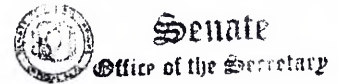


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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session



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22 AUG -4 P6:26

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. B. NO. 1044

Introduced by **SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA**

**AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BAMBOO
INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

With the growing global awareness of climate change, the bamboo is gaining popularity in the domestic and international markets as a sustainable resource in the manufacture of industrial products or as a construction material. The bamboo has been hailed as a sustainable product since it can grow rapidly without the need for replanting, and without chemical pesticides and fertilizers.

On a global scale, the value of the world's bamboo market was estimated to be US\$68.8 billion for traditional and non-traditional bamboo products in 2018.¹ It is estimated to reach US\$82.9 billion by 2028,² 80% of which will come from the Asia Pacific Region.

Recognizing the enormous potential of the bamboo industry, this bill seeks to institutionalize the goals of Executive Order No. 879 (series of 2010), which created the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC). This bill also seeks to strengthen the incentives, assistance and programs available to the Philippine bamboo industry to ensure its rapid development.

1 "Bamboos Market Size, Share & Trends Analysis Report, By Application (Raw Materials, Industrial Products, Furniture, Shoots), By Region, And Segment Forecasts, 2019 – 2025". Grand View Research. Retrieved from <https://www.grandviewresearch.com/industry-analysis/bamboos-market> (Last accessed: August 4, 2022).

2 "The Global Bamboo Market is Projected to Reach \$82.90 Billion by 2028, at a CAGR of 5.7% - ResearchAndMarkets.com." November 30, 2021. Retrieved from <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20211130005687/en/The-Global-Bamboo-Market-is-Projected-to-Reach-82.90-Billion-by-2028-at-a-CAGR-of-5.7---ResearchAndMarkets.com> (Last accessed: August 4, 2022).

Among others, this bill mandates the formulation of a Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Roadmap, and the establishment of the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council and the Bamboo Industry Research and Development Center. The Roadmap shall include, but not be limited to, programs and projects for the scientific propagation, development and management, processing, utilization, business development, and commercialization of Philippine bamboo and bamboo products. On the other hand, the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council shall provide the overall policy and program direction and coordinate the activities of the various agencies and instrumentalities to ensure the implementation, accomplishment and periodic review and enhancement of the Roadmap.

Indeed, the humble bamboo represents an important resource with tremendous economic, ecological, and environmental benefits for improving rural livelihood, saving forests, and preventing environmental problems.³ In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA 

³ "Research on the Utilization and Development of Bamboo Resources through Problem Analysis and Assessment"
Retrieved from <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1755-1315/300/5/052028/pdf>(Last accessed on 2 August 2022)



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THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Bamboo
2 Industry Development Act."
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State
5 to promote and support industries that create and generate employment,
6 especially in the rural areas, reduce poverty, promote environmental
7 sustainability, mitigate the impacts of climate change, and promote inclusive
8 growth.
9

10 **SEC. 3. Objectives.** – This Act aims to make the Philippine bamboo industry
11 competitive in the local and international markets while providing opportunities
12 for local employment and establishing bamboo-based community enterprises
13 by:

- 14 a) Promoting the integrated and holistic development of the bamboo
15 industry in various aspects of research, production, processing,
16 marketing, consumption, capacity building, and regulation;
17
18 b) Ensuring that the bamboo industry has sufficient supply of quality raw
19 materials through the establishment and management of bamboo
20 nurseries and plantations;
21
22 c) Ensuring that relevant and accurate data on the bamboo industry are
23 collated and published by the Bamboo Industry Research and
24 Development Center created under Section 7 of this Act, in cooperation

1 with various government agencies, private entities and other relevant
2 sources, to aid in business decisions related to the industry; [L]
3 [SEP]

4 d) Promoting investments in the bamboo industry by providing substantial
5 and attractive incentives to investors; [L]
6 [SEP]

7 e) Providing skilled labor and manpower through continuous relevant
8 capacity building; [L]
9 [SEP]

10 f) Ensuring the provision of locally manufactured machines with improved
11 capacity, efficiency, and quality at competitive costs; [L]
12 [SEP]

