

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**H. B. No. 4539**

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Introduced by Rep. Vilma Santos-Recto  
6th District of Batangas

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**AN ACT**  
**DESIGNATING THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**AS CHAIRPERSON OF THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY COUNCIL**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

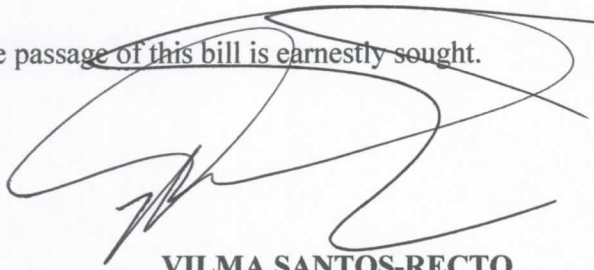
The National Grains Authority was created under Presidential Decree (PD) No. 4, s. 1972 and became the National Food Authority (NFA) through PD No. 1770, s. 1981. Its mandate is to ensure national food security and stabilize supply and prices of staple cereals both in the farm and consumer levels. By virtue of Executive Order (EO) No. 398, s. 1997, NFA shall intervene in the stabilization of sugar prices, including the procurement of sugar when necessary. Furthermore, EO No. 22, s. 1998 authorized NFA to include in its scope the marketing operation of other basic food items.

In 2014, EO No. 165 transferred the NFA together with National Irrigation Administration (NIA), Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), and Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) to the Office of the President. Furthermore, Memorandum Order No. 70, s. 2014 provided oversight responsibilities over the aforesaid agencies to the Presidential Assistant for Food Security and Agricultural Modernization (OPAFSAM). Pursuant to EO No. 1, s. 2016, NFA, together with eleven (11) other agencies from OPAFSAM, were subsequently transferred to the Office of the Cabinet Secretary.

Notwithstanding the adoption of EO 62, s. 2018 which transferred the NFA along with PCA and FPA to the Department of Agriculture's supervision to ensure efficiency and coordination in the performance of their respective mandates, it is better that a positive

legislative action is enacted to give this measure a more permanent character, thus, not dependent upon the impulse of the President.

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

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and flourishes, positioned above the printed name.

**VILMA SANTOS-RECTO**

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

1           Section 1. Section 6 of Presidential Decree No. 1770, s. 1981 is hereby amended to  
2 read as follows:

3                   “Section 6. *Composition of the National Food Authority Council.* - The  
4 Council shall be composed of the following:

5                   ~~[The Minister of Human Settlements]~~

6                   The Administrator, National Food Authority

7                   The ~~[Minister]~~ SECRETARY of Agriculture

8                   The ~~[Minister]~~ SECRETARY of Finance

9                   The ~~[Minister]~~ SECRETARY of TRADE AND Industry

10                  ~~[The Minister of Trade]~~

11                  THE SECRETARY OF NATIONAL ECONOMIC AND  
12 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

13                  THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF OFFICE OF THE  
14 PRESIDENT

15                  The Governor, ~~[Central Bank of the Philippines]~~ BANGKO SENTRAL  
16 NG PILIPINAS

17                  The ~~[Chairman]~~ CHAIRPERSON, Development Bank of the  
18 Philippines

19                  ~~[The President, Philippine National Bank]~~

20                  The President, Land Bank of the Philippines

1 A Representative of the Office of the President

2 **A FARMER SECTOR REPRESENTATIVE**

3 The [~~Chairman~~] **CHAIRPERSON** shall be the [Minister of Human  
4 Settlements] **SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE** and the Vice-~~[Chairman]~~

5 **CHAIRPERSON** shall be the Administrator of the National Food Authority.

6 The Administrator of the National Food Authority shall be appointed by the  
7 President of the Republic of the Philippines.

8 x x x.”

9 Sec. 2. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations which are  
10 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

11 Sec. 3. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
12 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,