



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

20th CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 8370



Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVE JENNIFER A. LAGBAS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) account for more than ninety-nine percent (99%) of all registered businesses in the country and generate more than sixty percent (60%) of total employment. They play a crucial role in driving inclusive growth, fostering innovation, and stimulating economic activity in both urban and rural communities. Despite their significant contribution to the economy, many MSMEs continue to face barriers that limit their growth and competitiveness, including limited access to credit, burdensome regulatory requirements, and high operational costs.

As the country continues to navigate global economic uncertainties and domestic development challenges, there is an urgent need to strengthen the institutional and policy framework supporting MSMEs. A more responsive and inclusive MSME development strategy will not only sustain existing enterprises but will also encourage more Filipinos to pursue entrepreneurship, thereby contributing to long-term economic resilience and inclusive national development.

This proposed measure seeks to further promote entrepreneurship by strengthening and enhancing the support mechanisms available to MSMEs. Among others, the bill introduces reforms that aim to improve ease of doing business, expand access to financing, and increase market opportunities for MSMEs. It provides updated definitions and classifications of MSMEs, ensures more affordable permit and licensing fees, and expands incentives and benefits available to eligible enterprises.

The measure also enhances the capacity of the Small Business Corporation (SB Corporation) to provide financial support, particularly in underserved and disaster-prone areas, and expands financing mechanisms such as venture capital and microfinance support. It strengthens the role of the MSMED Council and promotes greater coordination among national government agencies, local government units, and the private sector in advancing MSME development. The

bill likewise encourages greater participation of MSMEs in government procurement, provides logistical and operational cost reductions, and promotes financial inclusion and digitalization to enable MSMEs to scale and compete in modern markets.

Through these reforms, the bill seeks to create a more enabling environment for MSMEs to grow, formalize, and innovate, thereby reinforcing their role as key drivers of job creation, poverty reduction, and inclusive economic progress.

This measure was previously filed during the Nineteenth Congress and was approved on Third Reading in the House of Representatives.

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



HON. JENNIFER A. LAGBAS
Representative
First District, Misamis Oriental



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AN ACT
FURTHER PROMOTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP BY STRENGTHENING,
EMPOWERING, AND ENHANCING THE FINANCING AND OTHER SUPPORT
PROGRAMS FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6977, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS
THE “MAGNA CARTA FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES
(MSMEs)”

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 6977, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC.2. Declaration of Policy. - Recognizing that MSMEs have the potential [for] TO GENERATE more employment [generation] and SPUR economic growth AND RECOVERY and therefore can help provide a self-sufficient industrial foundation for the country, it is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote, support, strengthen and encourage the growth and development of MSMEs in all productive sectors of the economy particularly rural/agri-based, MANUFACTURING, FINANCE, AND SERVICES enterprises. To this end, the State shall recognize the specific needs of the MSMEs and shall undertake to promote entrepreneurship, support entrepreneurs, encourage the establishment of MSMEs and ensure their continuing viability and growth and thereby attain countryside industrialization by:

“ X X X.”

SEC. 2. Section 3 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3. Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) as Beneficiaries. MSMEs shall be defined as any business activity or enterprise engaged in industry, agribusiness, and/or services, whether single proprietorship, cooperative, partnership or corporation whose total assets, inclusive of those arising from loans but exclusive of the land on which the particular business entity’s office, plant and equipment are situated, must have value falling under the following categories:

Micro: not more than P3,000,000

Small: P3,000,001 - P15,000,000

Medium: P15,000,001 - P100,000,000

“The above definitions shall be subject to review EVERY THREE (3) YEARS and adjustment, WHEN NECESSARY, by the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Council under Section 6 of this Act or upon recommendation of sectoral organizations concerned, taking into account inflation and other economic indicators. x x x”

SEC. 3. Section 4 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 4. Eligibility for Government Assistance. - To qualify for assistance, counseling, incentives and promotion under this Act, businesses falling under the above definition must be:

“(a) duly registered with the appropriate agencies as presently provided by law: Provided, That in the case of micro enterprises as defined herein, registration with the office of the municipal or city treasurer shall be deemed sufficient compliance with this requirement;

“(b) one hundred percent (100%) owned, capitalized by Filipino citizens, whether single proprietorship or partnership. If the enterprise is a juridical entity, at least sixty percent (60%) of its capital or outstanding stocks must be owned by Filipino citizens;

“x x x.”

[“Eligible MSMEs shall be entitled to share of at least ten percent (10%) of total procurement value of goods and services supplied to the Government, its bureaus, offices and agencies annually.]

[“The Department of Budget and Management shall monitor the compliance of government agencies on the required procurement for MSMEs and submit its report to the MSMED Council on a semestral basis and to the Congress of the Philippines, through its appropriate committees on a yearly basis.”]

SEC. 4. A new section is hereby inserted after Section 4 of the same Act, as amended, and numbered as Section 4-A to read as follows:

“SEC. 4-A. GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE, INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS FOR ELIGIBLE MSMEs. - ELIGIBLE MSMEs SHALL BE ENTITLED TO THE FOLLOWING GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE, INCENTIVES AND BENEFITS:

“(A) UPON RECEIPT OF THE APPLICATION OF AN MSME FOR ANY PERMIT AND LICENSE FROM ANY LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT (LGU), INCLUDING A BARANGAY, THE LGU SHALL ISSUE A PROVISIONAL AUTHORITY EFFECTIVE FOR SIX (6) MONTHS, SUBJECT TO THE FINAL APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION AND THE ISSUANCE OF THE PERMIT OR LICENSE APPLIED FOR.

“(B) THE COST FOR THE ISSUANCE OF ALL PERMITS, LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, AND OTHER SIMILAR LICENSES, CERTIFICATIONS, AND OTHER SIMILAR DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS OF REGISTERED MICRO ENTERPRISES SHALL NOT EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00 PER AGENCY. FOR REGISTERED SMALL ENTERPRISES, THE COST SHALL NOT EXCEED THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00) PER AGENCY FOR A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS.

