

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session



**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 343**

Submitted by the Committee on Agriculture and Food on **MAY 31 2020**  
Re: House Bill No. **6878**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 869, 1290, 2656, 3599, 4483, 5641, and 5864

Sponsors: Representatives Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Sharon S. Garin, and Conrado M. Estrella III

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Agriculture and Food to which were referred **House Bill No. 869**, introduced by Rep. Conrado M. Estrella III, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF RA 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010”;

**House Bill No. 1290**, introduced by Rep. Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AND ENHANCING SUPPORT FOR SMALL ORGANIC FARMERS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010”;

**House Bill No. 2656**, introduced by Rep. Ian Paul L. Dy, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM BY ENHANCING REGULATORY CAPACITY, ESTABLISHING COORDINATING OFFICES, AUGMENTING HUMAN RESOURCE COMPLEMENT AND REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

**House Bill No. 3599**, introduced by Rep. Sharon S. Garin, entitled:

“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM BY ENHANCING REGULATORY CAPACITY, ESTABLISHING COORDINATING OFFICES, AUGMENTING HUMAN RESOURCE COMPLEMENT AND REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

**House Bill No. 4483**, introduced by Rep. Michael Odylon L. Romero, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068, “OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010”, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, PROVIDING STIFFER PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;

**House Bill No. 5641**, introduced by Rep. Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, entitled:

“AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR ‘THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010’”; and

**House Bill No. 5864**, introduced by Rep. Josephine Ramirez-Sato, entitled:

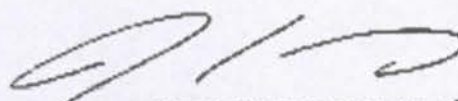
“AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM AND AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF RA 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010”

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. 6878 entitled:

**“AN ACT  
STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL  
ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE  
REPUBLIC ACT 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010”**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 869, 1290, 2656, 3599, 4483, 5641, and 5864 with Representatives Conrado M. Estrella III, Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., Ian Paul L. Dy, Sharon S. Garin, Michael Odylon L. Romero, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Josephine Ramirez-Sato, “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Faustino “Inno” A. Dy V, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe, Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, Carlos O. Cojuangco, Jose “Ping-ping” L. Tejada, Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Ma. Bernardita “Ditas” B. Ramos, Sharee Ann T. Tan, Virgilio S. Lacson, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Evelina G. Escudero, and Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



**REP. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA**  
Chairperson  
Committee on Agriculture and Food

**THE HONORABLE SPEAKER**  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
QUEZON CITY



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6878**

Introduced by Representatives Conrado M. Estrella III, Luis Raymund "L-Ray" F. Villafuerte, Jr., Ian Paul L. Dy, Sharon S. Garin, Michael Odylon L. Romero, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Josephine Ramirez-Sato, "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Faustino "Inno" A. Dy V, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Carlos O. Cojuangco, Jose "Ping-ping" L. Tejada, Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Ma. Bernardita "Ditas" B. Ramos, Sharee Ann T. Tan, Virgilio S. Lacson, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Evelina G. Escudero, and Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga

**AN ACT**

**STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 10068, OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010**

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

**Section 1.** Section 2 on Declaration of Policy is hereby amended to read as follows:

*"SEC.2. Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote, propagate, develop further and implement the practice of organic **FARMING AND OTHER SUSTAINABLE** agriculture **PRACTICES** in the Philippines that will cumulatively condition and enrich the fertility of the soil, increase farm productivity **AND FARMERS' INCOMES**, reduce pollution and destruction of the environment, prevent the depletion of natural resources, further protect the health of farmers, consumers, and the general public, [and] save on imported farm inputs **AND PROMOTE FOOD SELF SUFFICIENCY.**

Towards this end, a comprehensive program for the promotion of community-based organic agriculture systems, which include, among others, farmer-produced [purely organic fertilizers such as compost, pesticides] **ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS, BIO CONTROL AGENTS** and other farm inputs, [together with a nationwide educational and promotional campaign for their use and processing, as well as adoption of organic agriculture system as a

1 viable alternative] shall be undertaken.  
2

3 **LIKEWISE, A NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL AND AWARENESS**  
4 **CAMPAIGN FOR CONSUMERS ON THE BENEFITS OF**  
5 **CONSUMING ORGANIC PRODUCTS AS WELL AS ON THE**  
6 **VIABILITY OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SYSTEM AS AN**  
7 **ALTERNATIVE SHALL BE UNDERTAKEN TO BOOST LOCAL**  
8 **PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC FOOD AND NON-FOOD PRODUCTS.**  
9

