

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **6479**



Introduced by HON. DANILO E. SUAREZ

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The coconut industry plays a major role in Philippine economic development through local trade and exports. In 2015, a total 14,735,188.98 metric tons of coconut were produced, 1,379,297,80 metric tons of which were from the Calabarzon Region. Total export sales receipts from coconut products reached \$2 billion in 2016. However, a decrease in the growth rate in the coconut industry was noted in the past year due to the destruction brought by typhoons to the major coconut-producing provinces such as Quezon province. The country lost 33 million coconut trees to Typhoons Pablo and Yolanda.

With 391,196 hectares, representing 78 percent of its agricultural land, planted with 78 million coconut trees, the Quezon province seeks further development of its coconut industry. The 1987 Constitution mandates the State to provide support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services. This bill, hence, aims to establish a coconut research and development facility in Quezon, particularly in the Municipality of Catanauan, that will serve as the primary research institute for coconut production in the province. The Center shall dwell on the production of high yield and resilient species of coconuts and innovation in coconut farming and harvest. It is hoped that through this bill, the Quezon province will be able to fully realize its potential as a major coconut-producing province and contribute to greater exports and better economic performance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Danilo E. Suarez", written in a cursive style.

DANILO E. SUAREZ

Representative

3rd District, Quezon Province

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING QUEZON COCONUT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
CENTER IN CATANAUAN, QUEZON

SECTION 1. Title - This act shall be known as the “Quezon Coconut Research and Development Act of 2017”.

SEC. 3. Multi-partite Cooperation Agreement. - The Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), and the local government of the Province of Quezon and Municipality of Catanauan shall enter into a muti-partite cooperation agreement to establish and issue the mandate and functions of the Quezon Coconut Research and Development Center and integrate knowledge and capability for the innovation of the coconut industry.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, rules and regulations and other issuances or part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed, or modified accordingly.

1 **SEC. 5. Effectivity** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the
2 Official Gazette or in any two newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, whichever
3 comes earlier.

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5 Approved.