13 g) Improving bamboo industry research and development to discover new
14 products and technologies, and advance market access for Philippine
15 bamboo and bamboo products locally and internationally;

16
17 h) Providing access to markets of bamboo products locally and
18 internationally through aggressive trade promotions; and

19
20 i) Ensuring sustainable resources in the implementation of the bamboo
21 industry development program. [L]
22 [SEP]

23 **SEC. 4. Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Roadmap (PBIDR).** – To
24 be able to attain the objectives of this Act, there shall be formulated and
25 established a Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Roadmap
26 (Roadmap), which shall include, but not be limited to, programs and projects
27 for the scientific propagation, development and management, processing,
28 utilization, business development, and commercialization of Philippine
29 bamboo and bamboo products. The Roadmap shall include the following
30 objectives, among others:

31
32 a) Expand the number of bamboo nurseries with quality planting materials;

33
34 b) Ensure the propagation, breeding, site species matching and plant
35 nutrition of bamboos;

36
37 c) Observe sustainable planting, management and harvesting, and soil and
38 water conservation practices;

39
40 d) Encourage bamboo backyard farming;

41
42 e) Ensure the sustainability and viability of the bamboo industry;

43
44 f) Promote investments in the bamboo industry development programs;

45
46 g) Advance market access for Philippine bamboo and bamboo products
47 locally and internationally;

48
49 h) Extend technical and financial assistance for the development,
50 processing, commercialization and marketing of various bamboo

1 products;

- 2
- 3 i) Require bamboo to be at least 20% of the annual planting materials
4 needed in the national greening program or in reforestation of open,
5 denuded and degraded forest lands;
- 6
- 7 j) Encourage all government offices to purchase furniture made of
8 bamboo;
- 9
- 10 k) Develop bamboo plantations as eco-tourism sites;
- 11
- 12 l) Use bamboo in the manufacture of at least 25% of desks and chairs, as
13 an alternative wood, in public primary and secondary schools in the
14 country;
- 15
- 16 m) Make available to the bamboo industry relevant and current research
17 and technological information and new product lines;
- 18
- 19 n) Provide continuous training and capacity building in the bamboo industry
20 development; and
- 21
- 22 o) Provide technical and financial assistance in the local design and
23 fabrication of high capacity processing equipment and machineries for
24 the bamboo industry.

25

26 **SEC. 5. Membership of the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development**
27 **Council (PBIDC).** – The composition of the Philippine Bamboo Industry
28 Development Council (Council) as provided under Executive Order No. 879, s.
29 2010, is hereby amended as follows..

- 30
- 31 a) Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry as Chairperson;
- 32
- 33 b) Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- 34
- 35 c) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;
- 36
- 37 d) Secretary of the Department of Education;
- 38
- 39 e) Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology;
- 40
- 41 f) Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment;
- 42
- 43 g) Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government;
- 44
- 45 h) Secretary of the Department of Tourism;
- 46
- 47 i) One representative each from the League of Provinces of the
48 Philippines, League of Cities of the Philippines and League of
49 Municipalities of the Philippines;
- 50

- 1 j) One (1) representative each from bamboo farmers, bamboo
2 manufacturers, and bamboo process associations;
3
- 4 k) One (1) representative each from a State university or college in Luzon,
5 Visayas and Mindanao;
6
- 7 l) One (1) representative from Non-Governmental Organizations; and
8
- 9 m) One (1) representative from the private sector involved in a business
10 belonging to the bamboo industry.
11

12 The Council shall provide the overall policy and program directions and
13 coordinate the activities of the various agencies and instrumentalities to
14 ensure the implementation, accomplishment, periodic review and
15 enhancement of the Roadmap.
16

17 **SEC. 6. Powers and Functions of the Council.** – The Council shall have the
18 following powers and functions:
19

