



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7303

BY REPRESENTATIVES DIMAPORO (S.A.), DIMAPORO (M.K.), GO (M.), CHATTO, EUDELA, RILLO, RODRIGUEZ (E.), QUIMBO, CAGAS, SUAN, YU (J.V.), BALINDONG, DOMINGO, ADIONG, CHUA, AGARAO, SACDALAN, GULLAS, GALEOS, ABALOS, SALO, MANUEL, CARDEMA, YULO, GARCIA (M.A.), BONGALON, CASTRO (F.), GARCIA (D.), REVILLA (R.J.), REVILLA (B.), GOMEZ AND Co (E.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT No. 340

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-LANAO DEL NORTE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ARBORETUM IN BARANGAY RAMAIN, MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby established an arboretum of one hundred (100) hectares
2 within the site reserved for the Mindanao State University-Lanao del Norte Agricultural
3 College (MSU-LNAC) in Barangay Ragain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo,
4 Province of Lanao del Norte, to be known as the MSU-LNAC Arboretum.

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6 For purposes of this Act, the term *Arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially
7 for a well-grown and representative collection of tree or shrub species planted and
8 maintained for purposes of scientific study and maintaining a convenient source of seed and
9 herbarium materials.

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11 **SEC. 2.** The MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

12
13 a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology, and
14 other related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by faculty and students
15 of nearby schools;

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

3
4 c) To be a nursery within which the best species of indigenous woody plants can
5 be propagated and where new species can be introduced;

6
7 d) To be a place for recreation where the people can renew their affinity with nature
8 and thus be more conscious of their responsibility as stewards and guardians of the natural
9 environment; and

10
11 e) To serve as the habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small
12 mammals, and other wildlife in the area.

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14 **SEC. 3.** The layout and design of the arboretum shall conform with the National
15 Greening Program (NGP) planting design in terms of specimen, plant distribution, or
16 spacing allocation in the planting sites, based on Executive Order No. 193, series of 2015,
17 entitled, "Expanding the Coverage of the National Greening Program":

18
19 a) Planting shall be by group or cluster species by family. A minimum of two hundred
20 (200) saplings representing at least fifty (50) different native and endemic tree
21 species must be planted, in 10 meters x 10 meters spacing or closer, depending on
22 the species, in open two (2) hectare area without disturbance to the existing patches
23 of trees or vegetation;

24
25 b) Coordinates of all planted species shall be determined, and all species shall be
26 charted and mapped; and

27
28 c) Each sapling which must be: at least three (3) meters in height, labeled and tagged
29 using recycled soft drink tin cans or sturdier materials with consecutive numbers,
30 corresponding common names and scientific names, and secured by a nylon string
31 for identification. A permanent marker with the same information in the species tag
32 shall likewise be placed in front of every sapling.

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34 **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted, the following shall be
35 observed:

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37 a) Tree species should be of high quality, the selection of which should be made at
38 least twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest
39 Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO) of the
40 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

41
42 b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting, which shall include
43 brushing or slashing, staking, digging of holes, plowing and cultivation; and

44
45 c) Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

1 **SEC. 5.** The MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall be managed by the PENRO which will be
2 responsible in the implementation, monitoring, and maintenance of the different activities in
3 collaboration with its partners from the private sector, local government units, and
4 institutions or peoples' organizations.
5

6 **SEC. 6.** A Monitoring Committee is hereby created to oversee the development and
7 operation of the MSU-LNAC Arboretum. It shall be composed of the following:
8

- 9 1) DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative, as chairperson;
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- 11 2) Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or a duly designated
12 representative, as co-chairperson;
- 13
- 14 3) Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte, as
15 vice-chairperson;
- 16
- 17 4) President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte, or the Vice-
18 President thereof, if the Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo,
19 Province of Lanao del Norte is the President of the League, as member;
- 20
- 21 5) Chancellor or Head of the MSU-LNAC, as member; and
- 22
- 23 6) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)
24 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.
25

26 **SEC. 7.** All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to the
27 MSU for the development and improvement of the MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall be
28 administered solely for the benefit of the MSU-LNAC Arboretum in accordance with the
29 instructions of the donor, or in default thereof, of the MSU-LNAC.
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31 **SEC. 8.** The Secretary of the DENR shall immediately include in the DENR's program
32 the implementation of this Act, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General
33 Appropriations Act.
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35 **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
36 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,