



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Constitution Hills, Batasan Complex, Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6429

Introduced by **ALFEL M. BASCUG**, Representative,
1ST Legislative District of Agusan del Sur.

**“AN ACT ESTABLISHING CACAO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
CENTER IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF PROSPERIDAD, PROVINCE OF
AGUSAN DEL SUR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

Explanatory Note

Agusan del Sur aims to help its small-time cacao farmers in the Province to develop potential mechanisms in the growing cacao industry. Henceforth, a Cacao Research and Development Center is envisioned by the Province of Agusan del Sur in order to support the thriving cacao communities and transform and empower them for sustainable cocoa farming and livelihood.

While Agusan del Sur is still a protegee in cacao farming, the province's rich agricultural lands made it suitable for cacao cultural management with regards to soil requirement, propagation and climatic requirement. More so, it is worthy to note that the neighboring Davao Region which is the top-producer of cacao products is a key factor for this envisioned program. It would be more accessible to small-time cacao farmers in Agusan del Sur to tap the largest-producing cacao region of Davao. True, the world demand situation today for cacao is in

dire need in the sects of manufacturing, pharmaceutical and cosmetics. Hence, an establishment of a research and development center is a helpful tool for Agusanon cacao farmers to develop real potentials of cacao which can significantly and subsequently contribute to poverty alleviation through livelihood and job generation among the people at large.

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



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

SECTION 1. There shall be established, under the supervision of the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-BAR), Department of Science and Technology (DOST) a cacao research and development center in the municipality of Prosperidad, Province of Agusan del Sur.

SECTION 2. The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the Department's programs the establishment of the cacao research and development center, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The local government of Prosperidad shall set aside funds from any available local revenue in an amount deemed appropriate for the operationalization of the center.

SECTION 3. Within sixty (60) days from the passage of this Act,

the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Bureau of Agricultural Research and the Secretary of Science and Technology shall issue rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,