



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **221**



Introduced by Representative Crispin Diego “Ping” D. Remulla

AN ACT
TO DEVELOP EXPORTS AS A KEY TO ACCELERATING ECONOMIC GROWTH
AND ENHANCING THE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS OF PHILIPPINE
PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, THEREBY AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7844
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1994,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The export sector plays an important role in helping the Philippine economy grow and connect with the rest of the world. According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, the country earned USD 6.59 billion from exports in March 2025, which is 5.9% higher than the same month last year. From January to March 2025, total exports reached to USD 19.27 billion, which shows a steady 5.7% growth. Most of these exports consisted of electronic products and manufactured goods, with the United States being our largest buyer.

These numbers indicate that Philippine exports are performing well; however, many of our small and medium-sized businesses continue to struggle with challenges such as meeting international standards, navigating complex regulations, and accessing foreign markets. They also require additional support to enhance their products, adopt digital tools, and compete effectively on a global scale.

This measure aims to reinforce support systems for MSMEs. It will introduce skills training and apprenticeships, set up a faster process for export requirements, remove unauthorized fees, and support events like National Exporter's Week.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. D. Remulla', with a stylized flourish at the end.

CRISPIN DIEGO "PING" D. REMULLA



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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Exports and Investments*
2 *Development Act of 2025*”.

3 **SEC. 2.** Sec. 2 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
4 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

5 “SEC. 2. *Declaration of policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to evolve export
6 development into a national effort **AND TRANSFORM THE PHILIPPINES INTO**
7 **AN EXPORTING NATION.** The [government] STATE shall champion exports as a
8 focal strategy for [a] **THE ACCELERATION OF INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC**
9 **GROWTH, INVESTMENTS PROMOTION, EFFICIENT TRANSFER OF**
10 **KNOWLEDGE AND KNOW-HOW, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL**
11 **INNOVATION, AND sustainable agri-industrial development [to achieve Philippine**
12 **Nihood towards the year 2000. The private sector shall take the lead in the collective**
13 **effort to promote exports through discipline and hard work, as it confronts the challenge**
14 **of winning international markets.]**

1 ~~{The government and the private sector shall jointly transform the Philippines into an~~
2 ~~exporting nation.}~~ IT IS HEREBY DECLARED POLICY OF THE STATE TO
3 IMPROVE THE CONTRIBUTION OF EXPORTS TO NATIONAL ECONOMIC
4 DEVELOPMENT, BY ELEVATING THE DIVERSITY, SOPHISTICATION, AND
5 QUALITY OF PRODUCTS THAT ARE PRODUCED AND/OR SOURCED
6 DOMESTICALLY FOR EXPORT PURPOSES. Towards this end, the State shall
7 instill in the Filipino people that exporting is ~~[not just a sectoral concern, but the key to~~
8 ~~national survival and the means through which the economic goals of increased~~
9 ~~employment and enhanced incomes can most expeditiously be achieved.]~~ **KEY TO**
10 **NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND A MEANS TO EXPEDITIOUSLY**
11 **REDUCE POVERTY, PROVIDE EMPLOYMENT, AND INCREASE THE**
12 **AVERAGE INCOME OF FILIPINO HOUSEHOLDS."**

13 **SEC. 3.** Sec. 3 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
14 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

15 “SEC. 3. *Key Operating Principles.* – A macro-economic policy framework that
16 supports export development shall be provided, especially in key areas of concern to
17 exporters:

- 18 a. x x x;
- 19 b. Fiscal and credit policies shall provide adequate funds for public and private
20 investments and business expansion, while keeping the cost of credit comparable to
21 international levels ensuring access to loanable funds for ~~[SMEs]~~ **MICRO, SMALL,**
22 **AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMES)**, as well as highly technical **AND**
23 **INNOVATIVE** export enterprises, especially those in the countryside;
- 24 c. x x x;
- 25 d. x x x;
- 26 e. Technical support policies to improve the quality of export products shall be adopted,
27 particularly those relating to technology transfer, R&D, technical training and related
28 activities, **INCLUDING THOSE THAT REQUIRE FOREIGN INVESTMENT**
29 **OR INVOLVE ASSISTANCE FROM FOREIGN PARTNERS WHEREVER**
30 **APPLICABLE, SUBJECT TO RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS.** As
31 such, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Department of
32 Agriculture (DA) shall be supported by colleges and universities in the diffusion of
33 technology, information and training to the countryside for agri-industrial and export
34 development;

