



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6005**



Introduced by Representative Carlos Andes Loria

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to institutionalize the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council, establish the Bamboo Industry Research and Development Center and provide incentives for bamboo plantation development.

Bamboo is one of the most versatile, sustainable, and rapidly renewable resources in the world. In the Philippines, it has long served as a vital material for construction, furniture, handicrafts, and household products, providing livelihood opportunities especially in rural areas. Despite this, the local bamboo industry remains underdeveloped due to fragmented policies, inadequate research and development, and weak institutional coordination among stakeholders.

House Bill No. 9576, previously approved on Third Reading during the 18th Congress, seeks to institutionalize the Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Council (PBIDC), originally created under Executive Order No. 879, and establish the Bamboo Industry Research and Development Center (BIRDC). The measure also provides incentives for bamboo plantation development, promotes research and innovation, and encourages investment in bamboo-based industries.

The proposed *Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Act* will strengthen the country's competitive edge in the global bamboo market, particularly in the transport, construction, furniture, manufacturing, and fabric sectors. With modern technologies and creative applications, such as modular bamboo housing, engineered bamboo composites, and even vehicle components,

the bamboo industry holds great promise as a driver of industrialization, rural employment, and environmental sustainability.

Bamboo's ecological value further underscores its importance: it sequesters up to 12 metric tons of carbon per hectare annually, produces 35% more oxygen than other trees, restores degraded lands, and serves as an effective erosion control and renewable energy source. Economically, expanding the country's bamboo area from the current 104,000 hectares to 400,000 hectares can generate up to ₱150 billion annually and provide sustainable livelihoods to over one million rural workers and indigenous peoples.

This measure envisions the transformation of bamboo into a globally competitive, climate-resilient, and inclusive industry that advances both economic growth and environmental protection.

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



CARLOS ANDES LORIA



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1 **AN ACT**
2 **INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PHILIPPINE BAMBOO INDUSTRY**
3 **DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, ESTABLISHING THE BAMBOO**
4 **INDUSTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER, PROVIDING**
5 **INCENTIVES FOR BAMBOO PLANTATION DEVELOPMENT, AND**
6 **APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

7
8 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines*
9 *in Congress assembled:*

10 SECTION 1. ***Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Philippine*
11 *Bamboo Industry Development Act*”

12 SEC. 2. ***Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to promote
13 industries that generate employment, especially in rural areas, reduce poverty,
14 foster environmental sustainability, and mitigate the impacts of climate change.
15 Towards this end, and in recognition of the strategic importance of bamboo as a
16 renewable, versatile, and sustainable resource that contributes to livelihood

1 generation and agricultural productivity, the State shall ensure the integrated and
2 sustainable development of the Philippine bamboo industry through programs
3 and policies that promote bamboo propagation, innovation, and global
4 competitiveness, and encourage its use as an eco-friendly material for
5 construction, design, food, and other industrial purposes.

6 SEC. 3. **Council.** – The Philippine Bamboo Industry Development
7 Council, hereinafter referred to as the “*Council*,” is institutionalized and
8 administratively attached to the Department of Trade and Industry. The Council
9 shall provide the overall policy and program directions of the various local and
10 national government agencies and instrumentalities involved in the development,
11 promotion, processing, utilization and commercialization of the bamboo
12 industry.

13 The Council is composed of the following:

- 14 a. Secretary of Trade and Industry as chairperson;
- 15 b. Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources as vice-chairperson;
- 16 c. Secretary of Agriculture;
- 17 d. Secretary of the Education;
- 18 e. Secretary of the Science and Technology;
- 19 f. Secretary of the of Labor and Employment;
- 20 g. Executive Director of the Bamboo Industry Research and Development
21 Center;
- 22 h. Chairperson of the National Commission of Indigenous Peoples;

- i. National President of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines;
 - j. Executive Director of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines;
 - k. Two (2) representatives from NGOs;
 - l. One representative from a reputable private industry association; and
- One representative each from the Bamboo Farmers, the Bamboo Manufacturers, and the Bamboo Processors' Associations as members.