“(C) THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT, ITS BUREAUS, OFFICES, AND AGENCIES SHALL ALLOCATE AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF ALL ITS PROCUREMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GOODS AND SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE MSMES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE PROCUREMENT LAW, RULES, AND REGULATIONS.

“THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT POLICY BOARD SHALL FORMULATE THE RULES FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS PROVISION AND ITS TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICE SHALL MONITOR THE COMPLIANCE OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES ON THE REQUIRED PROCUREMENT FOR MSMES AND SUBMIT ITS REPORT TO THE MSMED COUNCIL ON A SEMESTRAL BASIS TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, THROUGH ITS APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES ON A YEARLY BASIS.

“(D) DULY REGISTERED MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A DISCOUNT OF AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT (20%) ON SHIPPING AND DELIVERY FEES FOR THEIR PRODUCTS AND RAW MATERIALS, AS WELL AS FOR MAILING, FREIGHT, AND OTHER SIMILAR SERVICES PROVIDED BY EITHER PUBLIC OR PRIVATE COURIERS.

“(E) THE OFFICIAL IN CHARGE WITH THE OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, STRUCTURES, AND OPEN AREAS, INCLUDING PUBLIC MARKETS, WHETHER WET OR DRY, AIRPORTS, SEAPORTS, FISH PORTS, PARKS, ZOOS, CONVENTION CENTERS, ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS, TOURISM CENTERS, SCHOOLS, SCHOOL CAMPUSES, AND OTHER SIMILAR STRUCTURES OR AREAS SUITABLE FOR SELLING OR MARKETING, WHETHER PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY, THAT CAN BE USED AS SELLING AREAS, SHALL PROVIDE AN AUTHORIZED MSME STORE FREE SPACE MEASURE AT LEAST ONE PERCENT (1%) OF THE TOTAL SPACE AVAILABLE THEREIN. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, FREE SPACE REFERS TO THE SPACE THAT MAY BE USED FOR SELLING PURPOSES WITHOUT NEED FOR THE PAYMENT OF RENT, GOODWILL FEES, ROYALTIES, COMMISSION, PERCENTAGES ON SALES, NOR ANY OTHER SIMILAR SCHEME.

(F) THE OWNER OR OPERATOR OF PRIVATE MALLS, SUPERMARKETS, SHOPPING CENTERS, AND COMMERCIAL SELLING ESTABLISHMENTS, SHOPPING CENTERS, AND COMMERCIAL SELLING ESTABLISHMENTS SHALL BE ENCOURAGED TO PROVIDE FREE SPACE TO ANY AUTHORIZED MSME STORE.

“THE MSMED COUNCIL OF THE CONCERNED CITY, MUNICIPALITY, OR BARANGAY SHALL APPROVE THE MSME STORE THAT MAY OCCUPY THE FREE SPACE, UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE LOCAL OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI). THE FREE SPACE ALLOCATED FOR THE MSME STORE SHALL BE PROVIDED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER OF PREFERENCE:

“(1) ONE TOWN, ONE PRODUCT STORE OR GO LOKAL! STORE OF THE DTI;

“(2) MSME KUMUNIDARAN PRODUKTO AT RESONABLENG SERBISYO STORE (OR “KUMPARE STORE”); OR

“(3) A LOCAL MICRO OR SMALL ENTERPRISE STORE.

“ONCE AN MSME STORE IS IN PLACE, ITS REMOVAL OR REPLACEMENT SHALL NOT BE ALLOWED EXCEPT FOR VALID CAUSE AND AFTER OBSERVANCE OF DUE PROCESS.

“THE APPROVAL AND THE REMOVAL OF THE MSME STORE THAT WILL BE GIVEN FREE SPACE SHALL BE REPORTED BY THE MSMED COUNCIL OF THE CONCERNED CITY, MUNICIPALITY, OR BARANGAY TO THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT.

“(G) THE OWNER OR OPERATOR OF PRIVATE MALLS SHALL ALSO BE ENCOURAGED TO ALLOCATE TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF THEIR TOTAL RENTABLE SPACE TO LOCAL MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES, WHICH SHALL BE EXTENDED A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) DISCOUNT ON RENTAL RATES. PRIVATE MALLS SHALL NOT CHARGE ROYALTY CHARGES, GOODWILL CHARGES, COMMISSION CHARGES, PERCENTAGE OF SALES, AND OTHER SIMILAR SCHEMES UPON THE MSMEs.

“(H) FREE BASIC CREDIT CARD REPORT FOR MSMEs. - THE CREDIT INFORMATION CORPORATION (CIC) SHALL PROVIDE MSMEs WITH BASIC CREDIT REPORTS, FREE OF CHARGE, ONCE PER YEAR. THE BASIC CREDIT REPORT SHALL SERVE AS THE PRIMARY PROOF OF CREDIT WORTHINESS OF MSMEs IN THEIR LOAN APPLICATIONS.

“THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) SHALL ISSUE THE RULES AND REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS SECTION WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS UPON THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.”

SEC. 5. Guiding Principles. - To set the pace for MSME development, the State shall be guided by the following principles:

“(a) *Minimal set of rules and simplification of procedures and requirements.* All government agencies having to do with MICRO, [AND] small AND MEDIUM enterprises shall pursue the principles of minimum regulation to ensure stability of rules and to encourage entrepreneurial spirit among the citizenry. The agencies shall see to it that procedural rules and requirements, within their respective offices in coordination with other agencies, are minimized in the act of registration, availment of financing and accessing other government services and assistance.