- 1 f. Urgent attention must be given to policies affecting infrastructure in order to ensure the
2 adequate supply and quality of power, water [~~e.g., for irrigation~~], transportation [~~e.g.,~~
3 ~~shipping and cargo handling~~], and communication to support the flow of goods and
4 services in the context of the national export drive;
- 5 g. The link between export growth and countryside development must be strengthened
6 through policies favorable to MSMEs, regional industrial centers, and export
7 processing zones to boost rural and farm-based entrepreneurship in identified
8 geographic economic growth areas of the country;
- 9 h. Labor and industrial relations policies must recognize the inevitable industrial shifts
10 that will occur in the effort to achieve international competitiveness. Focus shall be
11 given to the formulation of accords between labor and management which shall provide
12 for sustained increase in productivity and competitiveness. In line with this, dual
13 training schemes, **QUALITY APPRENTICESHIPS, DIGITAL UPSKILLING**
14 **INITIATIVES AND OTHER ENTERPRISE-BASED MODALITIES OF**
15 **LEARNING THAT INVOLVE CLOSE COLLABORATION BETWEEN**
16 **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR** shall be
17 integrated as a basic component to the country's primary and secondary education
18 program to ensure that the manpower needs of agriculture and industry will be matched
19 by the skills generated by the educational system. Reasonable price and income policies
20 shall likewise be adopted in order to safeguard the interest of the labor sector;
- 21 i. All government agencies whose regulations affect exporters [~~such as the Board of~~
22 ~~Investments (BOI), Bureau of Customs (BOC) and Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR)]~~
23 shall **IMPLEMENT REGULATORY REFORMS AND** simplify **THEIR**
24 procedures to [~~minimize bureaucratic red tape~~] **INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND**
25 **REDUCE TRANSACTIONAL COSTS IN CONSONANCE WITH R.A. 11032**
26 **OR THE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT**
27 **SERVICE DELIVERY ACT OF 2018.**
- 28 j. **EFFECTIVE TARGETING OF EXPORT MARKETS, POTENTIAL**
29 **LOCATORS AND INVESTORS, PRODUCTS FOR DEVELOPMENT, AND**
30 **NEW GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES SHALL BE INFORMED AND GUIDED**
31 **BY PROPER SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS OF RELEVANT DATA AND**
32 **INFORMATION. AS SUCH, THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND**
33 **INDUSTRY (DTI) SHALL COORDINATE AND JOINTLY IMPLEMENT**
34 **WITH THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY (PSA), AND OTHER**

1 APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, DATA-COLLECTION
2 PROCEDURES, DATA-SHARING ARRANGEMENTS, RELEVANT
3 SUBSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER MECHANISMS THAT ENABLE THE
4 PROPER MEASUREMENT OF THE COUNTRY'S PRODUCTIVE
5 CAPABILITIES AND KNOW-HOW, ITS RELATIVE COMPARATIVE
6 ADVANTAGE IN CERTAIN PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, AND OTHER
7 FACTORS RELEVANT TO THE FULFILLMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF
8 THIS ACT. WHEREVER FEASIBLE, SUCH DATA AND INFORMATION
9 SHALL BE DISAGGREGATED INTO NATIONAL, REGIONAL,
10 PROVINCIAL, AND CITY OR MUNICIPALITY LEVELS OF ANALYSIS."