- 20 a) Formulate the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Roadmap;
21
- 22 b) Identify specific and priority programs and projects in support of, and in
23 line with, the Roadmap;
24
- 25 c) Identify sources of financing to expand bamboo industry development;
26
- 27 d) Submit annual reports, not later than June 30 of each year, to the Office
28 of the President and to each House of Congress on the status of the
29 implementation of the Roadmap and the bamboo industry development
30 in the country; and
31
- 32 e) Promulgate such rules and regulations and exercise such other powers
33 and functions as may be necessary to carry out the objectives of this
34 Act.
35

36 **SEC. 7. Bamboo Industry Research and Development Center (BIRDC).** –
37 There is hereby established a Bamboo Industry Research and Development
38 Center (Center) which shall serve as the secretariat of the Council.
39

40 The Center shall be headed by an Executive Director, and shall consist of
41 divisions for the following purposes: (1) research and development; (2) trade
42 promotion and education; (3) networking and linkages; (4) internal
43 administration; (5) and such other purposes as necessary to achieve the
44 purposes of this Act.
45

46 The composition of the divisions shall be prepared by the Executive Director
47 and approved by the Council.
48

49 The organizational structure, staffing pattern and compensation schedule of
50 the Center shall be in accordance with applicable Civil Service rules and

1 regulations.

2
3 **SEC. 8. Powers and Functions of the Center.** – The Center shall have the
4 following powers and functions:

- 5
6 a) Promote and encourage the establishment and management of bamboo
7 nurseries, plantations and processing facilities that would accelerate the
8 production and commercialization of bamboo and various bamboo
9 products;
10
11 b) Promote the commercialization and market access of appropriate,
12 innovative and viable bamboo industry development technologies and
13 products;
14
15 c) Monitor and evaluate the performance of bamboo industry development
16 programs and projects;
17
18 d) Coordinate and partner with other government agencies in the
19 implementation of bamboo industry development programs and projects;
20
21 e) Coordinate and partner with the private sector, people’s organizations
22 and non-governmental organizations, and the academe in providing
23 assistance on matters pertaining to bamboo industry development;
24
25 f) Accept grants, donations and contributions from local and international
26 donors and such similar sources of funds for the implementation of this
27 Act, subject to the usual budget, accounting and auditing rules and
28 regulations;
29
30 g) Conduct, in cooperation or partnership with appropriate government
31 agencies, a periodic review of the Roadmap;
32
33 h) Conduct capability-building initiatives for farmers, processors, designers
34 and other stakeholders in the bamboo industry;
35
36 i) Conduct research and development in partnership with appropriate
37 government agencies to advance sustainable bamboo industry
38 development practices;
39
40 j) Promote the establishment and creation of bamboo farm tourism camps
41 in partnership with the Department of Tourism (DOT) and the private
42 sector;
43
44 k) Gather data and create an information system related to bamboo,
45 including but not limited to, plantations, population, species, workers and
46 beneficiaries, investors, product demands and supplies, and costs and
47 benefits for market research;
48
49 l) Supervise the implementation of the plans and programs of the Council;
50

- 1 m) Manage and administer the projects identified by the Council; and
2
3 n) Submit periodic reports to the Council on the progress and
4 accomplishment of programs and projects.
5

6 **SEC. 9. *The Executive Director of the Center.*** – The Executive Director
7 shall be appointed on a permanent capacity by the President of the Republic
8 Philippines from the list of nominees submitted by the DTI Secretary. He/she
9 shall be a citizen and resident of the Philippines and must possess executive
10 and management experience of at least three (3) years and with considerable
11 knowledge in bamboo industry development. The Executive Director, in
12 addition to his/her duties in the Center, shall have the following powers and
13 functions:

- 14 a) Assist the Council in the performance of its tasks;^{[[SEP]]}
15
16 b) Provide technical and administrative support to the Council;
17
18 c) Oversee the day-to-day operations of the Center; and^{[[SEP]]}
19
20 d) Perform such other functions, duties and responsibilities as may be
21 necessary to implement this Act.
22

23 **SEC. 10. *Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) on***
24 ***Bamboo for Commercialization.*** – In addition to its mandate under the
25 Bamboo Plantation Development Program (BPDP), the DENR shall ensure
26 the development and expansion of nurseries and plantations of bamboo for
27 commercialization and industrial purposes, while taking into consideration the
28 ecological balance in areas identified for plantation and propagation. It shall
29 continue to conduct research and development activities for production or
30 propagation of bamboo.