“(b) *Role of the private sector.* In order to hasten growth and expansion of MICRO, small and medium enterprises, the private sector throughout the country shall be encouraged to assist in the effective implementation of this Act by participating in government programs for MICRO, small and medium enterprises strictly in accordance with the law, and consistent with the attainment of the purposes hereof. To encourage private sector participation, the Council, in consultation with the concerned sector, may recommend simplified procedure and localized incentive to MICRO, [AND] small AND MEDIUM enterprises. The Government shall encourage the organization and establishment of MICRO, small and medium enterprise industry associations at the local and regional levels preferably unified under a national federation/association.

“(c) *Coordination of government efforts.* Government efforts shall be coordinated to achieve coherence in objectives. All appropriate offices, particularly those under the Department of Trade and Industry, Finance, Budget and Management, Agriculture, Agrarian Reform, Environment and Natural Resources, Labor and Employment, Transportation [and Communications], INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY, Public Works and Highways, Science and Technology, Interior and Local Government, and Tourism as well as the National Economic and Development Authority, Philippine Information Agency, SEC and the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP), through their national, regional, and provincial offices shall, to the best of their efforts and in coordination with local government units, provide the necessary support and assistance to MSMEs. THE DTI SHALL BE THE LEAD AGENCY THEREFOR.

“ x x x.”

SEC. 6. Section 6 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 6. *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Plan (MSMEDP).* - The President OF THE PHILIPPINES shall approve a six-year micro, small and medium enterprises development plan prepared by the [Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)] DTI which shall form part of the [Medium Term] Philippine Development Plan ([MT])PDP). It shall be formulated in consultation with private selector AND ALL RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, validated and updated semestraly. Such plan shall include a component on a micro credit financing scheme.”

SEC. 7. Section 7 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. *Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MSMED) Council.* The existing Small and Medium Enterprise Development Council, which was created by [Republic Act No.] RAA 6977, as amended [by Republic Act No. 8289], shall be strengthened to effectively spur the growth and development of MSMEs throughout the country, and to carry out the policy declared in this Act and shall now be known as the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (MSMED) Council. The Council shall be attached to the [Department of Trade and Industry] DTI and shall be constituted within sixty (60) days after the approval of this Act.

The Council shall be primary agency responsible for the promotion, growth and development of MICRO, small and medium enterprises in the country by way of facilitating and closely coordinating national efforts to prompt the viability and growth of MICRO, small and medium enterprises, including assisting relevant agencies in the tapping of local and foreign funds for MICRO, small and medium enterprise development, as well as promoting the use of existing programs, as well as seeking ways to maximize the use of our labor resources.

SEC. 8. Section 7-A of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7-A. *Composition of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Council.* - The members of the Council shall be the following OR THEIR DULY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE:

- “(a) The Secretary of Trade and Industry as Chair;
- “(b) The Secretary of Agriculture;
- “(c) The Secretary of the Interior and Local Government;
- “(D) THE SECRETARY OF FINANCE;
- “(E) THE SECRETARY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY;
- “(F) THE SECRETARY OF TOURISM;
- “(G) THE SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES;
- “[(d)] (H) Three (3) representatives from the MSME sector, [to represent Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao, with at least one (1) representative from the microenterprise sector] TO BE NOMINATED BY THE PHILIPPINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY; AND
- “[(e) One (1) representative from the women sector designated by the Philippine Commission on Women; and]
- “[(f) One (1) representative from the youth sector designated by the National Youth Commission; and]
- “[(g)] (I) The [Chairman] PRESIDENT of the THE Small, Business Corporation.

“A. *Advisory Unit.* - There shall be an Advisory Unit to the Council, which shall consist of the following OR THEIR DULY DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE:

- “(a) [The Secretary of Science and Technology] THE SECRETARY OF AGRARIAN REFORM;
- “(b) The Governor of the [Bangk Sentral ng Pilipinas] BSP;
- “(C) THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SEC;
- “[(c)] (D) The President of the Land Bank of the Philippines;

“[(d)] (E) The President of the Development Bank of the Philippines;
 “[(e)] (F) The Director General of the National Economic and Development Authority;
 “(G) THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
 (CDA);
 “(H) THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE GUARANTEE CORPORATION;
 “(I) THE COMMISSION OF THE INSURANCE COMMISSION (IC);
 “(J) THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION;
 “(K) A REPRESENTATIVE OF A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION REPRESENTING
 AND DOMINATED BY MSMEs;
 “[(f)] (L) One (1) representative from the labor sector, to be nominated by accredited
 labor groups;
 “[(g)] (M) A representative from the private banking sector to server [alternatively]
 ALTERNATELY [between] AMONG the [c] Chamber of [t] Thrift [b] Banks, [and] the Rural
 Banker’s Association of the Philippines [(RBAP)], AND THE BANKERS ASSOCIATION OF
 THE PHILIPPINES;
 “[(h)] (N) A representative of the microfinance nongovernment organizations (NGOs),
 DESIGNATED BY THE MICROFINANCE NGO REGULATORY COUNCIL;
 “[(i)] (O) A representative of the University of the Philippines-Institute for Small Scale
 Industries (UP-ISSI); [and]
 “[(j)] (P) The President of the [Credit Information Corporation.] CIC;
 “(Q) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE WOMEN SECTOR DESIGNATED BY
 THE PHILIPPINE COMMISSION ON WOMEN;
 “(R) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE YOUTH SECTOR DESIGNATED BY
 THE NATIONAL YOUTH COMMISSION; AND
 “(S) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM NON-STOCK SAVINGS AND LOAN
 INSTITUTIONS, INC. (ANSI).

“x x x.”

