

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1472



**AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY  
(DOST), DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.  
128 SERIES OF 1987, AS AMENDED APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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Introduced by  
**REPRESENTATIVE DIVINA GRACE C. YU**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Science and Technology are essential for national development and progress (Article XIV, Section 10).

As such the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) was created by virtue of Executive Order No. 128 s. 1987 to provide central direction, leadership and coordination of scientific and technological efforts and ensure that the results therefrom are geared and utilized in areas of maximum economic and social benefits for the people. It has been three (3) decades and the field of science, technology and innovation (STI) is always and ever evolving to address the present and future needs of the country.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) identified countries who have significantly invested in STI by looking at Gross Domestic Expenditure on Research & Development (GERD) as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)<sup>i</sup>. As reported by UNESCO, Israel ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in this category with 4.3% followed by South Korea (4.2%), Switzerland (3.4%), Sweden (3.3%) and Japan (3.1%), respectively. While the Philippines is only at 0.14%, still below our ASEAN neighbors like Thailand (0.78%) and Vietnam (0.44%).

The developments within these countries are significantly felt and a dramatic rise in the citizen's income and economic well being are achieved.

As point of comparison, the table below summarizes how the Philippines par with some of its ASEAN neighbors with regards to Research and Development (R&D) as reported by UNESCO.

| COUNTRY     | R&D Spending as % of GDP | R&D spending in PPP\$ | Number of researchers per million inhabitants | Percentage of Male Researchers | Percentage of Female Researchers |
|-------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Philippines | 0.1%                     | \$886,534.6k          | 187                                           | 50%                            | 50%                              |
| Thailand    | 0.5%                     | \$5,138.5M            | 964                                           | 47%                            | 53%                              |
| Malaysia    | 1.3%                     | \$9,728.7M            | 2,029                                         | 51%                            | 49%                              |
| Singapore   | 2.2%                     | \$10,069.0M           | 6,729                                         | 70%                            | 30%                              |
| Indonesia   | 0.1%                     | \$2,130.3M            | 89                                            | 69%                            | 31%                              |

Other significant factor affecting the low level of innovation are : weak STI human capital, weak linkages in STI ecosystem, difficulty in increasing employment opportunities and retaining human capital, absence of a vibrant intellectual property culture, restrictive regulations in implementing R7D programs, and inadequate STI infrastructure.

This proposed measure is aimed at strengthening the DOST as a premiere science body capable of effecting significant contributions in the country's efforts to achieve the STI goals set in *Ambisyon 2040* which envisions "to triple real per capita incomes, and eradicate hunger and poverty by 2040, if not sooner."

Thus, I am enjoining my colleagues earnestly for the immediate passage of this Bill.



**DIVINA GRACE C. YU**  
1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga del Sur

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<sup>i</sup> <http://uis.unesco.org/apps/visualisations/research-and-development-spending/>

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16 **AN ACT**  
17 **STRENGTHENING THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY (DOST),**  
18 **DEFINING ITS FUNCTIONS AND REPEALING EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 128**  
19 **SERIES OF 1987, AS AMENDED APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND**  
20 **FOR OTHER PURPOSES**  
21

22 **CHAPTER I**  
23 **INSTITUTIONALIZATION AND ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**  
24 **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
25

26 **ARTICLE I.**  
27 **POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND**  
28 **TECHNOLOGY**  
29

30 Section 1. Short Title. — This Act shall be known as the “The Department of Science and  
31 Technology Act of **2019**.”  
32

33 Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. — The State shall give priority to science, technology and  
34 innovation, as a catalyst for national development and progress that shall foster nationalism,  
35 improve Filipino society, promote total human liberation and development. <sup>i</sup>  
36

37 To this end, it is recognized that the formulation of policies and plans supported by scientific  
38 and technology studies is a vital process that calls for the participation of the public and private  
39 sectors at the national and sub-national levels. The formulation and adoption of these policies  
40 and plans need to be coordinated and implemented by an independent science and technology  
41 agency, to be headed by the President, to ensure the consistency of policies, plans and programs  
42 for national development and the sustainable use of the nation's resources.  
43

44 Sec. 3. The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) – There is hereby established a  
45 department that shall provide central direction, leadership and coordination of scientific and  
46 technological efforts and ensure that the results therefrom are geared and utilized in areas of  
47 maximum economic and social benefits for the people. <sup>ii</sup>  
48

49 The DOST shall consist of the following entities, organized under existing laws:  
50

- (a) DOST Central Office (DOST-CO) with Regional Offices and Provincial Science and Technology Offices (PSTOs) formerly known as Provincial Centers for Science and Technology, as created in Republic Act 6959<sup>iii</sup>
- (b) Sectoral Planning Councils
- (c) Collegial and Scientific Bodies
- (d) Science and Technology Service Institutes
- (e) Research and Development Institutes

The powers and functions of each shall be discussed in separate Sections within this Act.

Sec. 4. Powers and Functions – The DOST shall have the following powers and functions<sup>iv</sup>:

- (1) Formulate and adopt a comprehensive National Science and Technology Plan including specific goals, policies, plans, programs and projects based on the recommendation of the Inter-Council Review Board and, upon approval by the President, monitor and coordinate its funding and implementation by all government agencies and instrumentalities;
- (2) Promote, assist, and where appropriate, undertake scientific and technological research and development in those areas which are determined to be vital to the country's development and offer optimum returns for the resources employed;
- (3) Promote the development of indigenous technology and adaptation and innovation of suitable imported technology, and in this regard, undertake technology development up to the commercial stage, preferably in joint venture with the private sector or with public agencies;
- (4) Undertake design and engineering work to complement its research and development functions;
- (5) Promote, assist and where appropriate undertake the transfer of the results of scientific and technological research and development, to their end-users;
- (6) Promote, assist and where appropriate undertake technological services needed by agriculture, industry, transport, and the general public;
- (7) Develop and maintain an information system and databank on science and technology for use by both the public and private sectors;
- (8) Develop and implement, together with other entities concerned, programs for strengthening scientific and technological capabilities in the relevant disciplines through manpower training, and through infrastructure and institution building and rationalization, in both the public and private sectors;
- (9) Promote public consciousness in science and technology;
- (10) Undertake policy research, technology assessment studies, feasibility studies and technical studies.

## ARTICLE II. THE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY BOARD

Sec. 5. Composition of the Science and Technology Board (S&T Board). — The S&T Board shall be composed of the:

- (1) The President of the Philippines, who shall be the Chairperson of the S&T Board. Whenever the President is unable to attend a meeting of the Board, the Vice-Chairperson shall act as Chairperson;
- (2) The Secretary of DOST, who shall be the Vice-Chairperson;

- (3) The Secretary of Health;
- (4) The Secretary of Interior and Local Government;
- (5) The Secretary of Trade and Industry;
- (6) The Secretary of Public Works and Highways;
- (7) The Secretary of Agriculture;
- (8) The Secretary of National Defense;
- (9) The Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education;
- (10) The Secretary of Information, Communications and Technology;
- (11) The Secretary of National Economic and Development Authority; and
- (12) The Secretary of Budget and Management; and

Other Heads of Government Agencies may be invited to be part of the Board but as non-voting member.

The presence of at least six voting members shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 6. Meetings. - The S&T Board shall meet at least once every quarter. The presence of six (6) voting members shall constitute a quorum, provided that in all cases the Secretary of DOST shall be present.

A special meeting of the S&T Board may be convened by the President to address urgent concerns, or emergencies, such as natural disasters, calamities, or other extraordinary circumstances which would affect the economy and national development.

All decisions of the S&T Board shall require the concurrence of at least a majority of the voting members present at a meeting at which there is a quorum.

The S&T shall maintain and preserve a complete record of the proceedings and deliberations of the DOST Board, including the recordings and transcripts, either in their original form, or in any secured digital format. The Planning and Evaluation Services (PES) shall provide secretariat function.

Sec. 7. Withdrawal of Persons Having a Personal Interest - In addition to the requirements of Republic Act No. 6713, or any existing laws, a member of the S&T Board with personal or pecuniary interest in any matter in the agenda of the Board shall disclose his interest to the Board and shall withdraw from the meeting when the matter is taken up. The decision taken on the matter shall be made public. The minutes shall reflect the disclosure made and the recusal of the member concerned from the meeting.

Sec. 8. Exercise of Authority. — In the exercise of authority, the S&T Board shall:

- (1) Recommend the formulation and implementation of policies and strategies;
- (2) Recommend rules and regulations necessary for the effective discharge of the powers and functions vested upon the DOST;
- (3) Ensure, together with the Department of Budget and Management and other relevant government oversight agencies, that the annual and multi-year appropriations for programs and projects are aligned with the development strategies;
- (4) Approve or confirm projects, programs and plans as required under existing laws, orders, rules and regulations, and other issuances; and

(5) Direct the reorganization, or establishment of inter-agency committees under the S&T Board, including the modification of its membership, structures, powers and functions.

Sec. 9. Inter-Agency Committees. - Inter-agency committees shall be created to serve as advisory bodies to the S&T Board. It shall submit recommendations on matters involving their concerns to the Board for approval.

The Board shall designate the respective Chairpersons of these Committees, including the Secretariat, unless otherwise specifically provided herein.

The Board may create other inter-agency committees, or modify existing ones, in respect to their structures, compositions, powers, and functions.

The inter-agency committees may create sub-committees, whenever appropriate, for the purpose of dispensing with any of its respective functions.

The composition of the inter-agency committees shall be without prejudice to the participation of representatives of other government agencies or bodies, or of authorized representatives of major organizations of local government officials, civil society organizations, non-government organizations, people's organizations, the academe, or other private organizations as may be considered desirable by the committee in its deliberations.

Sec. 10. DOST Executive Committee (ExeCom) and DOST Management Committee (ManCom) <sup>v</sup>- There shall be a DOST Executive Committee composed of the Secretaries and all the Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries, that shall lead in and ensure in the implementation of existing S&T laws as such it shall issue guidelines, rules and regulations regarding this matter.

Further, there shall have a DOST Management Committee composed of the Secretary, all the Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries including the Regional Directors, Heads of Attached Agencies and DOST-CO Service Directors. It shall ensure among others the delivery of smooth and harmonized frontline services.

The Management Division shall serve as the Secretariat. Science & Technology Information Institute (STII) shall provide photo, audio, visual and all other forms of documentation as needed during ExeCom and ManCom Meetings.

Meetings may be held anywhere in the Philippines as deemed necessary to be hosted by the appropriate Regional Office.

It shall ensure among others the delivery of smooth and harmonized frontline services.

### **ARTICLE III.**

#### **THE SECRETARY AND OFFICES OF THE DOST**

Sec. 11. Organization, Composition, Starting, and Compensation. - The DOST shall determine its organizational structure, composition and staffing, as well as the responsibilities and functions of each office therein as identified in Section 3 according to applicable laws. It shall establish a human resource management system, in accordance with Civil Service rules, which

shall govern the selection, hiring, appointment, transfer, promotion, or dismissal of all personnel with the aim of establishing integrity, professionalism and excellence at all levels.

It shall adopt a position classification and compensation structure based on job evaluation studies, talent retention strategies, and wage surveys, that shall thereafter be subjected to the approval of the DOST. The salaries and other remuneration of officials and permanent employees of DOST shall at least be one salary grade higher than the standard provided under Republic Act No. 6758 and shall be entitled to "Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers, and other S&T Personnel in the Government," as amended.

Sec. 12. Organization of DOST. — The DOST shall consist of the Office of the Secretary, the Offices of the Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries, which shall be located within the premises of the DOST Central Office; unless allowed by the Secretary be situated in a different city or municipality for a valid cause.

Likewise, the DOST shall have Regional Offices, corresponding to the number of Regions in the Philippines. Provincial Science and Technology Office shall be established within and grouped with their corresponding Region. However, for National Capital Region (NCR) there shall be Cluster Area for Science and Technology Offices (CASTOs) namely:

- (a) CAMANAVA (Caloocan, Malabon, Valenzuela, Navotas)
- (b) MUNTAPARLAS (Muntinlupa, Taguig, Pateros, Parañaque, Las Piñas)
- (c) PAMAMARISAN (Pasig, Mandaluyong, Marikina, San Juan)
- (d) PAMAMAZON (Pasay, Makati, Manila, Quezon City)

In any event that there will conversion, merger and/or abolition of local government units, the Secretary shall have the power to reconstitute Regional Offices, PSTOs and CASTOs in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).

Sec. 13. Office of the Secretary of DOST. — The Office of the Secretary of DOST shall consist of the Secretary, Undersecretaries, Assistant Secretaries, the Internal Audit Service, Legislative Liaison Office, Administrative Legal Service, Planning and Evaluation Service and Financial and Management Service; other offices may be created as deemed necessary by the Secretary.

Sec. 14. Functions of the Secretary of DOST. — The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology shall have but not limited to the following functions:

- (1) Provide executive direction and supervision over the entire operations of the DOST;
- (2) Establish policies and standards for the effective, efficient, and economical operations of the DOST, in accordance with the programs of the government;
- (3) Promulgate rules, regulations, and other issuances as necessary in carrying out the DOST's mandate, objectives, policies, plans, programs and projects;
- (4) Establish effective linkages with regional and provincial planning and development offices;
- (5) Advise the President, on the promulgation of executive or administrative orders, and the formulation of regulatory and legislative proposals, pertaining to matters of national economic and social development;
- (6) Promulgate such rules and regulations, and exercise such other powers as may be required to implement the objectives of this Act;

- (7) Acquire personal property including but not limited to vehicle, equipment, and other movables and real property for science, technology, innovation and extension services such as but not limited to climate and weather forecasting and monitoring, disaster and hazard mapping, post-disaster research and development as an exemption to existing procurement law to immediately attend to S&T needs of the country.
- (8) Exercise the power of eminent domain for science, technology and innovation;
- (9) Perform such other tasks as may be provided by law or assigned by the President of the Philippines.

Sec. 15. Term of Office of the Secretary. - The Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology shall be appointed by the President who shall serve until the expiration of the President's term unless sooner terminated.

The Secretary may be re-appointed or extended beyond his or her term, upon the discretion of the newly elected President of the Philippines.

Sec. 16. Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries. - The Secretary shall be assisted by Undersecretaries for:

- (a) Scientific and Technical Services
- (b) Research and Development
- (c) Regional Operations
- (d) Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change

and Assistant Secretaries for

- (a) Finance and Legal Affairs
- (b) International Cooperation
- (c) Administration
- (d) Legislative Affairs

The undersecretaries and assistant secretaries shall be appointed by the President, upon recommendation by the Secretary.

The Secretary shall have the flexibility to determine the respective assignments of the Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries, depending on the Secretary's strategic directions and/or on emerging development trends affecting the country's economy.

The number of Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries may be increased upon passage of subsequent laws or as determined by the President of the Philippines.

Sec. 17. Services and Offices. - The DOST shall have the following services and offices:

- (1) Planning and Evaluation Service, which shall be responsible for providing the DOST with efficient and effective services relating to planning, programs and project monitoring and development;
- (2) Financial and Management Service, which shall be responsible for providing the DOST with efficient and effective staff advice and assistance on budgetary, financial, and management improvement matters;

- 1 (3) Administrative Service, which shall be responsible for providing the DOST with efficient  
2 and effective services relating to personnel, information, records, supplies, equipment  
3 collection, disbursement, security and custodial work, and all other related functions.  
4
- 5 (4) Legal Service, which shall be responsible for providing the DOST with efficient and  
6 effective legal services which shall include but not limited to the following:  
7
- 8 a) Provide legal advice to the Department on the interpretation of laws, rules affecting  
9 the operations of the Department. This shall include the preparation and/or review of  
10 Department issuances.  
11
- 12 b) Prepare review, review and interpret contracts and instruments to which the  
13 Department is a party;  
14
- 15 (5) Internal Audit Service which assists the management in achieving efficient and effective  
16 fiscal administration and performance of its affairs and functions;  
17
- 18 (6) Gender and Development (GAD) Service, pursuant to Republic Act 9710 or the "Magna  
19 Carta Law for Women" Act shall ensure gender mainstreaming in the Department in  
20 compliance with RA 9710, other policy issuances and guidelines set by the Philippine  
21 Commission on Women in the pursuit of a gender-responsive DOST  
22
- 23 (7) Department Legislative Liaison Service (DLLS) formerly referred as the Department  
24 Legislative Liaison Office (DLLO) shall be the lead in shepherding STI priority  
25 legislations of the Department.  
26
- 27 (8) Balik Scientist Program (BSP) Office, which shall be responsible for the implementation  
28 of Republic Act 11035 or the "Balik Scientist Act"<sup>viii</sup> The Secretary shall delegated the  
29 day-to-day operation to appropriate Undersecretary or Assistant Secretary the BSP Office.  
30
- 31 (9) National Committee on Biosafety of the Philippines (NCBP) Office created under  
32 Executive Order No. 430 on 15 October 1990, and further strengthened with the issuance  
33 of Executive Order No. 514 on 17 March 2006, which shall develop biosafety policies in  
34 the country and set scientific, technical and procedural standards on actions by agencies  
35 and other sectors to promote biosafety in the Philippines, among others.  
36
- 37 (10) International Cooperation Office (ICO) formerly referred as the International  
38 Technology Cooperation Unit, shall be in charge in fostering international collaboration  
39 and linkages with other States and other foreign institutions and entities, among others.  
40 ICO shall also be in charge in the deployment of STI attaches in other countries.  
41
- 42 (11) Philippine Health Research Ethics Office (PHREO), the Philippine Health Research  
43 Ethics Board (PHREB) created under DOST Special Order No. 091 s. 2006 as provided  
44 in Section 12 of Republic Act 10532 or the "Philippine National Health Research System  
45 Act of 2013," shall ensure adherence to the universal principles for the protection of  
46 human participants in research.  
47
- 48 PHREO shall be an independent division within the PCHRD. The Budget needed shall be  
49 included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of PCHRD. PHREO shall be headed  
50 by a Director I, who shall also serve as the Deputy Director of PCHRD.

1 The Secretary shall create of additional offices or modify of existing staffs relative to their  
2 structures, compositions, powers, and functions. Each service office shall be headed by a  
3 Director II assisted by one Deputy Director (**Director I**).

4  
5 Incumbent Service Director shall continue to hold their existing salary grade. Provided, that  
6 once the incumbent Service Director resigns, retires, transfers, abandons post, is removed  
7 from office or is incapacitated to function due to his physical condition or as an administrative  
8 or legal sanction, the new appointed director or deputy director shall have the salary grade for  
9 Director II or Director I, respectively.

10  
11 Sec. 18. DOST Regional Offices (ROs) <sup>viii</sup>. – The DOST is hereby authorized to establish,  
12 operate and maintain a Regional Office, whenever appropriate, in each of the administrative  
13 regions of the country, to be headed by a Regional Director (RD) or (Director IV) and supported  
14 by an Assistant Regional Director (ARD) (salary grade of a Director III) who shall report to,  
15 and subject to the supervision of, the Undersecretary for Regional Operations. A Regional  
16 Office shall have, within its administrative region, the following functions:

- 17 (a) Implement laws, rules, regulations, policies, plans, programs and projects of the Authority;
- 18 (b) Provide efficient and effective service to the people;
- 19 (c) Coordinate with regional offices of other ministries, offices and agencies in the  
20 administrative region;
- 21 (d) Coordinate with local government units; and
- 22 (e) Perform such other functions as may be provided by law or as designated by the Secretary  
23 or the President.

24  
25 There shall be at least a minimum of 4 Divisions within each RO:

- 26 (a) Finance, Planning and Administrative Division
- 27 (b) Research Development and Management Division
- 28 (c) Research Information, Utilization, Communication Division
- 29 (d) Legal Division

30  
31 Each RO shall have jurisdiction over that PSTOs and / or CASTOs within the territory of the  
32 said region. In cases of reclassification, conversion and/or abolition of local government units,  
33 the concerned RO shall inform the Undersecretary for Regional Operations and shall ensure  
34 the smooth transition of the PSTOs and/or CASTOs.

35  
36 The existing Provincial Centers for Science and Technology under RA 6959 shall be headed  
37 by a Director II. The current Senior Science Research Specialist, who heads the Center shall  
38 be qualified for the Director II position, subject to existing Civil Service Laws and issuances.

39  
40 The PSTO/CASTO shall be tasked with the following:

- 41 a) Planning and execution of province specifically science, technology and innovation-  
42 related programs
- 43 b) Coordinate with local government units, provincial government, provincial offices of  
44 other national agencies to support programs with intensive input of science,  
45 technology and innovation
- 46 c) Perform other science, technology, innovation and research-related functions as maybe  
47 authorized by law and by the Department.
- 48 d) Serve as the legislative – advocacy and dissemination arm of the Department with  
49 national and local policymakers, chief executives, among others.

1 Sec. 19. Attached Agencies. - The agencies attached to the DOST as of the effectivity of this  
2 Act shall continue to be attached in the performance of their respective functions, pursuant to  
3 the pertinent provisions of Executive Order No. 128 s. 1987, their respective charters or  
4 enabling laws, unless otherwise provided.

5  
6 The attached agencies of the DOST shall be the following<sup>ix</sup>:

7 (a) Sectoral Planning Councils responsible for: formulating policies, plans, programs, projects  
8 and strategies for S&T development; for programming and allocating funds; for monitoring  
9 of research and development projects; and for generating external funds.

10 (1) Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources Research and  
11 Development (PCAARRD)

12 (2) Philippine Council for Health Research & Development (PCHRD)

13 (3) Philippine Council for Industry, Energy and Emerging Technology Research &  
14 Development (PCIEERD)

15  
16 (b) Research and Development Institutes (RDIs) concerned with basic and applied researches  
17 on various fields.

18 (1) Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI)

19 (2) Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI)

20 (3) Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI)

21 (4) Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI)

22 (5) Metals Industry Research and Development Center (MIRDC)

23 (6) Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI)

24 (7) Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI)

25  
26 (c) S&T Service Institutes rendering science and technology-related services:

27 (1) Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services  
28 Administration (PAG-ASA)

29 (2) Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS)

30 (3) Philippine Science High School (PSHS) System

31 (4) Science Education Institute (SEI)

32 (5) Science and Technology Information Institute (STII)

33 (6) Technology Application and Promotion Institute

34  
35 Provided, that PSHS as provided in Republic Act 8496, as amended, shall ensure the existing  
36 administrative regions in the Philippines shall have at least one campus. In any event there  
37 would be merger or consolidation of administrative regions, there shall be as many campuses  
38 as those of the merged or consolidated regions. The determination as to which would be the  
39 main and/or satellite campuses shall be resolved by the PSHS Board subject to the approval of  
40 the Secretary.

41  
42 PSHS together with SEI shall coordinate with the Department of Education (DepEd) or Local  
43 Government Unit (LGU) to ensure the quality of Science Teaching at the Secondary Level.

44  
45 PSHS shall recommend to the Secretary the need for an establishment of a Philippine Science  
46 University (PSU) to address the need for critical mass of scientists, engineers, and other S&T  
47 personnel. Upon determination of the Secretary, the establishment of the PSU shall be included  
48 in the general appropriations of the following years.

(d) Collegial bodies with mandated functions of assistance, recognition, advisory and establishment of international linkages.

(1) National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)

(2) National Research Council of the Philippines (NRCP)

The DOST, in coordination with the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), shall have such offices and representatives in other countries in places where its presence is considered necessary, subject to the approval of the President of the Philippines. The Assistant Secretary for International Cooperation shall lead in the establishment of such offices.

Sec. 21. Department Legislative Liaison Service (DLLS) – The DOST - DLLS shall mirror the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO) to monitor the priority Legislations of the President and of the Department and responsible for communicating the same to the Legislative Branch.

As such, there shall be two (2) divisions within the DLLS: (1) Congressional Affairs Division, which shall be composed of two (2) main sections: (a) DLLS for the House of Representatives (HRep); (b) DLLS for the Senate. The role of each division is to perform legislative liaison within and among the members, committees of both Houses of Congresses. The DLLS for HRep shall hire additional staff as appropriate.

(2) Policy and Legislative Research Division (PLRD) shall be in charge of the drafting and or consolidation of Department position papers and in crafting S&T legislations as recommended by the Secretary. There shall be three (3) sections within the division namely: (a) Technical Writing Section; (b) International Legislative Research Section; and (c) Legislative Advocacy, Monitoring and Evaluation Section; housed within the DOST.

Every three (3) years, the DLLS shall organize a legislative liaison forum organized by the PLRD to orient, disseminate, among others, the priority legislative agenda of the Administration and various S&T priority bills under the Philippine Development Plan and to inculcate the importance among the DOST the legislative measure and promote awareness.

#### **ARTICLE IV. RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM**

Sec. 22. Grants-in-Aid (GIA) Program - The Department of Science and Technology- Central Office Grants-In-Aid Program (DOST-CO GIA) shall support S&T activities in the form of financial grants to programs and projects that are evaluated either by the Sectoral Council concerned, NRCP or the appropriate DOST institutions/authorities concerned).

The Undersecretary for Research and Development through the Special Projects Division shall promulgate rules and regulations regarding this program.

Provided, that programs and projects under the GIA including the purchase of necessary supplies, materials and equipment necessary to carry out the said programs and projects shall be exempted from existing procurement law and its succeeding amendments.

1 Provided further, that the research proponent must able to provide three (3) price quotations  
2 from bonafide suppliers duly recognized by and registered with the Bureau of Internal Revenue  
3 (BIR), in case the materials and equipment are to be imported from a Foreign Country, the  
4 proponent must secure certification from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) that such  
5 supplies, materials, vehicle or equipment are not produced nor imported by local manufacturer  
6 or local distributor.

7  
8 There shall be a special lane under the Bureau of Customs (BOC) to ensure timely and  
9 appropriate procedure with regards to importation of DOST-GIA supplies, materials and  
10 equipment.

11  
12 Sec. 23. Harmonized S&T Research Agenda - The S&T Board shall ensure that their agencies  
13 actively contribute in the implementation of the Harmonized S&T Research Agenda as  
14 provided in the Philippine Development Plan to ensure that the results of S&T endeavors are  
15 geared towards and are utilized in areas of maximum economic and social benefit for the  
16 people. The HNRDA shall be in line with the DOST's mandate of providing central direction,  
17 leadership and coordination of the scientific and technological efforts in the country.

18  
19 The Undersecretary for Research and Development shall be in-charge in the consultations,  
20 consolidation, documentation and other secretariat functions.

21  
22 The term research agenda shall also include programs, plans and actions.

23  
24 He shall coordinate with other DOST offices and attached agencies in coming up with the  
25 Harmonized S&T Research Agenda.

26  
27 Sec. 24. Knowledge Management. – The DOST – Central Office Records (DOST-CO) Section  
28 shall be strengthened to ensure repository of data and information, publications, researches and  
29 their utilization and other information. As such, the Record Sections shall be transformed into  
30 a division and shall provide library, documentation control and archive services.

31  
32 The DOST-CO together with the Information Technology Division (ITD) shall create an  
33 integrated knowledge management system wherein all DOST offices and attached agencies  
34 shall be connected.

35  
36 Other DOST offices and attached agencies shall develop their own knowledge management  
37 systems provided that it shall be integrated with the DOST-CO Records Management System.

38  
39 SEC. 25. National Science, Technology and Innovation Week (NSTIW) – By virtue of  
40 Presidential Proclamation No. 2214 s. 1982 as amended by Presidential Proclamation No. 169  
41 s. 1993, the National Science and Technology Week celebration shall be renamed as National  
42 Science, Technology and Innovation Week (NSTIW) shall be held every third (3<sup>rd</sup>) week of  
43 July of each year. The Secretary may hold the said event earlier but not later than the 3<sup>rd</sup> week  
44 of July.

45  
46 Further, the NSTIW shall be mirrored and held in at least one in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao  
47 to be spearheaded by the Undersecretary of Regional Operations to be assisted by the  
48 concerned Regional Director.

49  
50 NSTW shall also be held in other States where the Philippines has diplomatic ties.

1  
2 SEC. 26. Recognition for Outstanding Scientists, Engineers, Innovators and Government STI  
3 personnel. - In addition to the conferment of a "National Scientist" for outstanding scientists,  
4 engineers, innovators and Government STI personnel as provided by Presidential Decree No.  
5 1003-A s. 1976, the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) shall create a  
6 recognition program for Government STI personnel for rendering at least three (3) years of  
7 service reckoned from the date of entry in the Government as a regular STI personnel regardless  
8 of employment status and afterwards at interval of three (3) years of years.

9  
10 The NAST shall include in their annual budget cash incentives for each awardees and other  
11 incentives that are provided for by law.

12  
13 Likewise, the entitlement of benefits under the "Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers,  
14 Researchers, and other S&T Personnel in the Government" shall be transitioned to NAST  
15 within five (5) years after the effectivity of this Act.

16  
17 NAST may propose additional budget to establish the necessary office including the hiring of  
18 staff for this purpose.

19  
20  
21 **ARTICLE V.**  
22 **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

23  
24 SEC. 27. Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting on the Implementation of Plans and Programs  
25 – the Planning and Evaluation Services (PES) shall be in-charge in the collection, collation,  
26 aggregation, analysis, interpretation, presentation including laymanizing of data results as  
27 required by the Secretary and other relevant government agencies.

28  
29 For this purpose, the PES shall submit the recommended number of plantilla personnel to  
30 ensure timely and accurate data subject to the approval of the President upon recommendation  
31 by the Secretary.

32  
33  
34 **CHAPTER III**  
35 **TRANSITORY AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

36  
37 SEC. 28. Transitory Provision. — The powers and functions, applicable funds and  
38 appropriations, records, files, equipment, facilities, supplies, property, and personnel of the  
39 current DOST Secretariat are hereby transferred to the new DOST.

40  
41 The present career officials and employees of the current DOST Secretariat shall enjoy security  
42 of tenure and be absorbed by the new DOST, in accordance with its staffing pattern and  
43 selection process as prescribed under Republic Act No. 6656, unless they are separated from  
44 service by virtue of the reorganization resulting from this Act, or opt and are qualified to retire  
45 from service.

46  
47 The affected officials and employees shall be entitled to a separation package in accordance  
48 with existing laws; provided that there are no pending complaints or cases filed before any law  
49 enforcement agencies, court or quasi-judicial tribunal.

1 Unless absolutely required, no officer or employee shall be separated from service as a result  
2 of any reorganization or consolidation under the provisions of this Act. In addition, those who  
3 desire and are qualified to retire shall be entitled to all the benefits provided under existing  
4 laws.

5 Current officials and employees of the DOST shall continue to draw their salaries, benefits, and  
6 other emoluments until such time, but not later than one (1) year from the effectivity of this  
7 Act, that the corresponding funds from the National Government shall have been appropriated  
8 and released to the DOST.

9  
10 SEC. 29. Transfer of Rights and Obligations. — The DOST shall, by virtue of this Act, be  
11 subrogated to all the rights and assume all the obligations of the current DOST, and all its  
12 liabilities that pertain to its pertinent funds and appropriations, records, files, equipment,  
13 facilities, supplies, property, and personnel, including unexpended portions of its members'  
14 respective salaries.

15 SEC. 30. Funding. — The amount needed to carry out the initial implementation of this Act  
16 shall be charged on the current year's budget of DOST and its attached agencies.

17  
18 Thereafter, the necessary budget for the continued operation and maintenance of the DOST  
19 and its attached agencies shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

20  
21 SEC. 31. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — Within two hundred seventy (270) days  
22 from the effectivity of this Act, the DOST shall promulgate the rules and regulations, as well  
23 as the issuances, necessary to ensure the proper implementation of the provisions of this Act.

24  
25 The DOST Regional Offices together with its PCST shall host the conduct of nationwide public  
26 consultations. Other relevant expenses shall be shouldered by the remaining DOST entities as  
27 determined by the Secretary.

28  
29 These implementing rules and regulations shall take effect fifteen (15) days after the  
30 completion of their publication in one (1) newspaper of general circulation.

31  
32 SEC. 32. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules,  
33 regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with any provision of  
34 this Act, are hereby repealed, amended, and/ or modified accordingly.

35  
36 SEC. 33. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect ten (10) working days after completion of  
37 its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

<sup>i</sup>1987 Constitution

SECTION 17. The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.

SECTION 10. Science and technology are essential for national development and progress. The State shall give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization; and to science and technology education, training, and services. It shall support indigenous, appropriate, and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, and their application to the country's productive systems and national life.

<sup>ii</sup> <http://dost.gov.ph/transparency/about-dost/mandate-mission-and-vision.html>

<sup>iii</sup> Republic Act No. 6959 July 31, 1990

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING PROVINCIAL CENTERS FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN ALL PROVINCES OF THE PHILIPPINES  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE**

[https://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra1990/ra\\_6959\\_1990.html](https://www.lawphil.net/statutes/repacts/ra1990/ra_6959_1990.html)

<sup>iv</sup> SEC. 5. **Powers and Functions.** To accomplish its mandate, the Authority shall have the following powers and functions:

[a] Formulate and adopt a comprehensive National Science and Technology Plan including specific goals, policies, plans, programs and projects based on the recommendation of the Inter-Council Review Board and, upon approval by the President, monitor and coordinate its funding and implementation by all government agencies and instrumentalities;

Promote, assist, and where appropriate, undertake scientific and technological research and development in those areas which are determined to be vital to the country's development and offer optimum returns for the resources employed;

Promote the development of indigenous technology and adaptation and innovation of suitable imported technology, and in this regard, undertake technology development up to the commercial stage, preferably in joint venture with the private sector or with public agencies;

Undertake design and engineering work to complement its research and development functions;

e Promote, assist and where appropriate undertake the transfer of the results of scientific and technological research and development, to their end-users;

Promote, assist and where appropriate undertake technological services needed by agriculture, industry, transport, and the general public;

Develop and maintain an information system and databank on science and technology for use by both the public and private sectors;

Develop and implement, together with other entities concerned, programs for strengthening scientific and technological capabilities in the relevant disciplines through manpower training, and through infrastructure and institution building and rationalization, in both the public and private sectors;

Promote public consciousness in science and technology;

j Undertake policy research, technology assessment studies, feasibility studies and technical studies.

<sup>v</sup> [http://www.dost.gov.ph/phocadownload/Downloads/Annual\\_Reports/Performance\\_Reports/2017\\_DOST\\_performance\\_report.pdf](http://www.dost.gov.ph/phocadownload/Downloads/Annual_Reports/Performance_Reports/2017_DOST_performance_report.pdf)

<sup>vi</sup> <http://ncr.dost.gov.ph/index.php/contacts>

<sup>vii</sup> <http://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2018/06jun/20180615-RA-11035-RRD.pdf>

<sup>viii</sup> SEC. 31. **Regional Offices.** The Authority is hereby authorized to establish, operate and maintain a Regional Office, whenever appropriate, in each of the administrative regions of the country, to be headed by a Regional Director who shall report to, and subject to the supervision of, the Deputy Director-General for Regional Operations. A Regional Office shall have, within its administrative region, the following functions:

a Implement laws, rules, regulations, policies, plans, programs and projects of the Authority;

b) Provide efficient and effective service to the people;

c Coordinate with regional offices of other ministries, offices and agencies in the administrative region;

[d] Coordinate with local government units; and

[e] Perform such other functions as may be provided by law.

<sup>ix</sup> <http://dost.gov.ph/transparency/about-dost/organizational-structure.html>

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