11 SEC. 4. Sec. 4 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
12 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

13 "SEC. 4. *Definition of Terms.* – For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions
14 shall apply to the following terms:

- 15 a. "*Exported*" means any person, natural or juridical, licensed to do business in the
16 Philippines, engaged directly or indirectly in the production, manufacture, assembly,
17 processing, or trade of products or services which earns at least fifty percent (50%) of
18 its normal operating revenues from the sale of its products or services abroad for foreign
19 currency: Provided, That in the case of services, the same shall be limited to
20 ~~[information technology services, construction services and other]~~ services as defined
21 jointly by the Department of Finance (DOF) and the Department of Trade and Industry
22 (DTI). Services rendered by overseas contract workers are not covered by ~~[the]~~ this
23 definition.
- 24 b. x x x;
- 25 c. "*Export incentives*" shall refer to support measures, **FISCAL AND NON-FISCAL**,
26 provided by the government to exporters to encourage investment in the export sector,
27 create a freer trade environment and motivate exporters to increase export sales and
28 perform competitively in the ~~[export]~~ **GLOBAL** market. The overall objective is to
29 increase the country's export sales.
- 30 d. "*Accredited EXPORT Organization*" shall refer to the organization of exporters
31 granted accreditation by the Export Development Council, as provided in Section 7(1)
32 of this Act."

1 e. **"SOPHISTICATED" REFERS TO THE STATE WHEN A PRODUTOR**
2 **SERVICE REQUIRES A HIGH NUMBER OF CAPABILITIES,**
3 **COMPETENCIES OR KNOW-HOW TO BE PRODUCED OR OFFERED.**

4 f. **"SOPHISTICATION" REFERS TO THE NUMBER OFCAPABILITIES,**
5 **COMPETENCIES, OR KNOW-HOW REQUIRED FOR A PRODUCT OR**
6 **SERVICE TO BE OFFERED BY AN ECONOMY LIKE THAT OF THE**
7 **PHILIPPINES."**

8 **SEC. 5.** Sec. 5 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
9 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

10 **"SEC. 5. *Philippine Export Development Plan (PEDP)*. –** The President of the Republic
11 of the Philippines shall approve a rolling three-year Philippine Export Development
12 Plan prepared by the ~~[Department of Trade and Industry]~~ **DTI** which shall form part of
13 the ~~[medium-term]~~ Philippine Development Plan (~~[MF]~~**PDP**). It shall be formulated
14 **AND VALIDATED** in consultation with the **RELEVANT GOVERNMENT**
15 **AGENCIES AND** private sector ~~[,–validated]~~ **TO BE REVIEWED** and updated
16 semestrally.

17 The PEDP shall define the country's annual and medium-term export
18 thrusts, strategies, programs and projects **INCLUDING THE ENHANCEMENT OF**
19 **THE CAPABILITIES OF FILIPINO ENTERPRISES AND PROFESSIONALS**
20 **TO PRODUCE AND OFFER INCREASINGLY SOPHISTICATED AND**
21 **DIVERSIFIED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES, ALIGNED WITH THE**
22 **PREVAILING STRATEGIC INVESTMENT PRIORITIES PLAN AND THE**
23 **MICRO, SMALL, AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT (MSMED)**
24 **PLAN. THE PEDP [and] shall be jointly implemented by the government, export and**
25 **other concerned sectors.**

26 **UPON APPROVAL OF THE PEDP, THE PRESIDENT SHALL DIRECT**
27 **RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO ALLOCATE FUNDS, UNDER**
28 **THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA), IN SUPPORT OF THE**
29 **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PEDP WHICH SHALL BE MANAGED BY THE**
30 **DTI - EXPORT MARKETING BUREAU."**

31 **SEC. 6.** Sec. 6 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
32 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

33 **"SEC. 6. *Export Development Council*. –** The existing Export Development Council
34 ~~[(hereinafter referred to as the "Council") which was created by Executive Order No.~~

1 98 [1993] as modified by Executive Order No. 110 [1993], Executive Order No. 180
2 [1994], and Republic Act 7844 (1994)] is hereby reorganized and restrengthened to
3 suitably and periodically oversee the implementation of the PEDP and to continuously
4 ensure proper coordination of the formulation and implementation of policy reforms to
5 support the said Plan.”