SEC. 9. Section 7-B of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7-B. Powers and Functions. - A. The MSMED Council shall have the following powers, duties and functions:

“x x x;

“(d) To review the existing policies of government agencies that would affect the growth
 and development of MSMEs and recommend changes to the President OF THE PHILIPPINES
 and Congress through the Committee on Economic Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on
 [Small Business and Entrepreneurship] MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE
 Development of the House of Representatives, whenever deemed necessary. This shall include
 efforts to simplify rules and regulations, as well as review of the applicability and relevance of
 procedural and documentary requirements in the registration, financing, and other activities
 relevant to MSMEs the result shall be included in the annual report to be submitted to Congress;

“x x x;

“(h) To promote the productivity and viability of MSMEs IN DTI’S TOP PRIORITY INDUSTRIES FOR DEVELOPMENT by way of directing [and/]or assisting relevant government agencies and institutions at the national, regional and provincial levels towards the:

“x x x;

“(12) Through appropriate government agencies:

“x x x;

“(f) Set-up new MSME NEGOSYO centers and revitalize already established MSME NEGOSYO centers to provide MSMEs in the regions easier access to services such as the following:

“x x x.”

“B. *ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS OF THE MSMED COUNCIL.* – AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 10 OF RA 10644, OR THE “GO NEGOSYO ACT”, THE MSMED COUNCIL SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS:

“(A) COORDINATING AND OVERSIGHT BODY FOR THE MSME NEGOSYO CENTER. – THE MSMED COUNCIL SHALL, THROUGH THE DTI, ACT AS THE COORDINATING AND SUPERVISING BODY FOR ALL THE AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE MSME NEGOSYO CENTERS. THE MSMED COUNCIL SHALL MONITOR AND ASSESS THE PROGRESS OF THE MSME NEGOSYO CENTERS, WHICH SHALL BE INCLUDED IN ITS ANNUAL REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONGRESS;

“(B) PROVISION OF A COMPLIANCE GUIDE. – FOR EACH RULE OR GROUP OF RELATED RULES ISSUED BY ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY FOR COMPLIANCE BY MSMEs, THE COUNCIL SHALL PUBLISH COMPLIANCE GUIDELINES WHICH SHALL BE WRITTEN IN PLAIN LANGUAGE OR IN THE LOCAL DIALECT, IF NECESSARY.

“THE COUNCIL SHALL PREPARE SEPARATE COMPLIANCE GUIDES COVERING GROUPS OR CLASSES OF SIMILARLY AFFECTED MSMEs AND SHALL COOPERATE WITH INDUSTRY ASSOCIATIONS TO DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE SUCH COMPLIANCE GUIDES. THE PUBLICATION OF EACH COMPLIANCE GUIDE SHALL INCLUDE THE POSTING OF THE GUIDE IN A CONSPICUOUS LOCATION ON THE WEBSITE OF THE AGENCY, AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE GUIDE TO KNOWN INDUSTRY CONTACTS, SUCH AS SMALL ENTITIES, ASSOCIATIONS OR INDUSTRY LEADERS AFFECTED BY THE RULE. THE ISSUING GOVERNMENT AGENCY SHALL PUBLISH AND DISSEMINATE THE COMPLIANCE RULES WITHIN NINETY (90) DAYS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE;

“(C) CONDUCT OF RESEARCH ON WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP. – THE COUNCIL SHALL CONDUCT RESEARCH TO SUPPORT WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP INCLUDING ENTREPRENEURIAL BEHAVIOR, BARRIERS, PARTICIPATION AND

CESSATION RATES, DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATIONAL ECONOMY AND GROWTH. AS DEFINED BY THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCE CORPORATION, AND RECOGNIZED AND ADOPTED BY THE MSMED COUNCIL, WOMEN OWNED BUSINESSES ARE BUSINESSES WHERE AT LEAST FIFTY-ONE PERCENT (51%) OF A COMPANY IS OWNED BY A WOMAN OR WOMEN, AND WOMEN-LED BUSINESSES ARE BUSINESSES WHERE AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT (20%) IS OWNED BY A WOMAN OR WOMEN AND AT LEAST ONE WOMAN ACTS AS THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO) OR CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (COO) OR PRESIDENT OR VICE PRESIDENT, AND AT LEAST THIRTY PERCENT (30%) OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WHERE A BOARD EXISTS, IS COMPOSED OF WOMEN;

“(D) POLICY FORMULATION ON WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP. – THE COUNCIL SHALL PROVIDE POLICY DIRECTION TOWARDS RECOGNIZING WOMEN’S APTITUDE AND TALENT IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS WELL AS ESTABLISH LINKAGES THAT WILL ENABLE MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN TO ENGAGE IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP; AND

“(E) DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING. – THE MSMED COUNCIL SHALL DEVELOP, IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, AND COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), A COURSE CURRICULUM OR TRAINING PROGRAMS IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PERSONAL FINANCE, INCLUDING DIGITAL FINANCIAL LITERACY, THAT WILL PROMOTE ENTREPRENEURIAL CULTURE AND COMPETENCE, AND ENCOURAGE THE USE OF DIGITAL PLATFORMS IN FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS. ENTREPRENEURSHIP SHALL BE INTEGRATED IN THE CURRICULUM OF EDUCATIONAL AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS IN ALL LEVELS.

“THE CHED SHALL HAVE A PROGRAM WHEREIN GRADUATING COLLEGE AND POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS SHALL ASSIST ENTREPRENEURS IN MAKING BANKABLE FEASIBILITY STUDIES AS FULFILLMENT OF THEIR ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS.”

SEC. 10. A new section is hereby inserted after Section 7-B of the same Act, as amended, and numbered as Section 7-C to read as follows:

“SEC. 7-C. CITY, MUNICIPAL, AND BARANGAY MSMED COUNCIL. – THERE SHALL BE CREATED A MSMED COUNCIL IN EVERY CITY, MUNICIPALITY, AND BARANGAY WHICH SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO PROPOSE POLICIES THAT ARE GEARED TO ASSIST MSMEs IN THE AREAS OF PRODUCTIVITY ENHANCEMENT, MARKETING, ACHIEVING SUSTAINABILITY BY EXTENDING CREDIT TO CUSTOMERS, AND IMPLEMENTING EFFICIENT LOAN COLLECTION SYSTEMS, AMONG OTHER STRATEGIES.

“THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL MSMED COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL BUSINESS PERMIT AND LICENSING OFFICER AS CHAIRPERSON, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BARANGAY CAPTAINS, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN FEDERATION, THE TOURISM OFFICER, AND THE CITY OR MUNICIPAL AGRICULTURIST OR THE CITY PLANNING OFFICER, AS MEMBERS. “THE BARANGAY MSMED COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE PUNONG BARANGAY AS CHAIRPERSON, THE SANGGUNIANG KABATAAN CHAIRPERSON, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WOMEN’S BRIGADE OR WOMEN’S SECTOR, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE BARANGAY PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE, AND A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SENIOR CITIZENS, AS MEMBERS.

“THE CITY, MUNICIPAL, AND BARANGAY MSMED COUNCILS SHALL COORDINATE AND FORMULATE MEASURES TO ENSURE THE OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF MSMEs WITHIN THEIR TERRITORIAL JURISDICTION, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE RELEVANT FACTORS AFFECTING THE CAPACITIES OF THE MSMEs.”

SEC. 11. Section 8 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 8. Designation of the Bureau of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development as Council Secretariat. – x x x:

“(1) to prepare, in coordination with local government units and/or associations of local government officials, and recommend annual as well as medium-term MICRO, small and medium enterprise development plans for approval of the Council;

“x x x;

“(3) to assist the Council in coordinating and monitoring MICRO, small and medium enterprise policies and programs and activities of all government agencies with respect to MICRO, small and medium enterprises;

“(4) to prepare, collate and integrate all inputs to the Council’s yearly report on the status of MICRO, small and medium enterprises in the country;

“x x x.”

SEC. 12. Section 11 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 11. Creation of THE Small Business [Guarantee and Finance] Corporation. – There is hereby created a body corporate to be known as the Small Business [Guarantee and Finance] Corporation, hereinafter referred to as the [Small Business Corporation (SB Corporation)] SB CORPORATION, which shall be charged with the primary responsibility of implementing comprehensive policies and programs to assist MSMEs in all areas, including but not limited to finance and information services, training and marketing.”

SEC. 13. Section 11-A of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 11-A. Composition of the Board of Directors and its Powers. – The SB Corporation [corporate powers shall be vested on] SHALL HAVE a Board of Directors composed of [eleven (11)] THIRTEEN (13) members which shall include the following:

“(a) The Secretary of Trade and Industry, WHO SHALL ACT AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES SHALL HAVE APPOINTED THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS;

“(b) The Secretary of Finance;

“(C) THE PRESIDENT OF THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM (GSIS);

“(D) THE PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS);

“[c] (E) A private sector representative to be appointed by the President OF THE PHILIPPINES upon the recommendation of the MSMED Council;

“[d] (F) Seven (7) representatives of the SB Corporation common stock shareholders who shall be elected based on proportional distribution, in accordance with Section [24] 23 of the REVISED Corporation Code; and

“[e] (G) The president of the SB Corporation as ex officio member and to serve as vice [chairman] CHAIRPERSON of the Board.

“The President OF THE PHILIPPINES shall appoint the [chairman] CHAIRPERSON of the Board from among its members.

“All members of the Board so appointed, except for the ex officio members, shall serve for a term of three (3) years [without reappointment.] AND MAY BE REAPPOINTED TO ANOTHER TERM UNLESS EARLIER REVOKED. IF THE TERM OF THE INCUMBENT MEMBER HAS EXPIRED, THE MEMBER SHALL CONTINUE TO FUNCTION IN A HOLDOVER CAPACITY UNTIL A REPLACEMENT HAS BEEN APPOINTED AND QUALIFIED. [The]ANY person [so] appointed to replace a member who has resigned, died, or been removed for cause shall serve only for the unexpired portion of the term.

“The Board of Directors shall have, among others, the following specific powers and authorities:

“x x x; and

“(f) [Notwithstanding the provisions of Republic Act No. 6758 and Compensation Circular No. 10, Series of 1989 issued by the Department of Budget and Management, the Board

shall have the authority to p] Provide for the organizational structure, [and] staffing pattern [of SB Corporation and to extend to the employees and personnel thereof salaries, allowances and fringe benefits similar to those extended to and currently enjoyed by employees and personnel of other government financial institutions.] AND COMPENSATION OF EMPLOYEES AND PERSONNEL OF THE SB CORPORATION, FOR SUBMISSION TO THE GOVERNANCE COMMISSION FOR GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR -CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS (GCG).”

SEC. 14. Section 11-B of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended, to read as follows:

“SEC. 11-B. Corporate Structure and Powers. – “A. The SB Corporation shall:

“x x x.

“B. For this purpose, the SB Corporation [subject to compliance with the rules and regulations to be issued by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and the Securities and Exchange Commission,] shall have the following functions and duties:

“(a) Source and adopt development initiatives for globally competitive MSMEs in finance and business technologies;

“(b) [To] [e]Extend all forms of financial assistance, EXCEPT GRANTS, to eligible MSMEs. THE SB Corporation may also engage in wholesale lending. The SB Corporation shall be given two (2) years from the effectivity of this Act to comply with this requirement;

“(c) [Guarantee loans obtained by qualified MSMEs under such terms and conditions adopted by the SB Corporation Board of Directors;] ESTABLISH AN ENTERPRISE REHABILITATION FUND FOR CALAMITY-STRICKEN MSMEs NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P500,000,000.00) AS PART OF THE SB CORPORATION’S CAPITALIZATION BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT;

“x x x;

“(f) Apply for, receive and accept grants and donations from sources within and outside the country; [and]

“(g) Hold, own, purchase, acquire, sell, mortgage, dispose or otherwise invest or re-invest in stocks, bonds, treasury bills, debentures, securities and similar forms of indebtedness of the government, its agencies and instrumentalities or any government financial institution[.]; AND

“(H) SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE MSMED COUNCIL, THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE GCG ON THE PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE CORPORATION.

