civil service laws and regulations.

**SEC 7.** *Appropriations.* — The funds necessary for the continuous and effective operation of the various offices established under this Act shall be included in the appropriations of the DOST in the annual General Appropriations Act.



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

5  
6 **SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** — Within sixty (60) days from the  
7 effectivity of this Act. The DOST, and other relevant government agencies, shall  
8 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation  
9 of this Act.

10  
11 **Sec. 10. *Separability Clause.*** — Should any provision herein be declared  
12 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of  
13 this Act.

14  
15 **Sec. 11. *Repealing Clause.*** — This Act repeals or modifies accordingly pertinent  
16 provisions of Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Republic Act No. 6959 and any law, decree,  
17 order, rule, and regulation, executive order, proclamation, or other issuances or  
18 parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
19 accordingly.

20  
21 **Sec. 12. *Effectivity.*** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
22 publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

23  
Approved,