

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6484



Introduced by Congressman Alfredo D. Vargas III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Developments in science and technology continue to fundamentally influence the way people live, connect, and communicate. These have brought about significant effects on the country's economic development. Science and technology are key drivers to national development because the evolutions in these fields promote economic advances, improvements in health systems, education and infrastructure.

To promote technological advancement in the country, the State must invest in the human resources of those in the science and technology field. This bill seeks to remove set limits on additional salary or honoraria for science and technology practitioners.

In order to develop our country as a budding leader in science and to ensure that we reap the economic fruits of technological innovation, we must empower our Filipino scientists, engineers and other science and technology professionals. Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alfredo D. Vargas III".

ALFREDO D. VARGAS III

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6484**

Introduced by Representative Alfredo D. Vargas III

AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8439, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT PROVIDING A MAGNA CARTA SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS, RESEARCHERS AND OTHER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PERSONNEL IN GOVERNMENT"

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

Section 1. Section 1 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 1. Title – This Act shall be known as the "Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers and other S & T Personnel in the PHILIPPINES"

Section 2. Section 6 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 6. *Salaries.* – The existing law on salary scale of government employees shall not apply in determining the salary scale of science and technology personnel as defined in section 5 of this Act. A new salary scale shall be developed by the Department in consultation with the Department of Budget and Management and the Civil Service Commission, subject to the approval of the President. **IN ADDITION, THERE WILL BE NO SET LIMIT TO THE AMOUNT OF ADDITIONAL SALARY OR HONORARIA THAT SCIENTISTS CAN RECEIVE AS COMPENSATION FROM INTERNALLY OR EXTERNALLY FUNDED GRANTS-IN-AID, PROVIDED THIS IS PART OF A PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BUDGET FROM THE FUNDING AGENCY AND DOES NOT ENTAIL ADDITIONAL USUAL EXPENSE TO THE GOVERNMENT."**

Section 3. Section 8 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 8. *Non-DOST S&T personnel.* – S & T personnel not employed by the Department, who are involved in STA may avail of the benefits under this Act upon certification of the **HEAD OF THEIR AGENCY THAT THEY ARE INVOLVED IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OR OTHER SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES.**”

Section 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain valid and effective.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,