

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL -7 AM 24

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 640

RECEIVED BY 

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Bamboo and rattan may be relatively lower classes of trees in agro forestry but these species have their distinct uses for human beings and for the nature. They provide wood for fuel, poles, and edible food. They restore the nutrients lost from the ecosystem while at the same time serving as windbreakers in their areas. They also help improve the micro-climate so that animals and plants have better chances of survival.

This bill mandates the local government units to establish bamboo nurseries and production / dispersal centers that will be supervised and controlled by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. These projects shall be undertaken through the Integrated National Bamboo and Rattan Development Program.

As part of the State's commitment to its role in providing the people with balanced and healthful ecology, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

10 JUL -7 AM 12:24

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Senate Bill No. 640

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A NATIONAL BAMBOO AND RATTAN DEVELOPMENT
PROGRAM HARMONIZING ECOLOGICAL BALANCE, WITH INDUSTRIAL
DEVELOPMENT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "***Integrated National Bamboo and Rattan Development Program of 2010.***"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Principles and Policies. - It is hereby declared to be the national policy of the State to develop the bamboo and rattan propagation of the country and provide adequate measures to insure permanent stability in the production thereof.

The welfare and interest of the peoples to achieve environmental equilibrium with industrial development will receive the highest consideration to promote ecological awareness and to move the nation towards industrialization and progress.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms:

- a) Bamboo nursery - an area where high quality bamboo planting stocks are raised or produced;
- b) Bamboo cultivars - these refer to species or varieties. The cultivate variety is a potential source of propagules or propagating materials;
- c) Production / dispersal center - place where bamboo saplings readied for transplanting are properly kept and dispersed;
- d) Program - refers to the Integrated National Bamboo and Rattan Development Program of 2007.

SEC. 4. The program shall cover only selected local government units on the basis of the following criteria:

- a) availability of land resources;
- b) demand and supply;
- c) social acceptability;

- d) economic and ecological enhancement needs; and
- e) over-all compatibility and consistency with existing local, provincial, regional, and national environmental and socio-economic development plans.

SEC. 5. The program shall cover the following phases considered necessary to attain the primary objectives:

- 1) Propagation of production of high quality, genetically superior planting stocks through sexual and macro- and micro-sexual means;
- 2) Dispersal or distribution of planting materials to be disposed at nominal amount;
- 3) Production or bamboo farming and/or plantation development and management;
- 4) Utilization, processing and marketing including high value product development;
- 5) Training and extension, including technology packaging and transfer; and
- 6) Research and technology.

SEC. 6. *Implementation.* - All local government units selected are hereby mandated to construct bamboo nurseries and production/dispersal centers under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

However, the local government unit concerned shall administer the herein construction for proper programming and implementation of the Program.

SEC. 7. *Determination of Location Sites.* - The determination of location sites shall be vested in the City / Municipal Bamboo / Rattan Development Committee created hereof, with recommendation from local legislative council.

SEC. 8. *Executive Committee.* - An Executive Committee of National Bamboo / Rattan Development Program is hereby created to be composed of the following:

- 1) Secretary of Department of Environment and Natural Resources, as Chairman;
- 2) Secretary of Department of Agriculture, as Vice Chairman;
- 3) Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, as member;
- 4) Chancellor of the University of the Philippines Los Banos, as member;
- 5) Such other members as President of the Philippines may designate taking into account Section 5, Article XIII of the Constitution.

The EXCOM may meet and decide on any and all matters concerning the implementation of the Program to be monitored by the Regional Offices which may be created.

The EXCOM shall be the one to provide guidelines for a province-to-province implementation of the Program to be monitored by the Regional Offices which may be created.

SEC. 9. Provincial Bamboo Rattan Development Program Committee.

- A Provincial Bamboo / Rattan Development Program Committee is hereby created in affected provinces. Such Committee shall be chaired by the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer (PENRO), the Provincial Planning and Development Officer as Vice-chairman and one (1) representative each from the Departments of Agriculture (DA), Science and Technology (DOST), Trade and Industry (DTI) and the UPLB College of Forestry.

The Provincial Committee shall coordinate and monitor the implementation of the Program in the Province. It shall provide the necessary information on the provisions of the Program, guidelines issued by the EXCOM and shall make a written report on the progress of the Program in the Province.

SEC. 10. City / Municipal Bamboo / Rattan Development Program Committee.- There shall be a City / Municipal Bamboo / Rattan Development Program Committee which shall be consisted of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer (CENRO) as Chairman, and the City / Municipal Planning and Development Officer as Vice-chairman and the following as members: two (2) members of the local council concerned, the association of Barangay Council, one (1) representative from DA, DOST, and DTI.

SEC. 11. Functions, Duties and Responsibilities of the City / Municipal Bamboo / Rattan Development Program Committee. - The City / Municipal Bamboo / Rattan Development Program Committee shall perform the following functions, duties:

- a) determine and identify the prospective location sites for bamboo nursery and dispersal centers;
- b) determine the would-be bamboo cultivars;
- c) assist the DENR-PENRO representative in the preparation of the reports on the progress of the implementation of the Program by the local government units (LGU) concerned for submission to EXCOM; and
- d) such other functions that may be assigned by the EXCOM.

SEC. 12. National Bamboo / Rattan Development Research Office. - There is hereby created a National Bamboo / Rattan Development Research Office, headed by an Executive Director, who shall be appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the EXCOM and one (1) representative each from the University of the Philippines Los Banos and Department of Environment and Natural Resources - ERDB; *Provided, however,* That this Office is under the supervision of the Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, which shall be responsible for the following:

1. to make the proper researches, studies, information dissemination on bamboo cultivation, propagation and production;
2. to provide scientific and technological assistance on bamboo planting procedures;

3. to determine and make proper technological advances on the usages of bamboos; and

4. other functions as the need arises and recommended by the EXCOM.

SEC. 13. *Financing.* - The initial amount necessary for the immediate implementation of the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations intended for the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Science and Technology under the current year.

Thereafter, the sums which may be necessary to maintain operation of the program shall be shouldered by local government unit concerned.

SEC. 14. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act.

SEC. 15. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,