10 The State recognizes and supports the central role of the farmers, indigenous  
11 people and other stakeholders at the grassroots in this program.”  
12

13 **Section 2.** Section 3 on Definition of Terms is hereby amended to read as  
14 follows:  
15

16 “SEC.3. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act, the following terms  
17 shall be defined as follows:  
18

19 XXX  
20

21 (h) *Certification* is the procedure by which [official certification bodies or  
22 officially recognized certification bodies] **A GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR**  
23 **AN OFFICIALLY ACCREDITED ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY**  
24 **(OCB)** provides written or equivalent assurance that [foods or food control  
25 systems] **OPERATORS AND CORE PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE**  
26 **SYSTEM (PGS) GROUPS** conform to [requirements] **ORGANIC**  
27 **AGRICULTURE STANDARDS AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT;**  
28

29 (i) *OFFICIAL Accreditation* is the procedure by which a government agency  
30 having jurisdiction formally recognizes the competence of an [inspection  
31 and/or certification] **ORGANIC CERTIFYING** body to provide inspection  
32 and certification services;  
33

34 XXX  
35

36 **(O) INSPECTION IS THE EXAMINATION OF THE PRODUCTION,**  
37 **POSTHARVEST, PROCESSING, HANDLING, STORAGE AND**  
38 **PACKAGING UNITS TO VERIFY THAT THESE CONFORM TO THE**  
39 **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE STANDARDS;**  
40

41 **(P) ORGANIC BIO-CONTROL AGENTS ARE ORGANISMS AND**  
42 **THEIR ASSOCIATED METABOLITES AS WELL AS NATURALLY**  
43 **OCCURRING SUBSTANCES THAT CONTROL PESTS AND**  
44 **DISEASES;**  
45



1 (Q) *ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY* (OCB) IS A LEGAL ENTITY  
2 OFFICIALLY ACCREDITED BY A GOVERNMENT AGENCY TO  
3 PERFORM INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITIES;  
4

5 A CORE PGS GROUP, SEEKING TO BECOME AN ORGANIC  
6 CERTIFYING BODY, SHALL FIRST BE EVALUATED BY THE  
7 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES STANDARDS (BAFS)  
8 AS COMPLIANT WITH ORGANIC AGRICULTURE STANDARDS  
9 AND WITHOUT ANY INFRACTION FOR THE PAST THREE (3)  
10 YEARS. THIS SHALL ALSO SERVE AS BASIS FOR ITS OFFICIAL  
11 ACCREDITATION AS AN ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY.  
12

13 A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
14 UNITS (LGUS), ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN AND EVALUATED TO  
15 BE COMPLIANT WITH ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR THE PAST  
16 (3) THREE YEARS, MAY APPLY WITH THE BAFS TO BECOME AN  
17 ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY.  
18

19 ANY PRIVATE GROUP OR ORGANIZATION ACTUALLY  
20 ENGAGED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, FOR THE PAST FIVE (5)  
21 YEARS, AS A DIRECT ORGANIC FARM PRODUCER, AS A  
22 PROMOTER/ADVOCATE OF THE WAYS, METHODS AND  
23 PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, OR AS A MARKETER  
24 OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRODUCE, MAY ALSO APPLY TO  
25 BECOME AN ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY;  
26

27 (R) *ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS* ARE PRODUCTS WITHIN THE  
28 SCOPE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD THAT ARE  
29 ADDED TO THE SOIL TO IMPROVE ITS PHYSICAL PROPERTIES.  
30

31 (S) *PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS* (PGS) ARE LOCALLY  
32 FOCUSED QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEMS THAT CERTIFY TO  
33 THE PRACTICE OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. THE  
34 CERTIFICATION IS BASED ON THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF

1 PRODUCERS AND FARMERS IN THE PRACTICE OF ORGANIC  
2 AGRICULTURE, BUILT ON A FOUNDATION OF TRUST, SOCIAL  
3 NETWORKS AND KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE.

4  
5 (T) *PGS GROUP* IS A LEGAL ASSOCIATION OR COOPERATIVE OF  
6 REGISTERED FARMER MEMBERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS  
7 IN A PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM.

