

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

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3656

Introduced by Rep. Daisy Avance-Fuentes

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to introduce an amendment to the Probation Law of the Philippines (P.D. 968) by establishing a livelihood program for probationers.

At present, probationers are having a hard time in obtaining employment due to lack of qualification requirements, social stigma and degradation in the community to which they belong. The Parole and Probation Administration of the Department of Justice is tapping the different agencies of government thru the LGU's and NGO's to help it effectively carry out the avowed purpose of the Probation Law. However, the lack of funding and reluctance on the part of these agencies has always become a major obstacle to the successful implementation of this statute.

In order to solve the funding and administration problem, this bill seeks to institutionalize a livelihood program for probationers. This is in line with the constitutional provision on the promotion of full employment and the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity and improved quality of life.

Under the proposed amendment, innovative measures on Manpower and Skills Development shall be instituted for the probationers. These measures will focus on crops and livestock production, farm management, mechanization, welding fabrication, soap-making and computer programming, among others. As a result, the program will allow a shift from the traditional employer-employee relation towards self-help/improvement and entrepreneurship, enriched with values on discipline and productivity. The overall mandate of the program is to ensure the reintegration of the probationers into the mainstream society.

Hence, support of this bill is earnestly sought.


DAISY AVANCE-FUENTES

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AN ACT
AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 968 SO AS TO ESTABLISH A
LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM FOR PROBATIONERS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

SECTION 1. Amendment. Presidential Decree No. 968 is hereby amended by
inserting a new section after Section 29 and the succeeding sections to be renumbered
accordingly in order to read as follows:

SECTION 30. LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM FOR PROBATIONERS. There is hereby
created a livelihood program on areas of Manpower and Skills Development for probationers
under the aegis of the Technology and Livelihood Resource Center and the Technology
Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDSA). The probationer shall undertake the
program under the direct supervision of the probation officer to ensure compliance with the
provision of this Section.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION. There is hereby appropriated the amount of Ten
Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) from the 2011 General Appropriations Act to carry out the
provisions of this Act.

SECTION 3. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. The Parole and
Probation Administration of the Department of Justice (DOJ) in coordination with the
Technology and Livelihood Resource Center and the Technology Education and Skills
Development Authority (TESDSA) shall issue and publish the rules and regulations
necessary for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 4. REPEALING CLAUSE. All laws, decrees, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any part, section or provision of this Act be held invalid or unconstitutional, no other parts, sections or provisions hereof shall be affected thereby.

SECTION 6. EFFECTIVITY. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in Filipino and English in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,