6 **SEC. 7.** Sec. 7 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
7 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

8 “SEC. 7. *Powers and Functions.* – The Council shall:

- 9 a. ~~[approve the PEDP; coordinate, monitor and assess the implementation thereof, and~~
10 ~~when necessary, institute appropriate adjustments thereon in the light of changing~~
11 ~~conditions in both the domestic and international environment;]~~ **ASSIST THE DTI**
12 **IN DRAFTING THE PEDP WITH INPUTS FROM VARIOUS**
13 **STAKEHOLDERS;**
- 14 b. x x x;
- 15 c. **ENDORSE TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES THE**
16 **APPROVAL OF THE PEDP; COORDINATE, MONITOR AND ASSESS**
17 **THE IMPLEMENTATION THEREOF, AND, WHEN NECESSARY,**
18 **INSTITUTE APPROPRIATE ADJUSTMENTS THEREON IN THE LIGHT**
19 **OF CHANGING CONDITIONS IN BOTH THE DOMESTIC AND**
20 **INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS;**
- 21 d. [e] Identify the main bottlenecks, problems and constraints in all
22 areas/sectors/activities which influence the competitiveness of exports ~~[including~~
23 ~~but not limited to, such matters as policy framework; physical infrastructure;~~
24 ~~finance, technology, production, promotions and marketing];~~
- 25 e. [e] Mandate specific departments and agencies to address the bottlenecks and
26 problems constraining the [development] **COMPETITIVENESS,**
27 **SOPHISTICATION, AND DIVERSIFICATION** of exports ~~[in any of the areas~~
28 ~~mentioned in paragraph (c) above],~~ and require the concerned Secretaries or their
29 duly authorized representatives to [deliver] **SUBMIT** progress reportS on the
30 actions/initiatives taken to resolve these areas of concern at the ~~[next message]~~
31 **SOONEST POSSIBLE TIME;**
- 32 f. [e] Ensure export quality control by overseeing the formulation and implementation
33 of quality control guidelines by appropriate agencies to [make] **ENABLE**

PRODUCTION OF SOPHISTICATED AND DIVERSIFIED Philippine exports **WHICH ARE** at par with world-class products;

- g. [f] Impose sanctions on any government agency or officer or employee thereof, or private sector entity that impedes efficient exportation of Philippine goods;
- h. [g] Recommend to Congress any proposed legislation that would contribute to the competitiveness of Philippine exports;
- i. [h] Submit [quarterly] **ANNUAL** reports to Congress;
- j. ~~[i. formulate policies or recommend measures and draw up a study within ninety [90] days from the approval of this Act, relative to the rationalization of the government's export promotion and development functions/activities and programs for the eventual transfer of government export promotions and development activities to the sector within a period of two [2] years after the approval of this Act]~~
[Formulate the] **RECOMMENDED** policies **AND RULES AND REGULATIONS** for the grant[ing] of incentives to exporters **BY CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**;
- k. Adopt such policies, rules, procedures and administrative systems for the efficient and effective exercise of its powers and functions [~~including the creation or adoption of an executive committee or secretariat~~];
- l. Grant and review the accreditation of the **DOMINANT** organization of exporters according to the guidelines [~~which it shall later promulgate for the said purpose: Provided, That the organization accredited shall be the dominant one among the other existing export organizations as determined under the guidelines]~~ promulgated by the Council hereof.
- m. Issue standards and policies to be observed by Local Government Units (LGUs) in order to:

- 1. ensure that LGUs' plans and budgets are supportive of agriindustrial growth and export competitiveness thrusts of the national government; and
- 2. ensure optimal allocation of expenditures.

The DILG and the regional development councils shall be the channels through which these standards and policies shall be coursed

- n. **MANDATE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT INSTRUMENTALITIES TO CONDUCT BENCHMARKING OF TRADE PRACTICES AND PERFORMANCE ABROAD, AS WELL AS MARKET INTELLIGENCE AND/OR CRITICAL STRATEGIES THAT WILL ENHANCE THE**

1 **COMPETITIVENESS, SOPHISTICATION AND DIVERSIFICATION OF**
2 **PHILIPPINE EXPORTS.”**

3
4 **SEC. 8.** Sec. 8 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
5 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

6 “SEC. 8. *Composition of the Council.* – The Council shall be composed of the
7 following:

