

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4066



Introduced by Representative Alfred Delos Santos

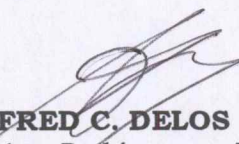
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Agriculture used to be one of the Philippines' strongest sectors in the economy. We prided ourselves with the ability of our farmers to compete in the global market. However, present times show a completely different picture. What used to be a robust agricultural sector now has given way to other sectors such as the services and manufacturing sector. From exporters of products such as rice, we now import rice to be able to feed our growing population.

But the agricultural sector should not be left to decline, in fact it may present the solution to many of our economic woes. A boosted agricultural sector would help us with food security issues. If agriculture becomes economically viable, rural economies would undergo a drastic transformation. Farmers would no longer have to venture into cities to find work, thereby reducing rural-urban migration. This in turn would lead to decongested cities and reduce the pressure to create more and more jobs in urban environments.

This is why we need to inculcate advancements made in agricultural technology with our farmers. While there exist programs that already seek to impart such knowledge directly to our farmers, its effects may be attained faster and in greater magnitude if there is an assigned an expert in agricultural technology that routinely aids and assesses each farmer's yield and capabilities.

It is for these foregoing premises that approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS
Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party List

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AN ACT
MANDATING THE ASSIGNMENT OF AN AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIAN IN EACH
LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT AND ENHANCING THE OPERATIONAL
CAPABILITIES OF THE TECHNICIANS THEREOF

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 the “Agricultural
2 Technician Act.”
3

4 SECTION 2. *Definition.* – As used in this Act, Agricultural Technician or Agri-
5 Technician – refers to individuals who are trained in the hard sciences or
6 engineering, using such knowledge and skills in agricultural applications such as
7 production, processing, and research.
8

9 SECTION 3. *Coverage.* – All Local Government Units and the Department of
10 Agriculture are mandated to comply with the provisions of this Act.
11

12 SECTION 4. *Assignment of Agri-Technicians.* – The Department of
13 Agriculture, through their regional and local offices, is hereby directed to provide at
14 least one (1) agri-technician for each level of local government. Agri-technicians are
15 mandated to conduct research, maintain the various equipment and tools used by
16 farmers, and to craft recommendations to their local office to provide better
17 conditions for agriculture in their assigned area. Such office of agri-technician
18 cannot be concurrently held in conjunction with another public office.
19

20 SECTION 5. *Supervision and Control.* – The Department of Agriculture,
21 through their regional and local offices, shall exercise control and supervision over
22 the activities and outputs of the assigned agri-technicians per locale.
23

24 SECTION 6. *Technical Support.* – Each Agri-technician shall be furnished
25 with an appropriate vehicle such as but not limited to: motorcycles, tricycles, or
26 jeeps, to allow them to better carry out their functions. The issuance of such would
27 be subject to normal auditing rules.
28

29 SECTION 7. *Appropriations.* – The funds necessary for the initial and
30 continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
31 Appropriations Act.
32

1 SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and
2 proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are
3 hereby amended or modified accordingly.
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5 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid
6 or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in
7 full force and effect.
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9 SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
10 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
11

12 Approved,
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