

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
3rd Regular Session

House Bill No. 10507



Introduced by Representative ERIC GO YAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Aeroponics is the process of growing vegetation in an air of mist environment without the use of soil or an aggregate medium. It is a viable solution to ensuring national food security and a cost-effective alternative to traditional farming. It addresses the country's ever-persisting problems on crops being destroyed due to natural occurrences such as tropical depression, drought, infectious diseases, rodents, and other natural phenomena.

This bill seeks to empower the agricultural sector through the promotion of and comprehensive research on Aeroponics Technology. The application of Aeroponics in the production of high-value added crops and vegetable farming will aid in addressing the country's food security concerns and the utilization scarce fertile land resources. It shall also provide more income for our farmers who have been subject to the vicious cycle of planting, hoping and praying that storms and droughts won't destroy the produce of their toil. It is high time that we find technologically advanced solutions in Agriculture, without foregoing environmental concerns.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ERIC GO YAP

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AN ACT
PROMOTING THE USE OF AEROPONICS TECHNOLOGY TO BE APPLIED IN
AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION OF HIGH VALUE-ADDED CROPS AND
VEGETABLE FARMING TO ADDRESS THE COUNTRY'S FOOD SECURITY
CONCERNS AND JUDICIOUSLY UTILIZE SCARCE FERTILE LAND
RESOURCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* This Act shall be known as the “Aeroponics Technology in Agricultural Production Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration Policy.* It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to reaffirm the fundamental right of every person to food security. The attainment of self-sufficiency in the field of food production is therefore adopted as a primary State policy. For this purpose, key reforms for the advancement of, and support to agricultural advancement in technology adaptation are hereby promoted in order to ensure food security in the country.

Furthermore, the State commits itself to the adoption of state-of-the-art technologies and the active development of modern, appropriate and cost-effective and environmentally safe agricultural technology in order to ensure and provide food security.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act, the term aeroponics shall refer to the process of growing vegetation in an air of mist environment without the use of soil or an aggregate medium. Aeroponic growing is considered to be safe and ecologically friendly for producing natural, healthy plants and crops.

SEC. 4. *Use of Aeroponics Technology.* The Department of Agriculture (DA) is hereby mandated to promote the use of aeroponics agriculture as an instrument to further improve the production of high-value added crops and vegetables in the country and address food security concerns.

Idle government lands owned by either national or local governments or available land resources in State universities and colleges shall be considered for growing crops and vegetables using aeroponics agriculture.

SEC. 5. *Comprehensive Research and Aeroponics Technology Applied in Agricultural Production.* For purposes of this Act the DA is hereby mandated to conduct a comprehensive research and information drive on aeroponics technology applied in agricultural production.

The DA is further enjoined to support research activities aimed at expanding the knowledge and understanding of aeroponics technology and to invest in advanced technology research in order to adopt state-of-the-art technologies to promote agricultural production in our high value-added crops and vegetables.

SEC. 6. *Inclusion of Aeroponics Technology in Agricultural Training.* Aeroponics technology as used in agricultural production shall be integrated in the academic curriculum for secondary and tertiary level students of both public and private academic institutions studying courses in Agriculture, Practical Arts, Home Economics and/or other subjects related to Agriculture.

The Department of Education (DepEd) in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this section within six (6) months from the date of the effectivity hereof.

SECTION 7. *Appropriation.* The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included and incorporated in the annual general appropriations of the DA, DepEd, and CHED.

SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the DA, in coordination with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* As any provision of or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,