

559

**Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City**

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 559



Introduced by Rep. Roberto C. Cajés

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The indiscriminate use of petrochemical farm inputs such as fertilizers and pesticides has rendered much of the country's agricultural lands acidic and less productive.

This trend is a nationwide phenomenon because of the fact that many of our farmers are not trained and knowledgeable enough to use the proper amount of these commercial farm inputs into their respective farms to be able to optimize their yield.

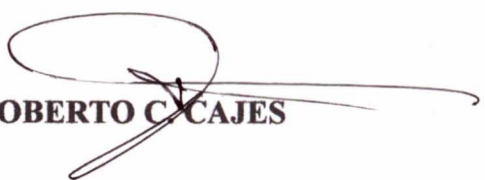
To remedy this situation, this representation is proposing a bill that aims to institutionalize the gradual use of organic farm fertilizers and pesticides to be able to restore the land's bounty.

Organic farming is a traditional practice that our forefathers had known since precolonial era. It is a farming system that is cost-free and environment-friendly, a system we so badly need if we want to revitalize the sagging agricultural economy of the country.

This bill seeks to encourage our farmers to revert to that system in order to significantly cut on agricultural cost as well as to save the degenerating natural environment in the countryside.

At best, this bill mandates the establishment of an organic farming training center in every barangay in the country as well as a plant nursery that would ensure the propagation of indigenous grains and plants.

The speedy approval of this bill is thus earnestly sought.


ROBERTO C. CAJES

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**AN ACT
MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ORGANIC FARMING
TRAINING AND PRODUCTION FACILITY IN EVERY AGRICULTURAL
BARANGAY IN THE COUNTRY AND ESTABLISHING FUNDS THEREFOR.**

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Organic Farming Act of 2004".

SECTION 2. The State shall ensure that every agricultural barangay in the country shall have established a training facility for the production and propagation of organic farm inputs that will be made available to farmers for free.

SECTION 3. The Department of Agriculture and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall issue within 60 days the necessary implementing rules and regulations, in consultation with various national farmers' groups, for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,