

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5825**



Introduced by Honorable Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is a time-honored knowledge that Garlic, has been used as a miracle herb to cure numerous kinds of diseases and conditions. It also treats and prevents the same due to the fact that it contains, among others, great anti-bacterial, anti-viral, anti-fungal and anti-oxidant properties. One of which is Allicin that contain potent sulphur-containing compounds which are the reason for its characteristic pungent odour.

The component Allicin can be best garnered when it's finely chopped, minced or pureed and let sit for some time. Garlic is also a reliable source of selenium. Allicin and other compounds like ajoene and alliin have an effect on the circulatory, digestive and immunological systems of our body and help in lowering blood pressure, detoxification and healing.

Garlic can even suppress if not remedy Diabetes. The oil extracted from garlic may protect diabetic patients from these side effects. Also, High Cholesterol Levels Of the two kinds of cholesterol –LDL and HDL. The former is bad for human health. Garlic, as previously discussed, is rich in the allicin compound that effectively prevents LDL cholesterol from oxidizing. Not to mention, Hypertension. Garlic is an herbal ingredient for curing hypertension. When exposed to high levels of pressure, the allicin present in it relaxes the blood vessels. It also fights against thrombosis by reducing platelet aggregation. Most of all, Garlic protects our heart against cardiovascular problems like heart attacks and atherosclerosis. This cardio-protective property can be attributed to various factors. With age, the arteries tend to lose their ability to stretch. Garlic may help reduce this and may also protect the heart from the damaging effects of free oxygen radicals.

Needless to say, the health benefits of garlic are boundless, and in a country where the supply of the same is munificent, it would be a sin not to improve its industry

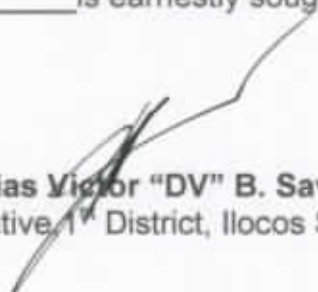
and commercialization. In fact, for January-March 2017, production of garlic reached 7.03 thousand metric tons which was 3.1 percent higher than the 2016 level of 6.82 thousand metric tons. This was effected by the bigger bulbs harvested in Ilocos Norte as a result of the availability of more quality seeds from the LGUs coupled with favorable wind during bulb formation.

Due to Garlic's notoriety and successful production, it is considered as the white gold of the the North. Garlic is a high value commercial crop or cash crop that farmers in Ilocos Norte plant during the month of November. Its pungency gains inevitable preference among the consumers. Ten years ago, San Nicolas had an area of 400 hectares devoted to garlic production but due to the increase in production costs and gradual decline in the market price per kilogram, the garlic farmers shifted to other crops. It was in November 4, 2009 that the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Local Government Unit (LGU) initiated a joint project on Garlic Technology Commercialization.

We can start advancing the concerned industry by organizing campaign or awareness drives simply to apprise the public of its numerous benefits. Likewise, by upgrading the wages and benefits of our Garlic farmers and promoting the garlic industry as a chief organic commodity in the Philippines as to entice would-be investors. As a matter of fact, with all the developments, processing progressed and market demand widened, DTI and other national agencies also provided tools and machineries for production.

In line with the development plan of President Duterte, prioritizing the Agricultural Industry, it is the optimum time to lobby-in and gain ground with respect to the betterment of the Garlic enterprise.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of house bill _____ is earnestly sought.


Hon. Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano
Representative, 1st District, Ilocos Sur

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AN ACT INITIATING PROGRESSION OF THE GARLIC COMMERCE IN THE PHILIPPINES WITH THE DESIDERATUM OF ACCOMPLISHING THE SAME AS A STAPLE COMMODITY IN THE AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Allium Sativum Act of 2017."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - The State recognizes the right to protect and undertake an agrarian reform program founded on the right of farmers and regular farmworkers who are landless, to own directly or collectively the lands they till or, in the case of other farmworkers, to receive a just share of the fruits thereof, marketing, and other support services.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms

a. **"Government Agency"** shall include the executive, legislative and judicial branches, as well as, the constitutional bodies of the Republic of the Philippines, including but not limited to, the national government and all its agencies, departments, bureaus, offices and instrumentalities, constitutional commissions and constitutionally mandated bodies, local governments and all their agencies, regulatory agencies, chartered institutions, government owned and/or controlled corporations, wholly-owned or controlled subsidiaries, government financial institutions, state universities and colleges.

b. **"Local Government Unit"** is a body politic and corporate endowed with powers to be exercised by it in conformity with law. As such, it performs dual functions, governmental and proprietary. Governmental functions are those that concern the health, safety and the advancement of the public good or welfare as affecting the public generally.

SECTION 4. Local Government Unit (LGU) Concerned - Ilocos Norte shall be tasked as the primary unit concerned to translate into reality the objectives set forth herein, and

shall act as an overseer among other LGUs having the potential for bringing Garlic into mainstream, considering that it is burdened with vast agricultural lands conducive in the growing of crops, particularly Garlic, as well as, the man power to effectuate advancement of the Garlic Industry.

SECTION 5. Government Agency Concerned

- **Department of Agriculture** - The Philippine Department of Agriculture (DA), is the executive department of the Philippine government responsible for the promotion of agricultural and fisheries development and growth.
- **Department of Trade and Industry** - The Philippine Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is the executive department of the Philippine Government tasked to expand Philippine trade, industries and investments as the means to generate jobs and raise incomes for Filipinos.

SECTION 6. Implementation - There shall be established implementing rules and regulations, taking into account the viability of the Garlic Industry, as well as the erratic demand and supply of commodities, to effectuate the objectives expressed herein.

SECTION 7. Supervision - There shall be established government agencies in charge of enforcing pertinent laws, rules and regulations to accomplish the purposes stated herein, which shall be under the supervision and control of the Department of Agriculture.

SECTION 8. Keeping of Records

SECTION 9. Coverage - This Act shall cover all government agencies as defined under section 3 of this Act.

SECTION 10. Separability Clause - If any section or part of this Act is held unconstitutional, no other section or provision shall be affected.

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or any part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are deemed repealed.

SECTION 12. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,