

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6081**



Introduced by **HON. GIORGIDI B. AGGABAO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish the **Philippine Institute on Small Ruminant Research and Development (PhilSR for brevity)** to promote, develop and strengthen ruminant production in the Philippines. The establishment of this institute is aimed to improve goat and sheep production in the rural areas through research and development activities, empower producers to develop goat and sheep raising as an enterprise through the application of modern technologies and building capacity of different stakeholders.

Small ruminant production has been a popular activity in the rural areas of Region 2. This is because of the wide fertile land available for pasture and grazing activities. For this reason, goat and sheep became a secondary source of income among small farmers. Although a popular activity, no impressive growth in the development of the local small ruminant industry was noted up until the early part of the new millennium. This was largely attributed to inferior quality of stocks coupled with poor production management of the raisers.

The PhilSR hopes to address this problem. In the long term, the PhilSR will address three (3) important programs of government, as follows: food security, poverty alleviation and support to allied industries.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


HON. GIORGIDI B. AGGABAO

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AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE ON SMALL RUMINANT
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 “Philippine Institute on Small Ruminant Research and Development”.

Sec. 2. Philippine Institute on Small Ruminant Research and Development. – The Philippine Institute on Small Ruminant Research and Development, hereafter referred to as **PhilSR**, is hereby established as an attached agency of the academe, the Isabela State University (ISU) and of the national agency, the Department of Agriculture (DA) to improve goat and sheep production in the rural areas by conducting research and development activities, empower producers to develop goat and sheep raising as an enterprise through application of modern technologies and building capacity of different stakeholders.

Sec.3. Objectives. – The objectives of this Act are as follows:

- a) Establish an institute that will provide research and development direction for the small ruminant industry and its stakeholders;
- b) Develop a robust, innovative and vital programs that are based on the needs of the industry;
- c) Promote technologies to the producers through efficient and effective agricultural extension approaches and ensure adoption rate improvement;
- d) Analyze socio-cultural and socio- economical dynamics of the technologies promoted and programs implemented for better stakeholder participation; and

- e) Develop policy guidelines and institutional arrangements for sustainable development of small ruminant as a livelihood and as an enterprise.

Sec. 4. *Strategic Framework of the PhilSR.* – The Institute shall, within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, formulate a Strategic Framework on Research, Development and Extension for Small Ruminant Industry. The Framework will serve as basis for developing programs on goat and sheep production towards performance improvement, diverse market opportunities and economic viability; action plans and monitoring activities. The Framework shall be reviewed every three (3) years, or as deemed necessary.

Sec. 5. *Components of the Strategic Framework.* – The framework shall include, but not limited to the following components:

- a) Production management;
- b) Nutrition and Forage management;
- c) Health;
- d) Breeding using artificial reproductive techniques;
- e) Post- production;
- f) Product development;
- g) Socio- economics; and
- h) Gender development

Sec. 6. *Programs and Action Plans.* – The Institute shall formulate Programs and Action Plans in accordance with the Framework within one (1) year after the formulation of the latter. The PhilSR Programs and Action Plans shall include, but not limited to, the following components;

- a) Assessment of the previous government initiatives on small ruminant production improvement;
- b) Identification of gaps on the different components of the Framework that will serve as basis for the new research and development agenda;
- c) Develop basic researches with application of biotechnology to produce kits and other tools for efficient detection of animal's different physiological responses;
- d) Develop entrepreneurial portfolio for the commercialization of mature technologies on small ruminant;

- e) Develop databases and systems for traceability of animals and the products produced for consumer welfare and food safety; and
- f) Obtain support from local government units, national government agencies and international research organization.

Sec. 7. Principal Office and Branches. – The Institute shall have a Principal Office at Isabela State University, Echague, Isabela. It may also establish satellite stations in strategic regions under the supervision of a state university as identified by the PhilSR Board of Trustees.