SEC. 4. ***Powers and Functions of the Council.*** – The Council shall:

- a. Formulate, adopt and oversee the implementation of a comprehensive Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Program;
- b. Provide policy and program direction to national government agencies, local government units (LGUs) and private sector stakeholders in the bamboo industry;
- c. Ensure the integration and coordination of all government efforts related to bamboo development, processing and commercialization;
- d. Prepare a national bamboo roadmap outlining strategies for sustainable bamboo production, utilization and export promotion;
- e. Identify priority programs and projects for bamboo plantation establishment, product, development and research;
- f. Promote bamboo as a strategic industrial crop for poverty reduction, livelihood generation and environmental protection;

- 1 g. Coordinate and support research and development on bamboo
- 2 propagation, species improvement, treatment, processing and
- 3 utilization technologies;
- 4 h. Facilitate technology transfer and capacity building among bamboo
- 5 farmers, processors and manufacturers;
- 6 i. Encourage collaboration between academic institutions, government
- 7 agencies and private sector in bamboo research and development;
- 8 j. Promote local and foreign investment in bamboo production and
- 9 processing industries;
- 10 k. Develop and implement marketing strategies to enhance both domestic
- 11 and international demand for bamboo products;
- 12 l. Establish and maintain bamboo industry databases, including data on
- 13 production, trade and employment;
- 14 m. Coordinate with relevant agencies in the formulation of standards and
- 15 certifications systems for bamboo products and processes;
- 16 n. Promote adherence to sustainable harvesting, processing and
- 17 manufacturing standards consistent with environmental laws and
- 18 international best practices;
- 19 o. Promote bamboo as an environmentally sustainable alternative for
- 20 reforestation, erosion, control and carbon sequestration;

- p. Integrate bamboo plantation development in forest rehabilitation and watershed management programs in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources;
- q. Establish systems for monitoring and evaluating the performance of bamboo industry programs and projects;
- r. Submit annual reports and policy recommendations to the President and Congress of the Philippines; and
- s. Perform such other powers and functions as may be necessary to effectively carry out the provisions and objectives of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Bamboo Industry Research and Development Center.* – The Bamboo Industry Research and Development Center, hereinafter referred to as the “*Center*,” is created to serve as the secretariat of the Council, headed by an Executive Director. The Center shall consist of divisions necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the goals and objectives of the Center, including:

- a. Research and development;
- b. Trade promotion and education;
- c. Networking and linkages;
- d. Internal administration and finance; and
- e. Such other divisions as may be necessary.

The organizational structure, staffing pattern, and compensation schedule of the Center shall be prepared in accordance with existing laws, rules, and

1 regulations. The member agencies of the Council may provide additional
2 administrative and technical staff support to the Center.

3 **SEC. 6. *Functions of the Center.*** – The Center shall:

- 4 a. Promote the establishment and management of bamboo nurseries,
5 plantations, and processing facilities that would accelerate bamboo
6 production and commercialization;
- 7 b. Promote the commercialization and market access of innovative bamboo
8 industry technologies and products;
- 9 c. Monitor and evaluate bamboo industry development programs and
10 projects;
- 11 d. Coordinate and partner with government agencies, the private sector,
12 NGOs, and the academe;
- 13 e. Accept grants, donations, and contributions from local and international
14 donors;
- 15 f. Conduct capability-building initiatives;
- 16 g. Conduct research and development in partnership with appropriate
17 agencies;
- 18 h. Supervise implementation of the Council's plans and programs;
- 19 i. Manage and administer projects identified by the Council;
- 20 j. Conduct periodic reviews of the Philippine Bamboo Industry
21 Development Roadmap; and
- 22 k. Submit periodic reports to the Council.

1 SEC. 7. ***Executive Director of the Center.*** – The chairperson of the
2 Council shall appoint the Executive Director of the Center with the approval of
3 the members of the Council. The Executive Director must be a citizen and
4 resident of the Philippines with at least three (3) years of executive and
5 management experience, and considerable knowledge of the bamboo industry.

6 The Executive Director shall:

- 7 a. Oversee daily operations of the Center;
- 8 b. Provide technical and administrative support to the Council;
- 9 c. Assist the Council in performing its tasks; and
- 10 d. Perform such other duties as may be necessary to implement this Act.

11 SEC. 8. ***Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Program.*** – The
12 Philippine Bamboo Industry Development Program, hereinafter referred to as the
13 “*Program*,” must include programs and projects for the scientific propagation,
14 development and management, processing, utilization, business development,
15 and commercialization of Philippine bamboo and bamboo products, through the
16 cooperation of all stakeholders of the industry that include producers of raw
17 materials, processors, marketing and promotion service providers, and concerned
18 national agencies and local government units (LGUs).

