



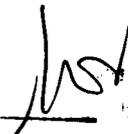
Senate
Office of the Secretary

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

'16 NOV 16 P3:12

SENATE
S.B. No. 1240

REC

BY: 

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

AN ACT UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICER INTO THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our economy has experienced stellar growth in the last six years however this growth still remains to be enjoyed by all Filipinos, particularly the poor and those living away from urban centers.

Basic technology we often take for granted, such as electricity, water and waste management, or access to the Internet, is still significantly lacking in rural areas. There is no doubt of the pressing need for technology transfer to these regions.

We must equip Filipinos nationwide with the appropriate skills and technical innovations that can aid in the development of their locale. Let's use the power of science and technology to uplift the lives of our countrymen.

This bill seeks the improvement of the provincial centers of Science and Technology, which is responsible for the development and transfer of technologies to agriculturists, local businesses, and educators in rural areas.

By promoting the Provincial Science and Technology Officer to a Provincial Science and Technology Director (PSTD), we are bringing the necessary resources and manpower to regional science and technology centers so that they may empower local communities with technology.

The PSTD would also be responsible for spearheading the policy direction and program formulation toward the advancement of science and technology in their respective province.

The end goal is to enhance the living standards of, and create sustainable sources of livelihood for more and more Filipino families.

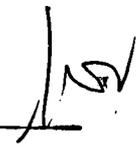
In view of the foregoing, the passing of this bill is earnestly sought.


Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino



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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** — This Act shall be known as the "*Provincial Science and*
2 *Technology Directors Act.*"

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** — It is the policy of the State to fast track the transfer
4 of relevant and appropriate technologies and services to the rural areas particularly in the
5 enhancement and development of technology based livelihood enterprises in the
6 countryside.

7 Pursuant to this policy, the Provincial Centers of the Department of Science and
8 Technology which are the principal instruments of technology transfer and development of
9 technology based enterprises of the government in the rural areas are upgraded through
10 this Act.

11 **SEC. 3. Provincial S&T Directors.** — The position of the Office of the Provincial
12 Science and Technology Officers headed by a Senior Science Research Specialist shall be
13 upgraded to the rank of Provincial Science and Technology Directors in each province under
14 the Department of Science and Technology with a Salary Grade of twenty-seven (27). The
15 Provincial Science and Technology Director shall have the following duties and
16 responsibilities:

17 (a) Formulate the Provincial S&T plan, programs, and projects designed to promote
18 science ad consciousness among the people in the province;

19 (b) Implement and monitor the technology promotion and commercialization
20 projects under the Small and Medium Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program
21 (SETUP) of the DOST in the provinces;

- 1 (c) Promote the adoption of the appropriate technologies by micro, small and
2 medium enterprises (MSMEs) to improve operational efficiency and increase
3 productivity and to harness the results of scientific researchers and innovations
4 to produce new and competitive products;
- 5 (d) Disseminate S&T related information and R&D results through the conduct of
6 trainings;
- 7 (e) Maintain effective liaison with the public and private academic institutions and
8 other government agencies engaged in scientific and technological research,
9 education, and training;
- 10 (f) Coordinate with LGUs and academic institutions for the promotion of
11 scholarship programs aimed to attract the science oriented students to pursue
12 basic and applied sciences in order to broaden the S&T manpower-base in the
13 province;
- 14 (g) Coordinate with the public and private organizations in the implementation of
15 manpower and institutional development programs in the province;
- 16 (h) Act as focal person for the inter-agency meetings, conferences, and other
17 coordinative activities in the province;
- 18 (i) Responsible for the over-all supervision of services and operations of the PSTC;
- 19 (j) Ensure that the quality management system is properly implemented and
20 maintained in accordance with ISO 9001-2008 standard in all aspects of
21 operations of the PSTC; and
- 22 (k) Perform other related functions as may be assigned by higher authorities from
23 time to time.

24 **SEC. 4. Qualifications of the Provincial S&T Director.** — The DOST in consultation
25 with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and Civil Service Commission (CSC)
26 shall formulate the necessary qualification standards commensurate to the upgraded
27 position of the Provincial Science and Technology Director at Salary Grade twenty-seven
28 (27). The current PSTO holding the position for more than 20 years, shall have preference in
29 the selection for Provincial Science and Technology Director position.

30 **SEC. 5. Remuneration and other Benefits of the Provincial Director.** — The
31 remuneration of the Provincial Science and Technology Director shall be equivalent to that
32 of the same Salary Grade twenty-seven (27) in the government service and shall be entitled
33 to reimbursable representation and transportation allowance commensurate to his office
34 and other benefits as prescribed by law.

35 **SEC. 6. Staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office.** — There shall be a
36 minimum of six (6) technical staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office in addition
37 to the Provincial Director and in addition of one non-technical officer. The DOST shall

1 determine the level of these positions, provided that prescribed qualifications shall be in
2 accordance with Civil Service laws and regulations.

3 **SEC. 7. Appropriations.** — The funds necessary for the continuous and effective
4 operation of the various offices established under this Act shall be included in the
5 appropriations of the Department of Science and Technology in the annual General
6 Appropriations Act.

7 All fees and charges collected as a result of S&T services rendered by the PSTOs such
8 as, but not limited to, metrological work and calibration services shall be used by the PSTOs
9 in the enhancement of their capabilities and in the maintenance of their equipment and
10 facilities.

11 **SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** — Within sixty (60) days from the
12 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Science and Technology, and other relevant
13 government agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
14 implementation of this Act.

15 **SEC. 9. Separability Clause.** — Should any provision herein be declared
16 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act.

17 **SEC. 10. Repealing Clause.** — This Act repeals or modifies accordingly pertinent
18 provisions of Sections 2, 3, and 4 of Republic Act No. 6959 and any law, decree, order, rule,
19 and regulation, executive order, proclamation, or other issuances or parts inconsistent with
20 the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

21 **SEC. 11. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
22 in the Official Gazette or in any two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

23 *Approved,*