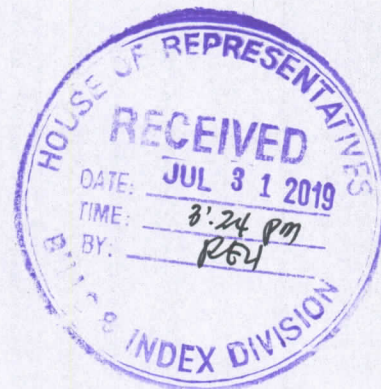


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3251



Introduced by: **"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR THE COFFEE INDUSTRY
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Coffee is an essential part of the daily routine of millions of Filipinos, whether consumed for pleasure or as a pick-me up at the beginning of the day, or toward the end of an all-night study session. Much as a necessity coffee has become in our modern world, it only stands to become more so as increasing evidence is found concerning the health benefits that come from coffee consumption. Our nation has the potential to become a major player in this growing market, if the industry is properly nurtured.

We are a nation of coffee drinkers. It is an undeniable fact that coffee has become a staple beverage among Filipinos. From consumer drinks from your favorite coffee shop chain, to high-class brews specialty stores, to 3-in-1 coffee mixes sold by the packet – the demand for coffee bisects the class divide and coffee drinkers come from all over the economic spectrum.

This bill seeks to revitalize our coffee industry, especially when it comes to export, by creating the National Coffee Board that will take charge of developing programs and instituting industry-wide improvements that would benefit farmers, processors, traders, consumers, and other industry partners.

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

"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO
Representative
First District of Bulacan

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

SEC. 1. Title. - This act shall be known as the “Coffee Industry Development Act”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote the coffee industry as an income source of farmers and increase farm productivity for sustainable development.

SEC. 3. Development of the Coffee Industry. - The Department of Agriculture (DA), in consultation with the Department of Science and Technology, State Universities and Colleges, farmer groups, Local Government Units, and the private sector, shall formulate necessary programs and projects for the advancement and industry-wide development of coffee in the Philippines, as follows:

- a) Organize systematic programs that could improve coffee production including the development of effective production systems;
- b) Promote the coffee industry to investors;
- c) Provide technical assistance on planting systems and rehabilitation of farms;
- d) Develop efficient and productive processing technologies for coffee beans;
- e) Allow and facilitate the establishment of credit programs in government banks for coffee farmers;
- f) Conduct research and other scientific studies on coffee;
- g) Establish and maintain a germplasm collection and gene bank for coffee;
- h) Provide marketing and promotions of coffee for domestic and export markets;
- i) Classify coffee as a high value crop;
- j) Establish a coffee processing facilities for farmers and farmer’s organizations; and
- k) Coordinate and collaborate with other government and non-government agencies involved in the development of the coffee industry.

SEC. 4. Creation of a National Coffee Board. - There shall be a National Coffee Board that shall direct, supervise and monitor the development and promotion of the coffee industry. The board shall be composed of:

- a) The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman;
- b) The Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry as Vice Chairman;
- c) One (1) representative from the League of Municipalities where coffee is primarily grown;

- d) One (1) representative from a Non-governmental Organization working on coffee production, research and development, processing or promotion;
- e) One (1) representative from coffee growers;
- f) One (1) representative from coffee traders; and
- g) One (1) representative from coffee processors.

SEC. 5. Secretariat of the Coffee Board. – The Undersecretary of Agriculture in Charge of Crops and the Head of the Bureau of Plant Industry shall be the Secretariat of the Board. The office of High Value Crops Development shall establish an office space for the Coffee Board for their meetings.

SEC. 6. Appropriation. – The amount of fifty million pesos (Php 50,000,000.00) shall be allocated from the Special Activities Fund of the President of the Republic of the Philippines or from any other sources that may be identified for the purpose for the operation, industry development as contained in Section 3 hereof. Thereafter, such sum required shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act of the Department of Agriculture.

SEC. 7. Separability Clause. – All existing laws, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, superseded or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspaper in general circulation.

Approved,