

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Manila

Thirteenth Congress

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 182



Introduced by: Hon. Gilbert C. Remulla

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Agricultural modernization is the process of transforming the agricultural sector into one that is dynamic, technologically advanced, and competitive, yet centered on human resource development, guided by the sound principles of social justice (AGRICOM, 6 June 1996). In this light the Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA) was enacted in 1997 to strengthen the Philippine agricultural research and development and extension system. With the primary goal of transforming the agriculture and fisheries from resource-based into technology-based industries, an Integrated National Research and Development Program (INRDP) for each commodity or resource was formulated. Headed by the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR), INRDP embodies the integrated research, development and extension (RDE) program for the specific commodities or sectors. The formulated RDE network composed of the state colleges and universities (SCU's) and various institutions and agencies under the DA handles the different commodities/ program areas in line with the RDE thrust of the AFMA.

In response to the 1997 AFMA, the National Integrated Research, Development and Extension Program for Coffee (NIRDEPC) was drafted in 1999 with the Cavite State University designated as the lead institution for the program. The five-year program aims to increase the national production of quality coffee beans for local consumption and international market and increase income of coffee growers with DA-BAR and the Philippine Council for Agricultural and Research and Resources Development (PCCARD) acting as coordinating agencies.

Now on its third year of implementation, the program seeks to pass an act creating the Coffee Research, Development and Extension Center (CoRDEC) based at the Cavite State University (CVSU). In complementation to the functions of the NIRDEP for coffee, the Center

shall educate and train all stakeholders of the coffee industry, conduct researches, and extend technologies, the powers and the functions of which shall be in line with the RDE programs of the DA-BAR, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and CVSU.

The need for the establishment of the Center at CVSU has been made urgent by the increasing demand for coffee both internationally and locally, and the problems encountered by the industry as defined by the existing NIRDEPC. Cavite State University, which is the premiere academic institution in Cavite, would be a conducive venue for the Center since 40 percent of the coffee beans supply in the Philippines comes from the province. As of 2001, the production of green beans in the country is estimated at 36,000 metric tons, 40 percent of which comes from Cavite. Thus, the establishment of CRDEC based at the CVSU shall very well help the responsible institutions catalyze the advancement of coffee research, development and extension to make the industry nationally productive and globally competitive.

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


GILBERT C. REMULLA

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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE COFFEE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND
EXTENSION CENTER IN THE CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY AND
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFORE

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall establish the Coffee Research, Development and Extension Center.

SEC. 2. The Coffee Research, Development and Extension Center shall be based in the Cavite State University which is the lead institution in the embodied in the National Integrated Research, Development and Extension Program for Coffee.

SEC. 3. The Coffee Research, Development and Extension Center shall coordinate with the Department of Agriculture through the Bureau of Agricultural Research, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Trade and Industry, National Economic Development Authority and the Philippine Council for Agricultural Research and Resources Development in training stakeholders, conducting researches, extending technologies and analyzing demand and supply of coffee in the domestic and international market.

SEC. 4. The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the annual budget of the Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,