

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

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3280



Introduced by: ROMEO M. JALOSJOS, JR.

AN ACT CREATING PHILIPPINE RUBBER INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10089 KNOWN AS AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE RUBBER RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO DEVELOP THE PHILIPPINE RUBBER INDUSTRY AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

R.A. No. 10089 provides for the creation of the Philippine Rubber Research Institute for purposes to develop the Philippine Rubber Industry, the law aims to improve the quality and increase productivity of rubber, to benefit especially the small-holder rubber producers and processors. But it is now a decayed since the law has been passed, and still the Philippines is lagging behind our Asian neighbour in the production and exportation of rubber products.

It is the idea of this measure to revisit and possibly amend some provisions of the above mentioned R.A. 10089 by establishing and strengthening the rubber industry in the country making itself as a government institution by way of a Council involving various government agencies, one of which is the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) to support the needed Research Development in modern technology not only the rubber processing industry but in the modern production technique.

The approval of the measure will give way of our county to be competitive enterprisingly on the projected huge demand for rubber in 2020 at 28.1 million tons per Department of Agriculture data gathering.

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

REP. ROMEO M. JALOSJOS, JR.

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

Section 1. Title- This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Rubber Industry and Technology Council Act of 2010

Section 2. Declaration of Policy-It is a declared policy of the State to develop self-reliant industries effectively controlled by Filipinos, encourage investments and provide incentives to private enterprise, promote employment and livelihood opportunities for the poor, ensure well-balanced ecology in the use of natural resources for industrial purpose, and prioritize education and training particularly in science and technology for sustainable development.

In support of these State policies, the establishment of the Philippine Rubber Industry and Research Technology aims to comprehensively realize the goals of human empowerment and economic development in the countryside through programs and projects that will increase rubber production and provide processing equipment to enhance quality rubber production for the benefit of small rubber farmers stakeholder (smallholder) producers and processors.

Chapter I
Definition of Terms

Section 3. Definition of Terms- As used in this Act.

- a. Rubber Industry- An economic activity concerned with the processing of rubber raw materials and manufacture of rubber goods in factories or processing plant.

- b. Rubber Research Technology- A systematic study of materials and sources in order to establish facts to reach new conclusion for purposes to improve quality and increase rubber farmers production and develop new innovations on rubber products processing equipment.
- c. "Rubber Tree"-refers to the robust, perennial crop and the source of natural rubber, also scientifically known as Hevea Brasilienses.
- d. "Latex" refers to a milky usually white fluid is produced by cells of rubber trees, and is the raw material used in the manufacture of industrial, automotive and other latex products.
- e. Smallholder rubber producers (small rubber farmers stakeholder) refers to individuals, cooperatives or corporations owning and/or cultivating rubber plantation not less done five (5) hectares of farm land.
- f. Smallholder rubber processors (small rubber stakeholder processor) refers to individuals, cooperatives or corporations which maintain and/or operate small-scale processing equipment, plants of finished or semi-finished rubber products, capable of processing not more than fifty (50) metric tons processed rubber annually.
- g. Rubber Cooperatives refer to duly organized and registered enterprises collectively owned and operated by groups of rubber products and/or processors who partake of and share among themselves the benefits and profits of their economic ventures.
- h. Big holder rubber producers refer to individuals, cooperatives or corporations owning and/or cultivating farm rubber plantation over and above five (5) hectares farm land.
- i. Big holder rubber processors refer to individuals, cooperatives or corporations which maintain and/or operate large-scale processing plants of finished or semi-finished rubber products, capable of processing more than fifty (50) metric tons processed rubber annually.

Chapter II

Philippine Rubber Industry and Technology Council

Section 4. Creation of the Philippine Rubber Industry and Technology Council - It is hereby created a Philippine Rubber Industry and Technology Council to be known as the PRITC, which shall be under the supervision and control of Office of the President. The Council is mandated to develop policies and programs aimed at improving the state of technologies needed for the Philippine Rubber Industry in order to meet challenges on global standards for competitiveness and product quality.

