

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill no. 3102

INTODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE **ANGELO B. PALMONES**

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF ASSISTANT REGIONAL
DIRECTOR AND PROVINCIAL DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 6959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines recognizes the essential value of science and technology in national economic growth and development. This is expressed in the provision that "The State shall give priority to.... science and technology education, training and services and shall support scientific and technological capabilities and their application to the country's productive systems and national life". It is the mandate of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) to encourage and support the generation, transfer and application of technologies to end-users and in particular for the establishment and development of small and medium enterprises and livelihood activities.

The main institutional unit of the DOST engaged in the dissemination and transfer of information and technologies and in the provision of technological support services in the rural areas are the provincial science and technology offices (PSTOs). However, they are hampered by the chronic inadequacy of personnel in addition to very limited budgets. Each PSTO has an average of 2 personnel, sometimes augmented by the secondment of additional personnel from local government units (LGUs).

In 2003 the DOST launched a national technology transfer program in support of micro, small and medium enterprises. Its main purpose was to provide technological assistance to existing enterprises, acquire needed technologies to improve their operations, increase productivity, or reduce production costs or all three. The program also assists would-be entrepreneurs establish their businesses. The program is dubbed Small and Medium Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SET-UP). The program is assisting enterprises in food, furniture, gifts/toys/housewares, marine and aquatic products, horticulture, and metals and engineering. From about 50 projects in 2003 with an investment of less than P25M the program has supported a total 836 micro, small and medium enterprises with a total investment of P427 M up to the middle of 2010. Many of these enterprises have begun to export their products abroad. Through the program more than 18,000 man-years of jobs have been created.

The main implementers of the SET-UP are the Regional Offices through the PSTOs.

With more personnel and better logistical support the PSTOs, can provide better and improved support to rural enterprises, generate more jobs and more income to rural families, thus the proposed bill.



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

Section 1. Title - This Act shall be known as the Department of Science and Technology Provincial Directors Act of 2010.

Section 2. Declaration of Policy – It is the policy of the state to accelerate the transfer of relevant and appropriate technologies and services to rural areas particularly in the establishment and support of rural enterprises and livelihood activities for the benefit people in the country-side through higher productivity at lower production costs.

In pursuance to this policy the Regional and Provincial Offices of the Department of Science and Technology which are one of the principal instruments of technology transfer of the government are strengthened through this Act.

Section 3. Assistant Regional Director – There shall be established in the Regional Offices of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) the Office of Assistant Regional Director. The Assistant Regional Director shall have the following functions:

- a. Assist the Regional Director in the administration and management of the DOST regional office
- b. With assistance of the Regional Technical Division Chief, and the Regional Planning Officer be responsible for the planning of yearly regional plans and programs
- c. Responsible for monitoring and evaluation of regional projects and provide feedbacks to Provincial Directors for successful implementation of projects
- d. Submit periodic reports to the Regional Director on the status of implementation of projects
- e. Implement functions that the Regional Director may assign from time to time

Section 4. Qualifications of the Assistant Regional Director – The DOST in consultation with relevant government agencies shall establish the qualifications of the Assistant Regional Director. The DOST shall also prescribe the procedure the selection of the Assistant Regional Director.

Section 5. Remuneration of the Assistant Regional Director – The remuneration, emoluments, allowances and other benefits of the Assistant Regional Director shall be as prescribed by existing pertinent laws for its level of position. The position shall have a rank of Career Executive Service Officer (CESO) IV.

Section 6. Provincial Directors – There shall be established the Office of the Provincial Director in each province under the Department of Science and Technology with the rank of CESO V and with the following responsibilities and functions:

- a. Identify the needs and opportunities for technology-based development of enterprises and livelihood projects in the provinces and formulate plans and strategies for their implementation.
- b. Implement the Department's programs/projects on the delivery of science and technology services such as technology demonstration and transfer, science and technology promotion and information dissemination, training and such other areas of concern that will benefit the people in the provinces,
- c. Develop institutional linkages with provincial offices of other government agencies, local government units (LGUs), academic institutions as well as non-government organizations (NGOs) for effective implementation of science and technology programs in the provinces,
- d. Monitor and evaluate provincial S & T projects and render periodic reports to the Assistant Regional Director and furnishing copy thereof the Regional Technical Division
- e. Establish data bank on technologies relevant to the province and on enterprises and livelihood activities supported by the PSTO and other relevant agencies of government performing similar functions
- f. The Provincial Director is not authorized to sign contracts except when authorized by competent authorities
- g. Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Assistant Regional Director or the Regional Director

Section 7. Qualifications of the Provincial Director – The Department in consultation with relevant government agencies shall establish the qualifications of and procedures for the selection of the Provincial Director.

Section 8. Remuneration and other Benefits of the Provincial Director – The remuneration of the Provincial Director shall be equivalent to that of any CESO V in the government service and shall be entitled to reimbursable representation and transportation allowance commensurate to his office and other benefits as prescribed by law.

Section 9. Staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office – There shall be a minimum of 5 technical staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) in addition to the Provincial Director and in addition to one non-technical officer. The DOST shall determine the level of these positions, Provided that prescribed qualifications shall be in accordance with Civil Service laws and regulations.

Section 10 – Funding support for this Act – For the initial funding for the implementation of this Act, the income by the DOST shall be utilized until such time as all the positions are filled up and completed. Thereafter, the funds needed for the continuous operation of the various offices established under this Act shall be included in the annual appropriations of the Department of Science and Technology.

Section 11 – Implementing Rules and Regulations – The Department of Science and Technology in coordination with other government agencies concerned shall issue the implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the Act.

Section 12 – Separability Clause – If any part or provisions of this Act are held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

Section 13 – Repealing Clause – This Act repeals or modifies accordingly pertinent provisions of Section 2, Section 3, and Section 4 of Republic Act No. 6959 and any law, decree, rules and regulations, executive orders or proclamations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act.

Section 14 – Effectivity – This Act shall take effect immediately upon compliance with existing regulations on publication.

Approved