

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

19TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5750



Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)** is one of the sectoral councils under the Department of Science and Technology (**DOST**). It was formed through the consolidation of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) and the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development (PCAMRD) on June 22, 2011 pursuant to Executive Order No. 366.

Originally established in November 1972 as the Philippine Council for Agricultural Research (PCAR), it became the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research (PCARR) to include mines research in 1975. Affirming the role of S&T in development, PCARR changed its name to Philippine Council for Agriculture and Resources Research and Development (PCARRD) in 1982. The Council was tasked to provide a unified and focused direction for the country's agricultural research. It then became an apex organization that supports and manages the national network of government and higher education institutions involved in crops, livestock, forestry, fisheries, soil and water, mineral resources, and socio-economic research and development (R&D). In 1987, the Council was renamed the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development but retained the acronym PCARRD. On January 30 of the same year created the Philippine Council for Aquatic and Marine Research and Development (PCAMRD) from the Fisheries Research Division of PCARRD with functions focused on aquatic and marine sectors.

With expanded coverage, functions, and responsibilities, the Council formulates policies, plans, and programs for science and technology-based R&D in the different sectors under its concern. It coordinates, evaluates, and

monitors the national R&D efforts in the agriculture, aquatic, and natural resources (AANR) sector. It also allocates government and external funds for R&D and generates resources to support its program.

As the apex Council of the AANR sector, **PCAARRD** is engaged in active partnerships with international, regional, and national organizations and funding institutions for joint R&D, human resource development and training, technical assistance, and exchange of scientists, information, and technologies. The Council is implementing its program primarily through its Research and Development and Extension Consortia which are located all over the country.

It also supports the National Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development Network (NAARRDN) composed of national multi- and single-commodity and regional R&D centers, cooperating stations, and specialized agencies.

Being an ISO 9001:2015-certified agency for its quality management system, PCAARRD is committed to achieving a sustained dynamic leadership in science and technology (S&T) innovation in the AANR sector by providing a strategic leadership in promoting S&T as a platform for AANR products innovation and environment resiliency. Guided by its core values of relevance, excellence, and cooperation, PCAARRD will remain steadfast in catalyzing the Philippine AANR sector toward self-sufficiency and global competitiveness.

This House Bill seeks to provide **Modernization Funding** to the **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)**, to sustain dynamic leadership in science and technology (S&T) innovation in the agriculture, aquatic and natural resources (AANR) sectors.

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 stroke extending to the right.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO

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AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR MODERNIZATION FUNDINGFOR THE
**PHILIPPINE COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURE, AQUATIC AND
NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
(PCAARRD)**, INCREASING AND REORGANIZING ITS
ADMINISTRATION, TO PROVIDE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP IN
PROMOTING **S&T** AS A PLATFORM FOR **AANR** PRODUCTS
INNOVATION AND ENVIRONMENT RESILIENCY 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:

- a)** Formulate policies, plans, programs, projects, and strategies
for S&T development in the Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural
Resources (AANR) sector;
- b)** Program and allocate government and external funds
generated for R&D efforts in AANR;

- c) Monitor research and development (R&D) projects; and
- d) Generate external funds for its R&D activities

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 **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)** shall be chargeable against funds for the purpose and other sources recommended by the **Department of Budget and Management (DBM)**. Thereafter, appropriations for the **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)** shall be included in the budget proposals under the Department of Science and Technology (**DOST**).

The Department of Budget and Management (**DBM**) shall rationalize the existing organizational structure and staffing pattern of the **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)** 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. PHILIPPINE COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURE, AQUATIC AND NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (PCAARRD) MODERNIZATION FUND – There is hereby created the **(PCAARRD)** *Modernization Fund* to be used exclusively for the **(PCAARRD)** *Modernization Program*.

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

SECTION 4. PROGRESS REPORT – The Secretary of **DOST** shall prepare an annual report on the status of the implementation of the **(PCAARRD)** *Modernization Programs* which shall be submitted, to the Office of the President and to the Chairpersons of the Committee on Science and Technology 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 **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)** shall continue to develop, modernize and constantly update its operational capabilities to keep pace with best global practices.

SECTION 6. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS. – The **Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD)** shall continue to exercise and uphold the following powers and functions; but not limited to:

- Formulate policies, plans, programs, projects, and strategies for S&T development in the Agriculture, Aquatic, and Natural Resources (AANR) sector;
- Program and allocate government and external funds generated for R&D efforts in AANR;
- Monitor research and development (R&D) projects; and
- Generate external funds for its R&D activities

SECTION 7. INCREASE OF PERSONNEL. – The **PTRI** 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,