

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Seventeenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
H.B. No. 5972

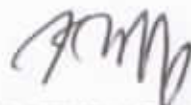
Introduced by Representative H. Harry L. Roque Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Executive Order No. 18, Series of 1986, creating the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) was promulgated to promote the growth and development of the sugar industry through greater participation of the private sector. One of its objectives is "to establish and maintain such balanced relations between production and requirement of sugar and such marketing conditions as will ensure stabilized prices at a level reasonably profitable to the producers and fair to the consumers." The higher cost of sugar in the local market compared to world market prices shows that the SRA has failed to realize this objective.

The iniquitous composition of the Sugar Board, the governing body of the SRA, is blamed for the problem. Under the law, the Board is composed of a Chair to be appointed by the President of the Philippines and two members - one representing the millers and the other representing the planters. Being composed of representatives of sugar producers, the Board is prone to formulating self-serving policies. The interest of consumers is not protected.

To rectify this situation, the Board's composition must be expanded to provide additional members representing sugar consumers.*



H. HARRY L. ROQUE JR.

* This bill was originally filed by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago during the Sixteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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Introduced by Representative H. Harry L. Roque Jr.

AN ACT
AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 18, SERIES OF 1986,
TO EXPAND THE COMPOSITION OF THE SUGAR REGULATORY
ADMINISTRATION (SRA) SUGAR BOARD

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

SECTION 1. Section 4 of Executive Order No. 18, Series of 1986, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 4. *Governing Body: Sugar Board.* – All corporate powers of the Sugar Regulatory Administration shall be vested in, and exercised by, the Sugar Board. The Board shall be composed of an Administrator, who shall act as its Chairman, to be appointed by the President of the Philippines, and **FOUR (4) MEMBERS** [two (2) members]. The **FOUR (4)** [two (2)] members of the Board shall likewise be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the sugar industry, with one member representing **THE MILLERS, THE PLANTERS, THE TRADERS, AND**

1 **THE CONSUMERS, RESPECTIVELY** [the millers and the other
2 representing the planters].

3 The Sugar Board shall meet in regular session once a month. The
4 Board may be called by the Chairman **OR ANY MEMBER** [of both private
5 sector representatives] to a special session as the need arises.

6 The Administrator shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Sugar
7 Regulatory Administration.”

8 SECTION 2. Section 5 of the same law is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 “Section 5. Tenure. – The Administrator shall hold office at the
10 pleasure of the President of the Philippines. The **FOUR (4)** [two (2)] members
11 from the private sector shall hold office for a period of three (3) years unless
12 sooner removed for cause. No reappointment of the members shall be made
13 immediately upon termination of their respective terms of office. Any member
14 appointed to a vacancy shall serve only for the unexpired term of the member
15 whom he succeeds.”

16 SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or
17 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
18 valid and subsisting.

19 SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
20 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
21 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

1 SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen days (15) days
2 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,