

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

19TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5607



Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines' **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)**, is an agency of the Philippine government under the Department of Agriculture responsible for serving and supporting the Philippine plant industry sector.

On January 31, 1930 by virtue of Act 3639 of the Philippine Legislature, the Bureau of Agriculture was split to the Bureau of Animal Industry and Bureau of Plant Industry. The said Act defined the powers and functions of the two agencies. The Bureau of Animal Industry taking over all activities concerning animals, animal diseases, and industrialization of animal products and the **Bureau of Plant Industry** taking over the tasks on plant research and crop production.

This House Bill seeks to provide **Modernization Funding** to the **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)**, to promote plant research and crop production.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Romero", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

19TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5607

Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR MODERNIZATION FUNDINGFOR THE **BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY (BPI)**, INCREASING AND REORGANIZING ITS ADMINISTRATION, TO PROMOTE PLANT RESEARCH AND CROP PRODUCTION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY – It shall hereby be a declared policy of the State to establish a premier agency for a lively and competitive plant industry and crop production.

The state shall foster the plant industry to be productive and profitable under sustainable environment through sound policies, programs, research and services on crop production, post-harvest, health and welfare.

The state shall continually improve the effectiveness of our Quality Management System towards equitable development for improved quality of life for all.

The state shall formulate policies for the efficient and effective administration and management of all manpower, skills and competencies to ensure compliance.

SECTION 2. MODERNIZATION FUNDING. – The amount of Five Hundred Million Pesos (**Php 500,000,000.00**) for the operation and administration of the **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)** shall be chargeable against funds for the purpose and other sources recommended by the **Department of Budget and Management (DBM)**. Thereafter, appropriations for the **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)** shall be included in the budget proposals under the Department Agriculture (**DA**).

The Department of Budget and Management (**DBM**) shall rationalize the existing organizational structure and staffing pattern of the in accordance with the provisions of this Act and relevant compensation and position classification laws, rules and regulations.

Thereafter, the amount needed for the continued implementation of the modernization program, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (**GAA**).

SECTION 3. BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY (BPI) MODERNIZATION FUND – There is hereby created the (**BPI**) *Modernization Fund* to be used exclusively for the (**BPI**) *Modernization Program*.

The (**BPI**) *Modernization Fund* shall be administered by the Secretary of the **DA** in accordance with existing government budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 4. PROGRESS REPORT – The Secretary of **DA** shall prepare an annual report on the status of the implementation of the (**BPI**) *Modernization Programs* which shall be submitted, to the Office of the President and to the Chairpersons of the Committee of Agriculture and Food of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SECTION 5. PERIOD OF IMPLEMENTATION – The modernization program under this Act shall be implemented for an initial period of two **(2)** years:

Provided, that payments for multi-year contract obligations incurred under this Act may extend beyond this period:

Provided, further, That the **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)** shall continue to develop, modernize and constantly update its operational capabilities to keep pace with best global practices.

SECTION 6. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. – The **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)** shall continue to exercise and uphold the following powers and functions; but not limited to:

- a) Promoting the development of plant industries through research and development;
- b) Crop production,
- c) Crop protection, and
- d) Effective technology promotion and transfer.

SECTION 7. INCREASE OF PERSONNEL. – The **Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI)** shall maintain the sufficient staffing pattern. Hence, it is authorized to increase its manpower to meet such required and may continue to increase personnel per percentage rate increase of committed mandates annually or as the need arises.

SECTION 8. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six **(6)** months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 9. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty **(60)** days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 12. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,