“THE SB CORPORATION SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM SECURING PRIOR BSP AUTHORIZATION FOR ENGAGING IN QUASI-BANKING ACTIVITIES AND SHALL NOT BE SUBJECT TO BSP SUPERVISION AND REGULATION FOR SUCH ACTIVITIES.”

SEC. 15. A new section is hereby inserted after Section 11-B of the same Act, as amended, and numbered as Section 11-C to read as follows:

“SEC. 11-C. STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT OF THE SB CORPORATION. – THE BOARD OF THE SB CORPORATION, THROUGH ITS CHAIRPERSON, SHALL BE FULLY RESPONSIBLE AND ACCOUNTABLE FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CORPORATION’S MANDATE. FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE BOARD SHALL BE CONSTITUTED AS A MANAGING BOARD TO CONCEPTUALIZE THE STRATEGIC PLANS AND POLICIES OF THE CORPORATION.

“THE SB CORPORATION SHALL ADOPT A BALANCED SCORECARD MANAGEMENT APPROACH, SUBJECT TO THE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE GCG, TO ENABLE IT TO MANAGE ITS FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE WHILE PURSUING ITS PUBLIC POLICY OBJECTIVES OF SUPPORTING MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES DEVELOPMENT.”

SEC. 16. Section 12 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 12. Capitalization and Funding of the SB Corporation. – The SB Corporation shall have an authorized capital stock of [Ten] FIFTY billion pesos [(P10,000,000,000.00)] (P50,000,000,000.00), WHICH SHALL BE DIVIDED INTO 400,000 COMMON SHARES AND 100,000 PREFERRED SHARES WITH A PAR VALUE OF ONE HUNDRED PESOS (P100.00) PER SHARE. The initial capital of One billion pesos (P1,000,000,000.00) [shall be] established from a pool of funds [to be] contributed in the form of equity investments in common stock by the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP), the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), in the amount of Two hundred million pesos (P200,000,000.00) each[. The] AND ALSO BY THE Social Security System (SSS) and the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) [shall also set aside] IN THE AMOUNT OF Two hundred million pesos (P200,000,000.00) each [for the SB Corporation] SHALL REMAIN PART OF THE CAPITALIZATION OF THE SB CORPORATION. [Authorized capital stock of the [s]Small [b]Business [c]Corporation shall be divided into 80,000,000 common shares and 20,000,000 preferred shares with a par value of One hundred pesos (P100.00) per share]: *Provided*, That the common shares which have been issued, including those issued against the assets of the KKK Guaranty Fund consolidated under the [s]Small [b]Business [c]Corporation by virtue of Executive Order No. 233, Series of 2000 and Executive Order No. 19, Series of 2001 and including those already subscribed, shall [form] LIKEWISE REMAIN part of the capitalization of the corporation: *Provided*, further, That holders of preferred shares issued under [Republic Act No.] RA 6977, as amended, shall have the option to convert the same into common shares. Additional equity funding shall come from trust placements of excess and unused funds of existing government agencies, bilateral and multilateral official development assistance funds, subscriptions from government-owned or -controlled corporations AND THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, and

investments of private financial institutions and corporations: *Provided*, finally, That any investment from the private sector shall only be in the form of preferred shares.

“NATIONAL GOVERNMENT EQUITY TO THE CORPORATION SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT.

“[To allow for capital build-up, SB Corporation shall be given a five (5) year grace period on dividend commitments beginning on the date of effectivity of this amendment. Thereafter, it] THE SB CORPORATION may [only] declare as dividend not more than thirty percent (30%) of its net income and the rest withheld as retained earnings.”

SEC. 17. Section 13 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 13. The SB Corporation shall NOT be subject to the supervision and examination of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas taking into consideration its developmental objectives.”

SEC. 18. Section 14 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 14. Venture Capital and Micro Finance Trust Fund. – The SB Corporation may set aside an amount of money to encourage the setting up of a venture capital and micro finance trust fund for the purpose of promoting AVAILABLE business opportunities [available] to THE MSME sector. The Venture Capital Fund shall be used mainly for venture capital finance especially in technology-oriented industries. The micro finance trust fund shall be used to provide collateral-free fixed and working capital loans to micro and small enterprises run by those emerging out of poverty. THE INITIAL AMOUNT OF AT LEAST TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE EQUITY CONTRIBUTION OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO THE CAPITALIZATION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS CORPORATION, NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P500,000,000.00), SHALL BE APPROPRIATED TO FUND THE VENTURE CAPITAL AND MICRO FINANCE TRUST FUND.”

SEC. 19. Section 15 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 15. Mandatory Allocation of Credit Resources to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises. – For [the] AN ADDITIONAL period of ten (10) years from the date of the effectivity of this amendatory Act, all lending institutions [as defined under Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas rules], whether public or private, shall set aside at least [eight percent (8%) for micro and small enterprises and at least two percent (2%) for medium enterprises] TEN PERCENT (10%) of their total loan portfolio based on their balance sheet as of the end of the previous quarter FOR MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES, and make it available for MSME credit as herein contemplated: *PROVIDED*, THAT A MAXIMUM OF THREE PERCENT (3%) THEREOF SHALL BE THE ALLOCATION FOR MEDIUM ENTERPRISES.