- 8 a. Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry, as Chairperson;
9 b. Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority;
10 c. Secretary of the Department of Finance;
11 d. Governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas;
12 e. Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology;
13 f. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture;
14 g. Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs;
15 h. Secretary of the Department of Labor and Employment;
16 i. ~~[Nine (9)]~~ **THREE (3)** representatives from the private sector. ~~[the majority~~
17 ~~of whom shall be recommendees of the accredited organization]~~ and one of
18 whom shall be elected by the Council as Vice-Chairman

19 Other heads of executive agencies, private organizations or individuals can be
20 called upon by the Council to attend any Council meeting and assist the Council to
21 resolve issues and problems that concern their respective offices.

22 ~~[Likewise, such heads of executive agencies, private organizations or~~
23 ~~individuals shall respond to the queries of the Council within two [two] weeks from the~~
24 ~~time such queries are received.]”~~

25 **SEC. 9.** Sec. 9 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development
26 Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

27 “SEC. 9. ~~[Mode of]~~ Selection and ~~[Tenure]~~ **APPOINTMENT** of Private Sector
28 Representatives – The President shall appoint the private sector representatives ~~[, who~~
29 ~~are not ex officio, upon nomination of the accredited organization;]~~ **BASED ON THE**
30 **LIST OF NOMINEES PREPARED BY THE DTI-EMB**, ensuring balanced
31 representations ~~[from the Visayas and Mindanao]~~ **ACROSS THE MAJOR ISLAND**
32 **GROUPS** and various sectors ~~[, such as the labor sector, agricultural and traditional~~
33 ~~export sectors as against the non-agricultural and non-traditional export sectors and the~~
34 ~~like].~~

1 THE SUCCEEDING APPOINTMENTS, AFTER EFFECTIVITY OF THIS
2 ACT, SHALL BE BASED ON THE LIST OF NOMINEES PREPARED BY THE
3 COUNCIL BASED UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF DTI-EMB:
4 PROVIDED, THAT SECTORAL REPRESENTATION IN THE COUNCIL
5 MAY BE SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION BASED ON THE RECOMMENDED
6 SECTORS OF THE EMB.

7 The private sector representatives of the Council shall serve for a period of [two (2)]
8 THREE (3) years. NO PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE SHALL SERVE
9 FOR MORE THAN TWO (2) CONSECUTIVE TERMS. VOLUNTARY
10 RENUNCIATION OF THE OFFICE FOR ANY LENGTH OF TIME SHALL
11 NOT BE CONSIDERED AS AN INTERRUPTION IN THE CONTINUITY OF
12 HIS SERVICE FOR THE FULL TERM FOR WHICH HE WAS APPOINTED.

13 When a vacancy occurs due to the resignation, death or incapacity of a member, a
14 replacement who shall serve for the remainder of the member's term of office shall be
15 appointed by the President: PROVIDED, THAT SUCH VACANCY MUST BE
16 FILLED WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM OCCURRENCE THEREOF:
17 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE SUCCESSOR SHALL ONLY SERVE
18 THE REMAINING UNEXPIRED PORTION OF THE TERM.”

19 SEC. 10. Sec. 10 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export
20 Development Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

21 “SEC. 10. *Meetings of the Council.* – REGULAR MEETINGS OF THE Council—
22 shall BE HELD AT LEAST [meet] once a month TO BE PRESIDED BY THE
23 CHAIRMAN: Provided, That [~~the President or the chairman may convene the Council~~
24 ~~anytime whenever he deems it necessary.~~] WRITTEN NOTICE OF REGULAR
25 MEETINGS SHALL BE SENT TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS OF RECORD
26 AT LEAST FOURTEEN (14) DAYS PRIOR TO THE
27 MEETING/DEFERMENT; PROVIDED FURTHER, THAT WRITTEN
28 NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETINGS OR ITS DEFERMENT MAY BE SENT
29 TO ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS OF RECORD THROUGH ELECTRONIC
30 MAIL OR SUCH OTHER MANNER AS THE COUNCIL SHALL ALLOW:
31 PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT, SHOULD THERE BE ANY CHANGES IN
32 THE USUAL CONDUCT OF THE REGULAR MEETING, A WRITTEN
33 NOTICE STATING THE DATE, TIME AND PLACE, OR ANY RELEVANT
34 MODIFICATIONS OF THE SAID MEETING MUST BE SENT TO EVERY

