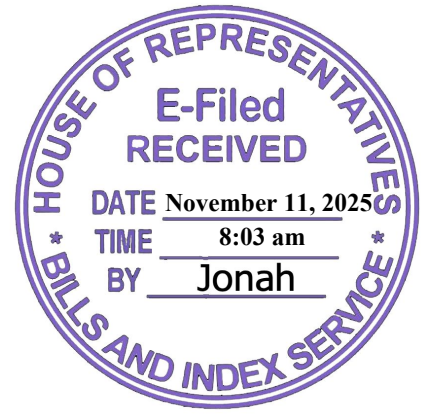


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5796



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The bamboo plant, an indigenous and fast-growing resource, possesses immense potential as a driver of sustainable economic growth, climate change mitigation, and poverty reduction in the Philippines. It is a renewable, versatile material vital for various industries, including construction, furniture, handicrafts, food, and energy.

Despite its strategic importance, the Philippine bamboo industry faces challenges related to fragmentation, inconsistent supply of quality raw materials, inadequate research and development, and limited market access. The current institutional framework, primarily operating through a council LIKE THE Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC), lacks the statutory authority, dedicated budget, and operational capacity necessary to unify and accelerate the industry's development across multiple sectors.

This proposed bill seeks to address these gaps by creating the Philippine Bamboo Authority (PBA), a dedicated government-owned and controlled corporation, with a mandate to serve as the lead planning, regulatory, and implementing body for the national bamboo industry development program.

By institutionalizing a national authority and providing strong incentives, the State affirms its commitment to transforming the bamboo sector into a major pillar of the national economy.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this Bill is hereby earnestly sought.


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5796

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING AND PROMOTING THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE PHILIPPINE BAMBOO INDUSTRY, CREATING THE
PHILIPPINE BAMBOO AUTHORITY (PBA), PROVIDING A FRAMEWORK OF
INCENTIVES FOR BAMBOO PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT AND
PROCESSING, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Philippine
Bamboo Authority Act of 2025.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote and
support the integrated and sustainable development of the bamboo industry to
generate employment, reduce poverty, ensure a sustainable environment, and
enhance the country’s global competitiveness. The State shall recognize the
strategic importance of bamboo as a versatile, renewable, and sustainable source
of livelihood and a catalyst for agricultural and industrial productivity.

SEC. 3. *Creation of the Philippine Bamboo Authority (PBA).* – There is hereby
created the Philippine Bamboo Authority (PBA), an agency to be attached to the
Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) or the Department of Agriculture (DA),
which shall be the primary government entity responsible for the planning,
implementation, coordination, and regulation of all policies, programs, and
projects related to the development of the Philippine bamboo industry.

SEC. 4. *Powers and Functions of the PBA.* – The PBA shall have the following powers and functions:

- A. Formulate and implement the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Program (PBIDP), which shall include all aspects of the industry, from scientific propagation, processing, utilization, business development, and commercialization.
- B. Establish and manage National Bamboo Gene Banks and Nurseries to ensure the consistent supply of high-quality planting materials.
- C. Coordinate the efforts of all government agencies (DENR, DA, DOST, DTI, LGUs, etc.) and the private sector to achieve the objectives of the PBIDP.
- D. Establish a Bamboo Research and Development Center to develop appropriate technologies for production, post-harvest, processing, and product design.
- E. Regulate and monitor bamboo industry activities, including plantation registration, processing standards, and domestic and export trade.
- F. Secure grants, loans, and other forms of financing from local and international sources for the development of the industry.
- G. Recommend policies to the President and the appropriate agencies to facilitate the growth of the industry, including those related to land use, trade, and taxation.

SEC. 5. *Governing Board of the PBA.* – The PBA shall be governed by a Board of Directors composed of a Chairperson, the Secretaries of DA and DTI, the Director-General of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Executive Director of the PBA, and three (3) representatives from the private sector—one each from the bamboo growers/farmers, processors, and exporters.

SEC. 6. *Incentives for Bamboo Plantation Development.* – Investors in registered bamboo plantation development shall be entitled to the following incentives:

- A. **Exemption from Rental Fees.** – Exemption from the payment of rent for the use of government lands for commercial bamboo plantation for the first ten (10) years of operation, reckoned from the date of initial commercial harvest.
- B. **Exemption from Permits and Charges.** – Exemption of private registered bamboo plantations from securing a cutting permit and transport permit

for harvested bamboo culms, provided the plantation owner maintains a registered inventory and informs the relevant Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) of the harvest schedule and volume.

- C. Tax Exemption. – Exemption from the payment of Forest Charges and all other similar fees and local taxes that Local Government Units (LGUs) may impose on the standing bamboo crop and its transport.
- D. Financial Access. – Priority access to development loans and credit assistance from Government Financial Institutions (GFIs) like the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP).
- E. Insurance Coverage. – Access to insurance coverage for plantations and equipment from the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC).
- F. Importation Incentives. – Tax-free importation of specialized equipment, machinery, and tools for bamboo plantation development and nursery facilities, subject to the provisions of the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

SEC. 7. *Incentives for Bamboo Processing and Manufacturing.* – Enterprises engaged in the processing, manufacturing, and fabrication of value-added bamboo products, especially those utilizing locally grown bamboo, shall be entitled to the incentives available under the Investment Priorities Plan (IPP) of the Board of Investments (BOI).

SEC. 8. *Role of Local Government Units (LGUs).* – All Provincial, City, and Municipal Governments shall, in coordination with the PBA, formulate and implement a Local Bamboo Industry Development Program to integrate bamboo planting in their respective land-use plans, watershed management, and livelihood programs.

SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount of Five Hundred Million Pesos (P500,000,000.00) is hereby initially appropriated from the unexpended revenues of the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated to cover the initial operational expenses and program implementation of the PBA for its first year of operation. Thereafter, the necessary funds for the continuous operation of the PBA shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and operative.

SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,