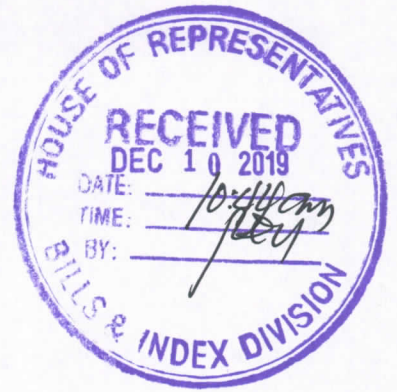


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5764**



Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The **Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration** (PAGASA) is the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS) agency of the Republic of the Philippines that is primarily mandated to provide protection against all natural calamities and to assure the safety, well-being and economic security of all the people, and for the promotion of national progress by undertaking scientific and technological services in meteorology, hydrology, climatology, astronomy and other geophysical sciences.

Created on December 8, 1972, PAGASA now serves as one of the Scientific and Technological Services Institutes of the Department of Science and Technology.

This House Bill seeks to provide additional modernization funding to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (**PAGASA**), to ensure that the country fulfills its commitments to international meteorological and climate change agreements.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. ⁵⁷⁶⁴ _____

Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL MODERNIZATION FUNDING TO
THE PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL AND
ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (**PAGASA**), AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. TITLE – This act shall be known as the “**PAGASA
Modernization Act of 2019**”.

SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY – It is hereby a declared policy of the state to apply scientific and technical knowledge and information as an effective instrument to ensure the safety, well-being and economic security of the people; to safeguard the environment; and to promote national progress and sustainable socioeconomic development through various applications of meteorology, geophysics, astronomy and allied sciences. The State also recognizes the need to strengthen the capability of government personnel tasked

to provide atmospheric, geophysical, astronomical and other weather and climate-related services and information to the public.

The State shall undertake the modernization of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (**PAGASA**) to improve its technological operational capacity, strengthen its role as the premier national weather agency and to attain its vision as a center of excellence for weather-related information services.

SECTION 3. PERIOD OF IMPLEMENTATION – The modernization program under this Act shall be implemented for an initial period of two **(2)** years:

Provided, that payments for multi-year contract obligations incurred under this Act may extend beyond this period:

Provided, further, That **PAGASA** shall continue to modernize and constantly update its operational capabilities to keep pace with best global practices.

SECTION 4. PAGASA MODERNIZATION FUND – There is hereby created the **PAGASA Modernization Fund** to be used exclusively for the **PAGASA Modernization Program**.

The **PAGASA Modernization Fund** shall be sourced from the following:

(a) The amount of Two billion pesos (**₱2,000,000,000.00**) to be taken from the share of the National Government in the gross income of the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (**PAGCOR**). For two (2) years after the effectivity of this Act, the amount of One billion pesos (**₱1,000,000,000.00**) per year shall be released to the **PAGASA**. The entire amount of Two billion pesos (**₱2,000,000,000.00**), including any interest income thereon, shall be used exclusively for capital outlay.

(b) Income from PAGASA Specialized Products and Services and Cost Recovery Program provided under *Republic Act 10692*; and

(c) Loans, grants, bequests, and donations whether from local or foreign sources. The Secretary of the **DOST** with the approval of the **NEDA** and subsequently the Department of Finance (**DOF**) is hereby granted the authority to enter into loan agreements with foreign financial institutions.

The PAGASA Modernization Fund shall be administered by the Administrator of the PAGASA in accordance with existing government budgeting, accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

SECTION 5. PROGRESS REPORT – The Administrator of the PAGASA shall prepare an annual report on the status of the implementation of the PAGASA Modernization Program which shall be submitted, through the Secretary of the DOST, to the President and to the Chairpersons of the Committees on Science and Technology of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

SECTION 6. APPROPRIATIONS – The amount necessary to carry out the implementation of this Act shall be initially charged against the current fiscal year appropriations of the **DOST – PAGASA**.

Thereafter, the amount needed for the continued implementation of the modernization program, shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (**GAA**).

SECTION 7. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six (6) months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act

shall, within sixty **(60)** days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 9. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,