

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6928
(In substitution to HB No. 3977)

Introduced by Reps. Mohamad Q. Khalid Dimaporo, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Elias C. Bulut, Jr., Eric Go Yap, Solomon R. Chungalao, Cyrille "Beng" Abueg-Zaldivar, Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat, Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, Mark O. Go, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Angelo Marcos Barba, and Michael Edgar V. Aglipay

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM IN THE PREMISES OF THE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE (CENRO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KOLAMBUGAN, LANA DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE KOLAMBUGAN ARBORETUM, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

assembled:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established an arboretum in the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the *Kolambugan Arboretum*.

As used in this Act, the term *arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially for a well-grown and representative collection of trees, shrubs and herbs planted and maintained for the purpose of reference, scientific studies and as a convenient source of seeds and herbarium materials.

SEC. 2. The Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology, and other related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by both the faculty and students of nearby schools;

1 b) To serve as a sanctuary for the preservation and conservation of genetic resources of
2 trees, shrubs and herbs, and as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

3 c) To provide an area wherein the best species of indigenous woody plants can be
4 propagated and where new species, can be introduced and be allowed to thrive in the locality;

5 d) To provide a healthy and conducive area for recreation and at the same time enhance
6 the consciousness of the community to preserve and protect the environment; and

7 e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals, and
8 other wildlife in the area.

9 **SEC. 3.** The Arboretum shall conform to the following considerations:

10 a) The trees shall be planted in rows following the contour of the land area;

11 b) At least five (5) replicates of each specie shall be planted to ensure its preservation; and

12 c) Each tree specie shall be numbered, labelled and tagged with its scientific name, common
13 or local name, and the date and place of collection.

14 **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted:

15 a) The seedling of every specie to be planted shall be of high quality, and shall be selected
16 at least twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the
17 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

18 b) Proper site preparation shall be done prior to planting, to include brushing/slashing,
19 staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or cultivation;

20 c) In case of mortality, the replanting of the respective specie shall be undertaken; and

21 d) Planting shall be done at the onset of the rainy season.

22 **SEC. 5.** The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall management and supervision of
23 the DENR. The DENR Secretary shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together
24 with a staff to be provided by the DENR from among its staff, shall ensure the proper management
25 of the Arboretum.

1 **SEC. 6.** An Oversight Committee is hereby created to oversee and monitor the development
2 and operation of the Arboretum, to be composed of the following:

3 a) The DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative as Chairperson;

4 b) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or duly designated
5 representative, as co-Chairperson;

6 c) The Mayor of the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte as Vice-Chairperson;

7 d) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte or the Vice-
8 President thereof if the Mayor of Kolambugan is the President of the League, as member; and

9 e) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)
10 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

11 **SEC. 7.** The Arboretum may accept donations from government agencies or local and
12 foreign private entities.

13 **SEC. 8.** The amount necessary to implement initially the provisions of this Act shall be
14 taken from the available savings of the DENR System. Such sums as may be necessary for the
15 continued operation of the Arboretum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

16 The local government units concerned shall set aside from any available local revenue an
17 amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operations of the Arboretum
18 herein established.

19 **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
20 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

21 *Approved,*