“Compliance of this provision shall be:

“(a) actual extension of loans to eligible MSMEs; or

“x x x; or

“(f) [subscribe/] SUBSCRIPTION OR purchase of liability instruments as may be offered by the SB Corporation. THE SAME SHALL NOT BE DEEMED AS QUASI-BANKING OPERATIONS, AND SHALL NOT REQUIRE A QUASI-BANKING LICENSE FROM THE BSP; OR

“(G) EXTENSION OF LOANS TO MSME VALUE CHAIN ACTORS WHICH ALLOW MSMEs TO PARTICIPATE IN ORGANIZED OR FORMAL LOCAL AND FORMAL VALUE CHAINS. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS ACT, VALUE CHAIN ACTORS INCLUDE, AMONG OTHERS, TRADERS, SUPPLIERS, PROCESSORS OR AGGREGATORS WHO CONDUCT LINKED SEQUENCE OF VALUE ADDING ACTIVITIES INVOLVED IN BRINGING A PRODUCT TO FINAL CONSUMERS; OR

“(H) SUSTAINABLE FINANCE FOR PROJECTS OR ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BENEFIT MSMEs; OR

“(I) INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT CREDIT FOR PURPOSES OF DEVELOPING NEW TECHNOLOGIES, PRODUCT INNOVATION, PROCESS INNOVATION, ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATION, AND MARKETING INNOVATION IN MSMEs; OR

“(J) FINANCING FOR COMPANIES THAT MAINTAIN AND OPERATE ELECTRONIC PLATFORMS THAT FACILITATE VALUE CHAIN AND SUPPLY CHAIN FINANCING TRANSACTIONS WITH MSMEs, MSME DIGITALIZATION, OR WHICH OFFER/PROVIDE TECHNOLOGY-BASED SOLUTIONS TO MSMEs FOR PURPOSES OF PROMOTING E-COMMERCE, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVE DATA CREDIT SCORING, DIGITAL ACCOUNTING AND BOOKING APPLICATIONS, PRODUCTION, MARKETING AND DISTRIBUTION, AND TAX COMPLIANCE ONLINE TOOLS; OR

“(K) INVESTMENTS IN MSMEs BY WAY OF PURCHASE OF THEIR SECURITIES THROUGH AN ORGANIZED MARKET, INITIAL PUBLIC OFFERING, FOLLOW-ON OFFERING, OR THROUGH REGISTERED CROWDFUNDING INTERMEDIARIES, INCLUDING INVESTMENT IN THE EQUITIES OF MSME STARTUPS; OR

“(L) LOANS TO, OR INVESTMENTS IN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS THAT PROVIDE SUPPLY CHAIN FINANCING, VALUE CHAIN FINANCING, TRADE FINANCING OR GUARANTEES FOR MSMEs.

“MSME FINANCING THAT MEETS THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA UNDER RA 11901, OR “THE AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT FINANCING ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2022” AND RA 11293, OR THE “PHILIPPINE INNOVATION ACT” SHALL BE RECOGNIZED AS COMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATORY CREDIT REQUIREMENT UNDER THESE LAWS.

“ALL LENDING INSTITUTIONS SHALL ACTIVELY SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMS THAT FORM PART OF THE PRIORITY INITIATIVES

UNDER THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR FINANCIAL INCLUSION 2022 TO 2028 THAT PROMOTE ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR MSMEs WHILE ENSURING THAT THEY HAVE ADEQUATE AND EFFECTIVE CREDIT RISK MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.

“LENDING INSTITUTIONS SHALL ALSO ADOPT CASH FLOW-BASED LENDING WHICH PLACES EMPHASIS ON THE CAPACITY TO PAY OF AN MSME RATHER THAN COLLATERAL. WHEN GRANTING MSME CREDIT, LENDING INSTITUTIONS SHALL UTILIZE SIMPLIFIED LOAN APPLICATION FORMS AND REQUIRE STREAMLINED DOCUMENTARY REQUIREMENTS. LENDING INSTITUTIONS SHALL ALSO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE DATA AS WELL AS AVAILABLE CREDIT RISK INFORMATION IN DETERMINING AN MSME BORROWER’S CAPACITY TO PAY. FOR PURPOSES OF MITIGATING CREDIT RISK, LENDING INSTITUTIONS SHALL ACCEPT MOVABLE COLLATERAL AS A FORM OF CREDIT RISK MITIGANT FOR MSME EXPOSURES, IN ADDITION TO PHYSICAL COLLATERAL (LIKE REAL ESTATE), FINANCIAL GUARANTEES, AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS.

“The [Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas] BSP AND THE SEC, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MSMED COUNCIL AND THE DTI, shall formulate rules for the effective implementation of this provision: *Provided*, That the purchase of government notes, securities and other negotiable instruments shall not be deemed compliance with the foregoing provisions: *Provided*, further, That the [Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas] BSP AND THE SEC, IN CONSULTATION WITH ALL STAKEHOLDERS, shall establish [an] A MEANINGFUL incentive [program] SYSTEM to encourage [lending to micro, small and medium industries beyond the mandatory credit allocation to said enterprises,] COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PROVISION, such as possible reduction in bank’s reserve requirement[.]: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT THE BSP AND THE SEC SHALL ALIGN THEIR REGULATIONS ON THE PENALTIES FOR BANKS AND OTHER ENTITIES, FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE PROVISION FOR MANDATORY LENDING.

“The MSMED Council shall set up the appropriate systems to monitor all loan applications of MSMEs in order to account for the absorptive capacity of the MSME sector. EACH LENDING INSTITUTION SHALL DESIGNATE AN OFFICER WHO SHALL PREPARE AND SIGN THE REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATORY CREDIT ALLOCATION, FOR SUBMISSION TO THE BSP IN THE CASE OF BANKS, AND THE SEC IN THE CASE OF NON-BANK FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES. The [Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas] BSP IN THE CASE OF BANKS, AND THE SEC IN THE CASE OF NON-BANK FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES, shall furnish to the MSMED Council on a quarterly basis comprehensive reports on the [bank’s] LENDING ENTITY’S compliance[, AND noncompliance [and penalties of] WITH the above provisions on the mandatory credit allocation for MSMEs[.], AND SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT, SIGNED BY AN OFFICER WITH THE RANK OF AT LEAST A MANAGING DIRECTOR, ON THE AMOUNTS OF THE PENALTIES FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THE MANDATORY LENDING PROVISION OF THIS ACT.