19 SEC. 9. ***Program Objectives.*** – The Program aims to make the Philippine
20 bamboo industry competitive in the local and global markets, provide
21 opportunities for local employment and establish bamboo-based community
22 enterprises. In formulating the Program, the Council shall:

- a. Ensure that the bamboo industry has sufficient quality raw materials through the establishment and management of bamboo nurseries and plantations;
- b. Ensure that the bamboo industry continuously receives from the research and development sector relevant technologies and new products;
- c. Ensure the availability of pertinent and accurate data upon which the industry can make business decisions;
- d. Promote investment in the bamboo industry by establishing bamboo plantations and bamboo processing operations, and providing substantial incentives to investors;
- e. Provide skilled labor and manpower through continuous relevant capacity building;
- f. Provide continuous training and capacity building in the bamboo industry development;
- g. Ensure provision of locally manufactured machines of improved capacity and quality at competitive costs;
- h. Ensure markets of bamboo products locally and globally; and
- i. Ensure sustainable resources for implementing the bamboo industry development program.

SEC. 10. ***Role of LGUs.*** – Every local government unit shall, as far as practicable, establish a Bamboo Industry Development Council, which shall:

- a. Formulate its local bamboo industry development program that is aligned with the Program;
- b. Capacitate agricultural workers and entrepreneurs in harvesting and post-harvesting operations;
- c. Implement the Program and its own bamboo industry development program; and
- d. Coordinate with the other local Bamboo Industry Development Council for the smooth implementation of the Program.

SEC. 11. ***Incentives for Bamboo Plantation Development.*** – The investors in bamboo plantation development may avail of the following incentives:

- a. Exemption from payment of rent for government lands for the first five (5) years from the first harvest;
- b. Exemption of private plantations from cutting and transport permits, subject to registration with Community Environment and Natural Resources Office;
- c. Exemption from forest charges and local government taxes;
- d. No inspection of harvested bamboo at checkpoints;
- e. Access to development loans from public financial institutions;
- f. Insurance coverage by the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC);
- g. Tax-free importation of equipment under Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the “*Customs Modernization and Tariff Act*”;

- h. Deductibility of plantation expenses for income tax purposes;
- i. Recognition of pre-harvest development costs as deductible expenses or capital expenditures;
- j. Prioritized access to credit assistance from government financial institutions;
- k. Acceptance of plantations as loan collateral;
- l. Fair compensation for tenured developers upon premature termination without fault;
- m. Unrestricted exportation of bamboo culms from plantations; and
- n. Inclusion of industrial bamboo plantations in the annual investment program of the Department of Economy, Planning and Development.

SEC. 12. ***Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the funds of the Department of Trade and Industry. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 13. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Trade and Industry shall, in coordination with the Secretaries of Environment and Natural Resources and Science and technology, issue the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

1 SEC. 14. ***Transitory Provision.*** – The Philippine Bamboo Industry
2 Development Council (PBIDC) created under Executive Order No. 879, Series
3 of 2010, entitled “Creating The Philippine Bamboo Industry Development
4 Council (PBIDC) To Promote The Bamboo Industry Development Project And
5 Directing The Use Of Bamboo For At Least Twenty Five (25%) Percent Of The
6 Desk And Other Furniture Requirements Of Public Elementary And Secondary
7 Schools And Prioritizing The Use Of Bamboo In Furniture, Fixtures And Other
8 Construction Requirements Of Government Facilities And Allocating Funds
9 Therefore And Other Purposes,” shall continue to function on an interim basis
10 and perform its current duties and responsibilities until the new organizational
11 structure, staffing patterns and operational guidelines of the Council are duly
12 approved and implemented.

13 All personnel, assets, records, funds, programs and projects of the PBIDC
14 shall be transferred to and absorbed by the Council. Any unexpended
15 appropriations and obligations for the current year shall remain valid and
16 available for use in accordance with the pertinent accounting, budgeting and
17 auditing laws, rules and regulations.

18 SEC. 15. ***Separability Clause.*** — If any provision of this Act is declared
19 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
20 remain in full force and effect.

21 SEC. 16. ***Repealing Clause.*** – Executive Order No. 879, series of 2010, is
22 repealed. All other laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations, or

1 parts hereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified
2 accordingly.

3 SEC. 17. ***Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
4 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

5 Approved,