



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **6220**



Introduced by Representative MARLESA “DOC MARLY” HOFER-HASIM

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 10089, otherwise known as the “*Philippine Rubber Research Institute (PRRI) Act of 2010*,” was enacted to institutionalize a national framework for rubber research, development, and extension, with the objective of strengthening the country’s rubber industry and enhancing the productivity and competitiveness of smallholder rubber farmers. The law envisioned the PRRI as a central institution capable of providing scientific, technological, and capacity-building support vital to the sustainable growth of the sector.

Since the passage of RA 10089, the circumstances surrounding the development of the rubber industry in Zamboanga Sibugay have significantly evolved. The Municipality of Ipil, the provincial capital, has emerged as the most strategic and administratively suitable location for hosting the PRRI’s main campus due to its accessibility, concentration of government services, and central role in regional economic coordination.

As the seat of the Provincial Government and a major hub of commerce, education, and transport infrastructure, Ipil provides a more efficient and effective environment for the operations and expansion of a national research institute.

This amendment is consistent with, and supported by, several national policies and legislative frameworks:

1. **Republic Act No. 7160 (Local Government Code of 1991)** emphasizes the strengthening of local autonomy and the role of provincial capitals as centers of governance and service delivery. Locating the PRRI in Ipil aligns with this mandate by situating a national institute within the administrative nucleus of the province.
2. **Republic Act No. 8435 (Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997)** calls for the modernization of agriculture through research and development, extension services, and the establishment of institutions that promote technological advancement. Enhancing the operational viability of the PRRI directly contributes to achieving these statutory goals.
3. **Republic Act No. 11203 (Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund Law, as amended)** underscores the importance of improving the competitiveness of agricultural industries, including rubber, through strengthened research institutions and improved market linkages.
4. **Republic Act No. 8439 (Magna Carta for Scientists, Engineers, Researchers, and Other Science and Technology Personnel)** further recognizes the need for well-equipped and accessible research institutions to support national scientific advancement. Relocating the PRRI to Ipil enhances such accessibility and institutional support.

By relocating the PRRI from the Municipality of Naga to the Municipality of Ipil, the capital of Zamboanga Sibugay, this bill ensures that the Institute is situated in a location that can better support its mandate, strengthen coordination with government and academic partners, enhance service delivery to rubber-producing communities, and promote the efficient use of public resources.

This measure does not alter the mandate, powers, or operational functions of the PRRI as provided under RA 10089. It merely updates the designated host municipality to reflect current developmental, administrative, and logistical realities, thereby ensuring that the Institute can perform its statutory responsibilities more effectively.

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



MARLESA “DOC MARLY” HOFER-HASIM
Representative, 2nd District of Zamboanga Sibugay



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AN ACT
AMENDING THE PHILIPPINE RUBBER RESEARCH INSTITUTE ACT OF 2010,
SPECIFICALLY CHANGING THE LOCATION OF THE PHILIPPINE RUBBER
RESEARCH INSTITUTE FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OF NAGA TO THE
MUNICIPALITY OF IPIL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as "*An Act Amending the Philippine Rubber Research Institute Act of 2010.*"

SECTION 2. *Amendment.* - Section 3(a) of Republic Act No. 10089 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) *Philippine Rubber Research Institute (PRRI)* refers to the principal government research institute for rubber which shall be located in the Municipality of Ipil, Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, including its satellite units that may hereafter be established. The PRRI shall be mandated to initiate, coordinate, and implement research and development programs to improve the quality and increase the productivity of rubber, particularly for the benefit of smallholder rubber producers and processors."

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Agriculture, in coordination with the Mindanao State University and other concerned agencies, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, and other issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,