“ALL BANKS SHALL PROVIDE ACCESS TO DEPOSIT 31 ACCOUNTS, SUCH AS SAVINGS, CHECKING AND DEBIT ACCOUNTS, TO REGISTERED MSMEs. FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY SHALL BE PROVIDED TO MSMEs TO ENSURE THEIR FINANCIAL INCLUSION.

“ALL LENDERS SHALL REPORT CREDIT INFORMATION AND TRANSACTIONS OF MSMEs TO THE CIC TO MONITOR PROPER COMPLIANCE AND EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION.

“FOR EFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION AND OPERATION, COOPERATIVES EXCEPT COOPERATIVE BANKS AND INSURANCE COOPERATIVES SHALL BE UNDER THE SOLE SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CDA; ALL OTHER FINANCIAL ENTITIES, CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES, SUCH AS NON GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs), FINANCING COMPANIES, NON-STOCK SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS, MICROFINANCE NGOs, AND LENDING INVESTORS SHALL BE UNDER THE SEC; BANKS SHALL BE UNDER THE BSP; AND INSURANCE COMPANIES SHALL BE 13 UNDER THE IC.

“FOR CLARITY, COOPERATIVE BANKS SHALL BE UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CDA AND BSP; WHILE INSURANCE COOPERATIVES SHALL BE UNDER THE SUPERVISION AND EXAMINATION OF THE CDA AND IC.

“Lending institutions which are not qualified to acquire or hold lands of the public domain in the Philippines shall be permitted to bid and take part in sales of mortgaged real property in case of judicial or extra-judicial foreclosure, as well as avail of receivership, enforcement and other proceedings, solely upon default of a borrower, and for a period not exceeding five (5) years from actual possession: *Provided*, That in no event shall title to the property be transferred to such lending institution. If the lending institution is the winning bidder, it may, during said five (5) year period, transfer its rights to a qualified Philippine national, without prejudice to a borrower’s rights under applicable laws.”

SEC. 20. Section 18 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 18. Congressional Oversight Committee. – To monitor and oversee the implementation of this Act, there shall be a Congressional Oversight Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development (COC-MSMED) composed of the chairpersons of the Senate Committee on Economic Affairs and the House Committee on [Small Business and Entrepreneurship Development] MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT as chairperson and co-chairperson, respectively; x x x .”

SEC. 21. Section 19 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further amended, to read as follows:

“SEC. 19. Penal Clause. – PENALTIES SHALL BE IMPOSED ON THE VIOLATION OF THE FOLLOWING PROHIBITED ACTS:

“(a) The [Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas] BSP IN THE CASE OF BANKS, AND THE SEC IN THE CASE OF NON-BANK FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARIES, shall impose administrative sanctions and other penalties on the lending institutions for non[-]compliance with THE [provisions] MANDATORY LENDING AS PROVIDED UNDER SECTION 14 of this Act [including a fine of not less than Five hundred thousand 13 pesos (P500,000.00)]. PENALTIES ON NONCOMPLIANCE OR UNDERCOMPLIANCE SHALL BE COMPUTED AT ONE-HALF OF ONE PERCENT (0.5%) OF NONCOMPLIANCE OR UNDERCOMPLIANCE, OR AT RATES PRESCRIBED BY THE BSP MONETARY BOARD.

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“Penalties on noncompliance shall be directed to the development of the MSME sector. Ninety percent (90%) of the penalties collected [should] SHALL go to the MSMED Council Fund, while the remaining ten percent (10%) [should] SHALL be [given] REMITTED to the BSP, THE SEC, OR THE APPROPRIATE AGENCY THAT EXERCISES REGULATORY JURISDICTION OVER SUCH LENDING ENTITY, to cover for administrative expenses.

“THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE MSMED COUNCIL SHALL SUBMIT TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE PENALTIES REMITTED INCLUDING ITS UTILIZATION IN RELATION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SERVICES TO MSMEs IN THE AREAS OF CAPACITY BUILDING, TECHNOLOGY INFORMATION, INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION, AND OTHER INTERVENTIONS FOR MSME DEVELOPMENT, GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY.

“(b) EXCEPT FOR SECURITIES COVERED UNDER RA 8799, OR 33 “THE SECURITIES REGULATION CODE”, ENTITIES SHALL SECURE 34 THE NECESSARY APPROVAL OF THE SEC PRIOR TO RECEIVING 35 INVESTMENTS AS WELL AS GIFTS, ITEMS OR OTHER COMMODITIES, EITHER IN THE FORM OF CASH OR ITS EQUIVALENT CASH VALUE IN CONSIDERATION OF RETURN OF PROFIT OR BENEFIT COMING FROM MORE THAN TWENTY (20) INDIVIDUALS. THE PRESIDENT, MANAGER OR OFFICER OF ANY ENTITY WHO FAILS TO SECURE SUCH APPROVAL SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN THIRTY (30) DAYS BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) DAYS, OR A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00), OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.”

SEC. 22. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The DTI, through the Bureau of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development and in consultation with the BSP in the case of banks, and the SEC in the case of non-bank financial intermediaries, and other concerned government agencies, nongovernment organizations and private sector agencies involved in the promotion of MSMEs, shall formulate the rules and regulations (IRR) necessary to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act: *Provided*, That the IRR shall be reviewed yearly: *Provided*, further, That the IRR shall be approved by the MSMED Council.

SEC. 23. *Separability Clause.* – The provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be separable. If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 24. *Repealing Clause.* – Section 22 of RA 8367, or the “Revised Non-Stock Savings and Loan Association Act of 1997”, is hereby repealed. All laws, decrees, proclamations, issuances, or ordinances that are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 25. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,