Section 5. Powers and Functions of the PRITC- The PRITC shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Propagate and promote the planting, maintenance, to enhance proper utilization of rubber trees as source of latex and finished rubber products;
- b. Enable farmer rubber producers and processors, especially smallholders, to access available quality rubber tree seedlings, new innovation production technology and other support services from production to available local and international market outsourcing entity;
- c. Provide training and capability building programs for rubber producers, processors to individual, cooperatives and or any other organizations engaging in rubber industry business in order to help enhance quality rubber production to trigger farmers income acceleration;
- d. Provide establishment of village-based rubber enterprises to generate business livelihood opportunities and improve general well-being of the large percentage of the workforce in agricultural communities.
- e. Promote cooperative development among smallholders and provide them access to resources, producers and processors technology learning and innovations for the enhancement of rubber industry business and for welfare protection in general.
- f. Provide rubber research technology and development in order to come up with strict policy in promoting a robust rubber industry to ensure quality standard production and meeting demands of times for quality rubber produced in both local and international trade;
- g. Enter into memorandum of agreement and receive grants from local and foreign funding agencies through the D.A. upon the recommendation of the PRITC which grants intended for research and development and/or rubber industry enhancement program.
- h. Formulate policies and initiate programs for the development of the PRITC;
- i. Initiate local and international rubber products marketing arm to assure available market and secure equitable price competitiveness of the rubber product.
- j. PRITC coordination with the DOST Research and Development for rubber industry enhancement and competitiveness program.
- k. PRITC continues coordination with the local governments units for planning and evaluation to help rubber farmers for planting/production.

Chapter III

Composition of Rubber Industry and Technology Council (PRITC)

Section 6. Composition of Rubber Industry and Technology Council (PRITC)- The Council shall be composed of the following:

- a. representatives from the government who shall be serving in ex officio capacities:
 - 1. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (D.A.) as Chairperson;
 - 2. Secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR)
 - 3. Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
 - 4. Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as Vice Chairperson
 - 5. Secretary of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)
 - 6. Representative from the Office of the Executive Secretary
 - 7. Executive Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Research
 - 8. Executive Director of the Bureau of Plant Industry
 - 9. One (1) representative from the farmers rubber producer sector, and one(1) representative from the rubber processors sector as members, it shall be appointed by the President of the Philippine upon recommendation from the Chairman of the PRITC, with a term of three (3) years.

Section 7. Executive Director of the PRITC- The PRITC shall be headed by an Executive Director who shall be responsible for the planning, implementation and supervision of the programs and activities of the PRITC. He shall be appointed by the President of the Republic of the Philippines for a term of office within three (3) years, upon recommendation of the D.A. All other officers and employees of the PRITC shall be appointed by the Executive Director of the PRITC, in accordance with the provisions of Civil Service Law.

The Executive Director must possess high degree on agricultural education, technological research and managerial competencies with integrity and proven probity in public service.

Section 8. Functions and Powers of the PRITC Executive Director- The following are the functions and powers of the Executive Director PRITC:

- a. Recommend to the PRITC Council the creation of PRITC Office Structural setup;
- b. Recommend to the Chairman of the PRITC the appointments of personnel and consultants;
- c. Oversee the planning, implementation and evaluation of policies, programs and projects of the PRITC;
- d. Consolidate and Review the PRITC operations fiscal budget appropriations.
- e. Perform any other functions as may be assigned and determined by the PRITC Council

Section 9. Allocation of Funds-Not more than forty percent (40%) of funds allocated under this Act and in subsequent annual appropriations shall be used for personnel services, and maintenance and operating expenses; thirty five percent (35%) for research and development as well as training and information; and twenty five percent (25%) for seedling propagation and dispersal of rubber trees.

Section 10. Annual Report-The PRITC shall submit an annual report to the Office of the President, the Senate and the House of Representatives indicating among others, the administration and institutional development of the PRITC, and the progress of programs and projects on the rubber industry and its stakeholders.

Section 11. Appropriations- The amount necessary to carry out the provision of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

Section 12. Separability Clause- If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the rest of the provisions shall not be affected thereby.

Section 13. Repealing Clause-All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 14. Effectivity Clause- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.