

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*Second Regular Session*

6 JUN -7 P4:30

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2303

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The development and promotion of home or cottage industries for women is one of the better options at tapping the full potential of women. Its development to a world-class industry managed by women, *maximizing available family labor and optimizing the utility of indigenous material* would be a logical step at enhancing the role of women while reinvigorating the local cottage industry.

The State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) considering its vast pool of resources could be an able partner toward this direction. The SUCs is in a better position to assist and carry out technical assistance and support the women sector and the home industry.

The Camarines Sur State Agricultural College, one of the regional agricultural colleges in the country, has implemented a gender sensitive extension program. Its location in a relatively depressed region is on better advantage to push the plight of women in areas with similar conditions.

Accordingly, the urgent passage of this bill is hereby recommended.

  
MANNY VILLAR

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE HOME  
INDUSTRIES NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER  
FOR WOMEN AND ITS NETWORK**

*Be<sup>it</sup> enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the  
Philippines in congress assembled:*

Section 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Home Industries National Development Center for Women Act of 2006.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men. The State shall also protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions, taking into account their maternal functions, and such facilities and opportunities that will enhance their welfare and enable them to realize their full potential in the service of the nation. The Home Industries National Development Center for Women at Camarines Sur State Agricultural College, hereinafter referred to as Home Industries for Women – CSSAC, and its regional network will perform the role of home-made world-class products, and to provide the venue for state universities and colleges (SUCs) to strongly pursue the effort of developing women as partners in community development particularly in depressed areas.

Section 3. Definition of Terms. – When used in this Act, the following terms shall mean as follows:

a) Home Industries National Development Center for Women – refers to the National Center based at the Camarines Sur State Agricultural College (CSSAC) at Pili, Camarines Sur.

b) Regional Home Industries for Women Centers – refers to the network of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) that are situated in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

The regional centers are:

- 1) Tarlac College of Agriculture (TCA)
- 2) Cagayan State University (CSU)
- 3) Pangasinan State University (PSU)
- 4) Rizal College of Agriculture and Technology (RCAT)

- 5) University of Eastern Philippines (UEP)
- 6) Panay State Polytechnic College (PSPC)
- 7) University of Northern Philippines (UNP)
- 8) Central Mindanao University (CMU)

c) Home Industries – refers to village-level cottage enterprises/industries utilizing indigenous materials managed by families or group of families as a major livelihood or as a means to augment family income.

Section 4. Objectives. – Consistent with the declared policies of the State to recognize and realize the full potential of women in nation-building, the objectives of this Act are:

- a) Develop and enhance the capability of women and women groups to produce world-class home-industry products and to manage such home industries;
- b) Develop and establish prototype models of world-class home industries;
- c) Facilitate the provision of capital to initiate the establishment of home industries in the communities;
- d) Harness the capability of SUCs in identifying and utilizing indigenous materials as livelihood sources for families; and
- e) Provide opportunities to students and faculty of SUCs to develop capabilities in assisting women groups in establishing and managing village-level home industries.

Section 5. Scope. – The program and activities of the Home Industries for Women-CSSAC and its network shall include the following key areas of concern:

- a) Capability building for women and women-groups in product development, product packaging and marketing and the management of home industry/enterprise;
- b) Institutional development for women-groups and LGUs to further sustain development efforts at the community level;
- c) Technical assistance in enhancing product quality and access to markets;
- d) Linkaging with financial institutions and other agencies to promote the development of the home industry sector;
- e) Capability development for SUCs staff to manage and implement home industry programs at the regional level;
- f) Integration of home industry development in the curriculum of SUCs;

g) Research and development to identify local resources and enhance product quality;

h) Monitoring and evaluation.

Section 6. Home Industries for Women Board – The Board shall be the policy making body and oversee the implementation of the Center and its network shall be composed of the following:

- 1) Chairperson, Commission on Higher Education;
- 2) Chairperson, Commission on the Role of Women;
- 3) Undersecretary for Operations of the Department of Trade and Industry
- 4) President of CSSAC;
- 5) Presidents of SUC network members

The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education shall be the Chairman of the Commission on Women as the Vice Chairman. The President of the CSSAC shall serve as the Ex-Officio secretary.

The Board shall organize a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) composed of the Presidents of the SUC network members with the President of CSSAC as Chairman. The TAC shall provide the necessary technical support to the network in terms of setting the overall direction and plans of the Center and its network.

Section 7. Implementation and Coordination of the Program. – The National Center shall be based at CSSAC Pili, Camarines Sur. It shall be responsible for the overall coordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programs at the national level. It shall develop through consultation the overall development agenda and program of the Center and its network. It shall also organize a national pool of technical experts to backstop the implementation of the program at the national level.

The Regional Centers shall be primarily responsible of operationalizing the national development agenda and program in the context of specific realities and needs in their areas of responsibility.

Section 8. Funding. – To fund the Home Industries for Women and its network, the amount of Twenty-Five Million Pesos (P25,000,000.00) in its initial year and Fifteen Million Pesos (P15,000,000.00) in the succeeding years, shall be appropriated in the Annual Appropriations Act of the National Government. The salaries of permanent staff and the maintenance and operating budget shall be appropriated and released directly to the Home Industries for Women – CSSAC and to its regional network members, in accordance with the approved program of activities.

The income derived by the Center shall be placed in a revolving fund to be used in the operation and maintenance of the Center and its network.

Section 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved,