

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9554



Introduced by Representative Mercedes “Didi” C. Cagas

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A BAMBOO GROWING DEMONSTRATION FARM IN THE
PROVINCE OF DAVAO DEL SUR, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Considered as the “Green Steel” or the “Green Gold”, the Philippine bamboo is considered a very versatile material for many industries including construction, as an alternative to wood; pulp, paper and textile; bioenergy; food and beverage; automotive and sports; and farming, among others. Sustainable, durable and eco-friendly, the bamboo is a high value-added forest product with good export potential. One of the world’s fastest-growing plants because it grows faster than any other plant, the bamboo helps in soil stabilization, erosion control, and is a vital remediation material that can reduce exposure to toxic environmental contaminants.

During the 2020 Bamboo Summit, the Department of Trade and Industry has allocated P22 billion for the development of the bamboo industry with the objective of planting 23,671 hectares of bamboo nationwide for 2021 and 40,000 hectares for 2022, and providing assistance to micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), associations and local government units.

Recognizing the efforts of the National Government to sustain and develop the bamboo industry, this representation proposes the establishment of a Bamboo Growing Demonstration Farm in the Province of Davao Del Sur. On a local level, the establishment of the Farm will provide livelihood opportunities to the community, increase income, rural employment, and strengthen MSMEs that process bamboo into finished goods.

It is for the foregoing reason that the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MERCEDES “DIDI” C. CAGAS

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

SECTION 1. *Establishment.* – There shall be established, under the control and supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, a Bamboo Growing Demonstration Farm in the Province of Davao Del Sur to promote the commercial growing of bamboo and expanding livelihood opportunities for the residents of the Province.

SEC. 2. *Site Selection.* – Within ninety (90) days after the approval of this Act, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall, through the Ecosystem Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), identify the most suitable site for the Bamboo Growing Demonstration Farm in the Province of Davao Del Sur. The ERDB shall also extend the necessary technical assistance for the growing and harvesting of bamboo trees, and the maintenance and development of the demonstration farm.

SEC. 3. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the current appropriations of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Thereafter, such sum as may be necessary for the continuous operation and maintenance of the Bamboo Growing Demonstration Farm shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

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

Approved,