Sec. 8. Duties and Functions. – PhilSR shall exercise the duties and functions, but not limited to the following:

- a) Lead and coordinate a national network for the implementation of research and development programs in all parts of the country;
- b) Plan, monitor, evaluate, and conduct programs for the improvement of small ruminant production; and extension activities for the producers;
- c) Create information database, collect and analyze data from the producers and package and share new technologies and knowledge through modern information and communication approaches;
- d) Identify and develop roadmap toward efficient production management through application of appropriate socio- economic measures and encourage public-private partnership;
- e) Develop and guide public policy formulation and pursue policy advocacy that will stimulate and sustain small ruminant production, processing and marketing systems;
- f) Organize producers and encourage them to become entrepreneurs through technology adoption and commercialization.

Sec. 9. Board of Trustees. – The corporate functions and powers of PhilSR shall be exercised, and all its businesses, activities and properties shall be controlled by a Board of Trustees, hereafter referred to as Board.

The members of the Board shall be composed of the following:

- a. President of the Isabela State University
- b. Directors from Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) and Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR)
- c. Executive Director of Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)

- d. Executive Director, Philippine Institute on Small Ruminant Research and Development

The President of ISU shall act as the Chairman of the Board of Trustee. On the other hand, the PhilSR Executive Director shall act as the Secretary of the Board. All government officials in the Board shall serve as ex-officio members and shall not receive any additional salary or compensation. The members of the Board shall serve for a term of two (2) years.

Sec. 10. Meetings of the Board. – The Board shall meet once every three (3) months, or as often may be deemed necessary by the Chairperson. The Chairperson may likewise call meetings upon other government agencies for the proper implementation of this Act.

Sec. 11. Powers and Functions of the Board. – The Board shall exercise the following powers and functions:

- a) Guide the formulation of the vision, mission and priorities for research and development programs of PhilSR;
- b) Approved policies, programs, plans and operation procedures of PhilSR;
- c) Approve the organization structure, staffing pattern, operating and capital expenditures, and the budget prepared in accordance with PhilSR's programs;
- d) Approved salary ranges, benefits, privileges, bonuses, and other terms and conditions of the service for all officers and employees of PhilSR upon the recommendation of the Executive Director;
- e) Exercise other powers and functions and perform such other acts as may be necessary for the attainment of the goals and objectives of PhilSR.

Sec. 12. Executive Director. - PhilSR shall be headed by an Executive director who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, upon the recommendation of the Board, and based on the evaluation of a Search Committee through the office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

- a) The Executive Director shall serve until his retirement as a government employee.
- b) The Executive shall be assisted by the Deputy Executive Directors, division heads, and program directors as the Board may determine to carry out the objectives of PhilSR.

Sec. 13. Duties of the Executive Director. – The Executive Director shall be directly responsible to the Board, and shall have the following duties:

- a) Exercise dynamic leadership, create a vision, provide strategies and directions and supervise the implementation of all research and development as well as extension activities, and in general to supervise the operations of PhilSR;

- b) Execute contracts, incur obligations, acquire and dispose assets, and deliver documents on behalf of PhilSR within the framework of the authority delegated by the Board;
- c) Implement policies, decisions, orders, rules and regulations that are promulgated by the Board; and
- d) Exercise other powers and functions and perform such other duties as may be authority delegated by the Board.

Sec. 14. *Facilities and manpower.* – PhilSR shall undertake its initial operations in the existing offices, laboratories and experiment stations and other similar government institutions within the DA. Furthermore, PhilSR shall accept personnel from collaborating State universities and international research organizations.

Sec. 15. *Buildings and Equipment.* – PhilSR is hereby authorized to own, acquire, borrow, lease, hold, plan and construct buildings, laboratories, experimental stations, and other facilities may be necessary to attain its goal.

PhilSR is likewise authorized to purchase equipment, materials and articles, either locally or abroad, as may be necessary to carry out powers and functions and attain its objectives.

Sec. 16. *Appropriations.*– The amount of FIFTY MILLION PESOS (P50,000,000.00) shall be appropriated by the Department of Budget and Management from the unexpended balance of the National Treasury as the initial budget of PhilSR for its start-up and operating expenses, and shall be included in General Appropriations Act. The appropriations herein provided shall be subject to the fiscal control and management procedures provided for in Executive Order No. 714, Series of 1981.

Sec. 17. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*–Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agriculture and the Isabela State University , in coordination with other concerned agencies, organizations and stakeholders, whether private or public, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

Sec.18. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders and proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 19. *Separability Clause.*– In the event that any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

Sec. 20. *Effectivity.*– This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.