1 MEMBER AT LEAST FIVE (5) DAYS PRIOR TO THE SCHEDULED
2 MEETING. SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL MAY BE HELD AT
3 ANY TIME UPON THE CALL OF THE CHAIRMAN OR UPON MOTION OF
4 THE VICE-CHAIRMAN RAISED BEFORE THE COUNCIL MEMBERS AND
5 WITH ACQUIESCENCE OF AT LEAST A MAJORITY THEREOF."

6 SEC. 11. A new Section 11 is hereby inserted, to read as follows, the succeeding
7 sections shall be renumbered accordingly.

8 "SEC. 11. *VENUE OF MEETINGS.* – MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL MAY BE
9 HELD ANYWHERE IN THE PHILIPPINES, UNLESS OTHERWISE
10 STIPULATED IN IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OR AS
11 MAY BE AGREED UPON BY THE COUNCIL DURING THE PRECEDING
12 REGULAR MEETING: PROVIDED, THAT, THE COUNCIL MAY CONDUCT
13 MEETINGS THROUGH TELECONFERENCE, VIDEO CONFERENCE, OR
14 OTHER RELIABLE FORMS OF REMOTE OR ELECTRONIC MEANS,
15 USING APPROPRIATE INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
16 TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS, IN TIMES OF PUBLIC EMERGENCIES, FORCE
17 MAJEURE, OR OTHER SIMILAR EVENTS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY
18 THE COUNCIL WHICH MAY PREVENT MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS
19 FROM ATTENDING THE MEETINGS:PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT
20 REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS SHALL BE AVAILABLE ONLY
21 IF THE COUNCIL MEMBER IS WITHIN PHILIPPINE JURISDICTION."

22 SEC.12. A new Section 12 is hereby inserted, to read as follows:

23 "SEC. 12. *QUORUM AND VOTING.* – FOR PURPOSES OF QUORUM FOR
24 AND DURING MEETINGS, ATTENDANCE OF A MAJORITY OF THE
25 COUNCIL MEMBERS IS NECESSARY. A VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE
26 COUNCIL MEMBERS WHO ACTUALLY TOOK PART IN THE
27 DELIBERATIONS OF MATTERS RAISED DURING THE MEETING IS
28 NEEDED IN ORDER TO REACH A DECISION. VOTES OF COUNCIL
29 MEMBERS WHO FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED
30 REQUISITE SHALL NOT BE CONSIDERED."

31 SEC.13. A new Section 13 is hereby inserted, to read as follows:

32 "SEC. 13. *SECRETARIAT.* – WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE
33 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, A SECRETARIAT SHALL BE CREATED IN
34 THE DTI-EMB, UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF ITS DIRECTOR.

1 THE SECRETARIAT SHALL SERVE AS THE SUPPORT STAFF OF THE
2 COUNCIL IN THE EXERCISE OF ITS FUNCTIONS. SUCH POSITIONS MAY
3 BE CREATED FOR THIS PURPOSE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE
4 DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT.”

5 SEC.14. Sec. 12 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export
6 Development Act of 1994 shall be amended as follows:

7 "SEC. [12] 14. *Accredited Export Organization (AEO)*. – The Council shall accredit a
8 single umbrella organization of exporters, **BASED ON ACCREDITATION**
9 **GUIDELINES TO BE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THIS ACT** [~~pursuant to Section~~
10 ~~7(1) of this Act~~], to represent the export sector concerns and interests for three (3) years
11 [~~after which the Council shall undertake a review of the accreditation prior to the~~
12 ~~granting or re-granting of the said accreditation~~]. **THE PROCEDURE FOR**
13 **RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION OF THE AEO OR THE GRANT OF**
14 **ACCREDITATION TO A NEW ONE SHALL LIKEWISE BE BASED ON THE**
15 **ACCREDITATION GUIDELINES.**

16 The accredited **EXPORT** organization shall:

- 17 a. x x x;
- 18 b. [~~Represent the interest of the export sector~~] **ADVOCATE POLICY**
19 **REFORMS AND SUSTAINABLE AND IN NOVATION-DRIVEN**
20 **PROGRAMS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE**
21 **INTERESTS OF THE EXPORT SECTOR;**
- 22 c. **ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN REGIONAL AND/OR**
23 **PROVINCIAL OFFICES TO PROVIDE DEDICATED ASSISTANCE TO**
24 **EXPORTERS AND ASPIRING EXPORTERS AND IMPLEMENT**
25 **EXPORT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION**
26 **ACTIVITIES IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE DTI OFFICES**
27 **AND OTHER RELEVANT GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN THE**
28 **REGIONS/PROVINCES;**
- 29 d. [~~e. Be responsible for coordinating, supporting and assisting~~]
30 **COORDINATE, SUPPORT AND ASSIST** the DTI relative to the
31 formulation and implementation of the government's export
32 **DEVELOPMENT AND** promotion programs and policies; Provided, That
33 in the event that some of the export promotion functions of the government

are privatized in accordance with the Act, it shall be responsible for the performance of such privatized export promotion function;

e. [d] Manage the Philippine Trade Center, which shall include, among others, the authority to enter into contracts with promotion facilities or functions; AND,

f. **SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND RECOMMEND PROPOSED POLICY MEASURES AIMD GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS THAT WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF EXPORTS."**

SEC. 15. A new Section 16 is hereby inserted, to read as follows:

"SEC. 16. EXPORT TRADE COMPLAINTS DESK(ETDC). – THE DTI SHALL ESTABLISH AN EXPORT TRADE COMPLAINTS DESK WHERE EXPORTERS, BUYERS, OR THEIR AGENTS CAN FILE COMPLAINTS AND SEEK REDRESS FOR GRIEVANCES RELATING TO ANY EXPORT-RELATED TRANSACTION, IN ORDER TO PROMOTE ETHICAL BUSINESS PRACTICES AND ENHANCE THE IMAGE OF THE PHILIPPINES AS A RELIABLE SUPPLIER OF GOODS AND SERVICES IN THE GLOBAL MARKET."

SEC. 16. Section 17 of Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development Act of 1994 is hereby repealed.

SEC. 17. New Articles III, IV and V shall be inserted in Republic Act No. 7844, otherwise known as the Export Development Act of 1994 and the existing Article III and succeeding Articles and its sub-sections shall be re-sectioned and renumbered accordingly. The new Article III shall read as follows:

"ARTICLE III

"FUNDING

SEC. [14:] 18. Funding. – ~~[The activities and operational expenses of the Council shall be funded jointly by budgetary appropriations from the government and by private sector contributions as provided for in Executive Order No. 98.]~~ A SEED CAPITAL FUND SHALL BE ESTABLISHED TO COVER ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONAL EXPENSES OF THE COUNCIL THROUGH JOINT BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS FROM GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR-CONTRIBUTIONS."

1 "SEC. 19. GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR CONTROLLED
2 CORPORATIONS (GOCCS) SHALL PROVIDE SUPPORT ON establishing a
3 SUSTAINABLE FUNDING MECHANISM FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
4 THE EXPORTS AND INVESTMENTS POLICIES, PLANS, PROGRAMS,
5 PROJECTS, AND INITIATIVES."

6 "ARTICLE IV

7 "OTHER INCENTIVES

8 "SEC. 20. *CREATION OF AN EXPORT GREEN LANE FACILITY.* – AN
9 EXPORT GREEN LANE FACILITY SHALL BE ESTABLISHED FOR
10 QUALIFIED EXPORTERS FOR ADVANCE PROCESSING AND
11 CLEARANCES OF THEIR EXPORT REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE
12 BUREAU OF CUSTOMS, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND
13 OTHER COMPETENT AUTHORITIES.