31 **SEC. 11. *Department of Science and Technology for Research and***
32 ***Development.*** – The Department of Science and Technology-Forest
33 Products Research and Development Institute (DOST-FPRDI) shall be the
34 main research and development arm of the Council for bamboo utilization. It
35 shall work closely in coordination with the Center and other government
36 agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Agricultural
37 Research (DA-BAR) to innovate and advance sustainable bamboo industry
38 development practices.

39 **SEC. 12. *Role of the Local Government Units.*** – Local Government Units
40 (LGUs) in cooperation with the DENR, DTI and the DOST-FPRDI, and in
41 consultation with the DA and the National Commission on Indigenous People
42 (NCIP) when necessary, shall regularly conduct surveys of existing bamboo
43 stands, nurseries and plantations in their respective localities, and shall
44 strengthen the local bamboo industry by promoting bamboo enterprises in
45 their respective localities.

46 **SEC. 13. *Establishment of Provincial, City and Municipal Bamboo***
47 ***Industry Development Councils and Bamboo Industry Development***

1 **Programs.** – LGUs shall, as far as practicable, establish their respective
2 Bamboo Industry Development Councils.

3
4 LGUs shall regularly conduct a survey of existing bamboo stands, nurseries
5 and plantation and bamboo enterprises in their respective localities.

6
7 Each local Bamboo Industry Development Council shall conduct a survey of
8 existing bamboo clumps and bamboo processing enterprises that are
9 operating in the locality.

10
11 **SEC. 12. Provision of Incentives to Investors involved in Bamboo**
12 **Development.** – The following incentives shall be provided to investors in
13 plantation development and bamboo processing factories:

14
15 a) The Board of Investments shall classify bamboo nurseries and
16 plantations as pioneer and bamboo processing as preferred areas of
17 investment under its Investment Priorities Plan (IPP) subject to pertinent
18 rules and regulations;

19
20 b) Plantation owners, including nursery facilities, bamboo processing and
21 other related businesses shall be exempt from the payment of import
22 duties for imported machines and equipment subject to pertinent rules
23 and regulations;

24
25 c) Plantation owners in public lands shall be exempt from the payment of
26 forest charges that may be imposed by the national government and
27 other fees or taxes imposed by LGUs;

28
29 d) Bamboo plantations shall not require a cutting permit for harvesting and
30 a transport permit for transporting its produce: *Provided*, that such
31 plantation is registered with the Community Environment and Natural
32 Resources Office (CENRO) of the DENR;

33
34 e) Expenses incurred, including those incurred in the development and
35 operation of the bamboo plantation prior to commercial harvest shall be
36 allowed as deductible expenses from gross income;

37
38 f) Bamboo plantations shall be accepted as a collateral for loans in
39 government financial institutions (GFIs);

40
41 g) The bamboo plantation developer and processors shall be given priority
42 to access credit assistance and guarantee schemes being granted by
43 GFIs; and

44
45 h) Bamboo plantations and plantation development equipment shall be
46 covered by the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation.

47
48 **SEC. 12. Appropriations.** – An amount of One Hundred Million Pesos
49 (Php100,000,000.00) to be sourced from the contingency fund of the Office of
50 the President and the existing budget for bamboo industry development under

1 the DTI is hereby appropriated for the initial budgetary requirements of this
2 Act. Additionally, an amount of One Hundred Million Pesos
3 (Php100,000,000.00) shall be sourced from the revenues of the Philippine
4 Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) for the effective
5 implementation of this Act.

6
7 Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the effective
8 implementation of this Act and for the continuous operation of the Center shall
9 be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10
11 **SEC. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days
12 from the effectivity of this Act, DTI, in consultation with the members of the
13 Council and other relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules
14 and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

15
16 **SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.*** – Should any provision herein be declared
17 unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the other
18 provisions of this Act.

19
20 **SEC. 15. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
21 regulations or other issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this
22 Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

23
24 **SEC. 16. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
25 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general
26 circulation.

27
28 **Approved.**