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

7 JUN 30 P2:40

SENATE

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S.B. No. 153

Introduced by Senator JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

There is a need for the government to push for programs maximizing productivity in the countryside and making the Filipino farmers self-reliant through backyard animal raising that complements their regular farm production.

It is common to see Filipinos raise cattle, swine, poultry and other animals, but very few are seen raising goats and sheep, even though this is a very promising alternative source of milk, meat and fiber.

There is a need for government initiative to conserve, improve and develop the Philippine goat and sheep to enable the farmers, especially the smallholder farmers, to avail themselves of good quality goats and sheep stock at all times and at reasonable prices through an organized program of breeding and development.

By encouraging backyard goat and sheep development in the rural areas, we can drastically reduce the importation of milk and milk products while ensuring a steady source of food and additional income for our farmers.

Thus, the need for the establishment of the Philippines Goat and Sheep Center at the Central Luzon State University in the Science City of Munoz, Nueva Ecija, and possibly in other strategic areas of the country has become imperative.

Passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE GOAT AND SHEEP CENTER

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

SECTION 1. Short Title - This Act shall be known as the *Philippine Goat and Sheep Act of 2007*.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

- a. Conserve, improve and develop the Philippine goat and sheep as sources of animal milk, meat and fiber;
- b. Enable the farmers, particularly smallholder farmers, to avail themselves of good quality goat and sheep stocks at all times and at reasonable prices through an organized program of breeding and development;
- c. Increase the local supply of meat, milk and fiber from goats and sheep; and
- d. Encourage backyard goat and sheep development in rural areas by raising goat and sheep which are good milk and meat producers so as to reduce importation of milk and milk by-products.

SEC.3. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean as follows:

- a. *Philippine Goat and Sheep Center* - refers to the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center in the Central Luzon State University, the other goat and sheep centers in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, and those that will be created pursuant to this Act;
- b. *Crossbred* - refers to the offspring of two (2) purebred animals;
- c. *Performance Testing* - refers to the systematic selection of the best animal from a population raised under the same environment. The basic consideration is its genetic potential;
- d. *Research Network* - refers to the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD), Department of Agriculture and private organization conducting researches

geared towards developing technology that will increase productivity of smallholder farmers;

- e. *Smallholder Farmers* - are basically farmers owning below twenty (20) heads of goats or sheep;
- f. *Upgraded* - refers to the offspring of a cross between a native stock and an exotic breed of animal.

SEC. 4. Scope. - The activities of the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center encompass all research and development efforts in all disciplines that lead to the improvement of the over-all productivity of the Philippine goat and sheep. In addition, research efforts to increase the annual population growth rate of small ruminants to meet existing and future demand shall be pursued;

SEC. 5. Priorities. - Research and development efforts in the areas of biotechnology, breeding, nutrition, reproduction, animal health and product development utilization, socio-economics, technology promotion and environmental impact shall take priority. Research activities geared towards development of appropriate technologies shall be the primary concern. These technologies are those that would increase productivity of the goat and sheep in a cost effective, simple and practical manner. Socio-economic researches shall be undertaken hand in hand with the development of the technologies to ensure economic appropriateness and acceptance of the technology by farmers. Development of goat and sheep with improved performance as milk-meat animals shall be the main focus in breeding. Development of feeding systems for backyard and semi-commercial production, nutrition, improving reproductive efficiency, physiology and schemes to reduce losses by parasites and diseases shall likewise receive priority. Emphasis shall be put on technology transfer on the developed appropriate technologies.

SEC. 6. Philippine Goat and Sheep Center Board. - The Advisory Board shall formulate policies and oversee the implementation of the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center, in consonance with the National Research and Development policies. The Philippine Goat and Sheep Center Advisory Board shall be composed of the following:

1. President of the Central Luzon State University (CLSU);
2. Director of Department of Agriculture - Bureau of Animal Industry / Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAI/BAR);
3. Executive Director of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD);
4. Provincial Government representative;
5. Farmers representative; and
6. Executive Director of the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center.

The CLSU President shall be the Chair, the Director of DA-BAI shall be the Vice-Chair, while the Executive Director of the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center shall serve as the Ex-Officio Secretary.

SEC. 7. Implementation and Coordination of the Program of the CLSU. - The Philippine Goat and Sheep Center Board shall be tasked to coordinate and monitor the implementation of the program. It shall identify, through the Department of Agriculture, the Director of the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center and Project Leaders from various implementing stations of the research and development projects in the areas of breeding, nutrition, animal health, reproductive physiology, socio-economics, techno-transfer, product development

and utilization and environmental impact assessment. It shall formulate strategies relative to the performance testing of bucks and rams, multiplication and distribution of elite germplasm purebreds, crossbreds and native bucks and rams. There shall be satellite centers in the islands of Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. The center in Luzon shall be the Central Luzon State University (CLSU) in Nueva Ecija. The center in Visayas shall be the Visayas State University (VSU) in Leyte. The center in Mindanao shall be the DA-Bagalupa Stock Farm in Zamboanga del Sur.

The CLSU in Nueva Ecija shall be the Philippine Goat and Sheep National Center which specializes in the development of breeding system of the goat and sheep of small holder farmers with exotic breeds and shall specialize in the breeding of purebred small ruminants and its crossbreds and generation of technology on goat dairying and sheep fiber. Furthermore, the center shall specialize in the development of technology on nutrition, reproductive physiology, animal health, product development and utilization, socio-economics and techno-transfer.

The other centers shall take responsibility of the regional research needs and spearhead implementation of development activities in their respective geographical area of responsibility. It shall include field testing and verification of technologies developed by the national center.

SEC. 8. Farmers' Participation. - The farmer cooperators shall be encouraged to strengthen existing farmers' cooperatives or establish strong farmers association to serve as focal point for government assistance, production and multiplication of upgraded small ruminants and on the dissemination of new knowledge on goat dairying and fiber production from sheep.

SEC. 9. Funding. - To fund the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center, the amount of Twenty Million Pesos (Php20,000,000.00) shall be appropriated by the Department of Budget and Management from the unexpended balance of the National Treasury and thereafter, shall be included in the General Appropriations Act. The salaries of permanent staff and maintenance and operating budget shall be appropriated and released directly to the various agencies of the Philippine Goat and Sheep Center Network, in accordance with the approved program of activities.

Any income derived from the sale of goats and sheep shall be placed in a revolving fund to be used in the propagation and distribution of goat and sheep.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. - All provisions of law, presidential decrees or issuances, orders, including rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the completion of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,