14 "SEC. 21. *EXEMPTION FROM EXPORT REQUIREMENTS.* – ALL
15 INSPECTION, COMMODITY AND EXPORT CLEARANCE
16 REQUIREMENTS ON PHILIPPINE COMMODITY EXPORTS ARE HEREBY
17 DISPENSED WITH, EXCEPT FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- 18 A. THOSE REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE EXISTENCE OF IMPORT
19 QUOTAS IN OTHER COUNTRIES, SUCH AS GARMENTS AND SUGAR;
20 B. THOSE COVERING ITEMS WHICH ARE BANNED FOR EXPORTS;
21 C. THOSE COVERING EXPORTS OF LOGS, COPPER AND COFFEE; AND
22 D. THOSE COVERED BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO WHICH
23 THE PHILIPPINES IS A SIGNATORY.

24 ANY OR ALL OF THE CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS DISPENSED WITH
25 IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH MAY BE REINSTATED WITH PRIOR
26 APPROVAL, BY AN INTER-AGENCY COMMITTEE (IAC) COMPOSED OF
27 THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
28 INDUSTRY, AS CHAIRPERSON, AND THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
29 DEPARTMENTS OF FINANCE, BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, BANGKO
30 SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS, AND THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND
31 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AS MEMBERS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT
32 FACTORS SUCH AS REQUIREMENTS OF THE IMPORTER OR
33 IMPORTING COUNTRY, SECURITY, HEALTH, SAFETY AND OTHER
34 REASONS IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST: PROVIDED, THAT NO NEW

1 INSPECTION, COMMODITY AND EXPORT CLEARANCE
2 REQUIREMENTS MAY BE IMPOSED BY A GOVERNMENT OFFICE,
3 BUREAU, AGENCY, OR INSTRUMENTALITY WITHOUT PRIOR
4 APPROVAL BY THE IAC "SEC. 20. FEES ON EXPORTS. - NO OTHER FEES
5 SHALL BE IMPOSED OR COLLECTED ON EXPORT RELATED PERMITS
6 AND CLEARANCES OTHER THAN THOSE SPECIFICALLY REQUIRED BY
7 LAW."

8 "ARTICLE V

9 "NATIONAL EXPORTER'S WEEK

10 "SEC. 22. *NATIONAL EXPORTER'S WEEK.* – THE FIRST WEEK OF DECEMBER
11 OF EVERY YEAR IS HEREBY DECLARED AS NATIONAL EXPORTER'S WEEK.
12 THE DTI, EDC AND THE AEO SHALL JOINTLY ORGANIZE ACTIVITIES TO
13 ENCOURAGE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF EXPORTERS, TRADE-RELATED
14 AGENCIES AND THE ACADEME AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS,
15 ESPECIALLY THOSE THAT ARE IN THE REGIONS, THAT AIM TO FOSTER
16 COLLABORATION, PARTNERSHIP AND SYNCHRONIZATION OF EFFORTS
17 TOWARDS EXPORT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT. THEY SHALL LIKEWISE
18 RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTION OF EXPORTERS IN THE ECONOMIC
19 DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY BY INCLUDING THE CONFERMENT OF
20 AWARDS TO PERFORMING EXPORTERS DURING THE NATIONAL
21 EXPORTER'S WEEK. TO THIS END, THE DTI, EDC AND AEO SHALL ISSUE
22 GUIDELINES ON THE CRITERIA AND CATEGORIES FOR THE SELECTION OF
23 THE EXPORTERS' AWARD. CATEGORIES MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT
24 LIMITED TO RECOGNITION OF APPLICATION OF NEW INNOVATION,
25 TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND EXPORT/PRODUCT DIVERSIFICATION."

26 **SEC.18. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The DTI, in consultation with the
27 EDC and other relevant government agencies and private stakeholders, shall formulate the rules
28 and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from effectivity
29 of this Act. Non-issuance of the implementing rules and regulation shall in no case prevent the
30 full implementation of this Act after its effectivity.

31 **SEC.19. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act is declared
32 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any affected thereby shall remain in force and
33 effect.

1 **SEC.20. *Repealing Clause.*** – All existing laws or parts thereof inconsistent with the
2 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

3 **SEC.21. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its
4 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,