

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3177



Introduced by Honorable **ABRAHAM "BAMBOL" N. TOLENTINO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 14, Section 10 of the Constitution provides that:

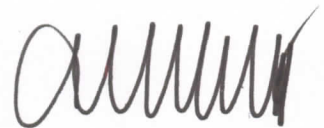
"Science and Technology are essential for national development and progress. The State shall give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization; and to science and technology education, training, and services. It shall support indigenous, appropriate, and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, and their application to the country's productive systems and national life."

This Constitutional provision highlights the prime importance of Research and Development (R&D) in the economic development of a nation. R&D plays a crucial role in the development of different fields such as science and technology, business, and agriculture. It allows for the prospering of knowledge and innovation which then gives way to new products, goods, and services that are relevant to various aspects of life. With this said, it plays a critical role in the development of society.

Although those in the R&D field in the Philippines aspire to make the country a home for high-end R&D, the field is mostly underappreciated. Moreover, there is a low number of researchers in the field which results to a low number of graduates in the fields of science, technology, and engineering in which R&D usually flourishes.

In light of this, this bill seeks to create the Research and Development Support Committee which shall be established under the Office of the President. It shall be responsible for reviewing regulations affecting research and research universities.

Approval of the bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and a final vertical stroke.

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. ³¹⁷⁷____

Introduced by **Honorable ABRAHAM N. TOLENTINO**

**AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY OF
NATIONAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as "Research and
2 Development Efficiency Act."

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to ensure
4 that all efforts towards research and development shall be efficient and effective.

5 Sec. 3. *Research and Development Audit Committee.* – There shall be
6 established under the Office of the President a Research and Development Support
7 Committee (RDSC) who shall be responsible for reviewing regulations affecting
8 research and research universities and making recommendations on how to:

9 a. harmonize, streamline and eliminate duplicative regulations and reporting
10 requirements; and

11 b. minimize the regulatory burden on institutions of higher education
12 performing government funded research while maintaining accountability
13 for expenditures.

14 Sec. 4. *Stakeholder Input.* – In carrying out the responsibilities under
15 Section 3, the RDSC shall take into account input and recommendations from

1 stakeholders, including national and local government funded researchers,
2 institutions of higher education, scientific disciplinary societies and associations,
3 nonprofit research institutions, industry, including small businesses, government
4 funded research and development centers, and others with a stake in ensuring
5 effectiveness, efficiency, and accountability in the performance of scientific research.

6 Sec. 5. *Report.* – Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act,
7 and annually thereafter for 3 years, the Director shall report to the appropriate
8 committees in the Senate and the House of Representatives on what steps have
9 been taken to carry out the recommendations of the working group established
10 under Section 3.

11 Sec. 6. *Term.* – The term of RDSC shall be three (3) years.

12 Sec. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
13 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary
14 to or inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
15 accordingly.

16 Sec. 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
17 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Adopted,