8  
9 (U) *PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATE* IS A  
10 DOCUMENTARY PROOF THAT A CORE PGS GROUP IS  
11 COMPLIANT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS, STANDARDS AND  
12 NORMS OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. IT SHALL BE ISSUED BY A  
13 GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR BY AN AUTHORIZED ORGANIC  
14 CERTIFYING BODY, AFTER THE CONDUCT OF AN  
15 INVESTIGATION AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY ON THE  
16 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION BY THE CORE PGS GROUP.  
17 IT SHALL CONTAIN A PERIOD FOR ITS VALIDITY, AS SET BY  
18 THE BAFS.

19  
20 (V) *SMALL FARMERS* REFER TO THOSE CULTIVATING NOT  
21 MORE THAN FIVE (5) HECTARES OF LAND AND/OR ARE  
22 ENGAGED AS SMALL POULTRY/LIVESTOCK/SHEEP AND OTHER  
23 SMALL RUMINANTS RAISERS WHO ARE DEFINED AS THOSE  
24 RAISING NOT MORE THAN THE FOLLOWING:

- 25  
26 • POULTRY – 1,000 POULTRY LAYERS OR 5,000  
27 BROILERS  
28 • SWINE – 10 SOW LEVEL OR 20 FATTENERS  
29 • NATIVE PIGS – 30 HEADS  
30 • CATTLE – 10 FATTENERS OR 5 BREEDERS  
31 • DAIRY – 10 MILKING COWS  
32 • GOAT – 50 HEADS  
33 • SHEEP AND OTHER SMALL RUMINANTS  
34 • AND OTHERS THAT THE NATIONAL ORGANIC



1                    **BOARD DEEMS AS SMALL FARMER**

2  
3            **(W) *SMALL FISHERS* ARE ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- 4                    • **THOSE OPERATING FISHING VESSELS OF NOT**  
5                    **MORE THAN THREE (3) TONS IN CAPACITY;**  
6                    • **THOSE OPERATING FISHPONDS OF LESS THAN**  
7                    **FIVE HECTARES OR CAGES OF LESS THAN 400**  
8                    **SQUARE METERS;**  
9                    • **FISH WORKERS IN FISHING BOATS, FISHPONDS, OR**  
10                   **FISH PROCESSING ESTABLISHMENTS; AND**  
11                   • **ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ENGAGED IN**  
12                   **PROCESSING, AND DISTRIBUTION.**

13  
14            **(X)    *ORGANIC VALUE CHAIN OR AGRIBUSINESS* ARE**  
15            **AGRICULTURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES THAT PUT FARMERS,**  
16            **PROCESSORS, DISTRIBUTORS AND CONSUMERS WITHIN A**  
17            **SYSTEM THAT PRODUCES, PROCESSES, TRANSPORTS,**  
18            **MARKETS AND DISTRIBUTES ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL**  
19            **PRODUCTS.”**

20  
21            **Section 3.** Section 4 on Coverage is hereby amended to read as follows:

22                    “SEC. 4. *Coverage.* - The provisions of this Act shall apply to the  
23                    development and promotion of organic agriculture and shall include [, but not  
24                    limited to,] the following:

25  
26  
27                    XXX

28  
29                    (c) Promotion and encouragement of the establishment of facilities,  
30                    equipment and processing plants that would accelerate the production and  
31                    commercialization of organic fertilizers, [pesticides, herbicides] **BIO-**  
32                    **CONTROL AGENTS, ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS** and other  
33                    appropriate farm inputs **THAT THE NOAB DEEMS APPROPRIATE;** and  
34

(d) Implementation of organic agricultural programs, projects and activities, including the provision and delivery of support services with focus on the farmers, **PRIORITIZING SMALL FARMERS/FISHERFOLK AND THEIR ORGANIZATIONS** and other stakeholders.”

**Section 4.** Section 7 on the Composition of the NOAB is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 7. *Composition of the NOAB.* The NOAB shall consist of:

(a) The Secretary of Agriculture, or his duly authorized permanent representative, with a rank of Undersecretary, as Chairperson;

XXX

(e) [The Secretary of Education] **DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA)**, or [his] A duly authorized permanent representative;

XXX

(j) A representative [each] from the NGOs involved in sustainable **ORGANIC** agriculture [for at least three (3) years; agricultural colleges and universities; and private sector or agribusiness firms as members];

**(K) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES INVOLVED IN SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;**

**(L) A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE PRIVATE SECTOR OR AGRIBUSINESS FIRMS INVOLVED IN SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;**

**(M) TWO (2) REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NATIONAL PGS FORMED TO BE CHOSEN AMONG AND BY THEMSELVES; AND**

**(N) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT (LGUs) ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.**

XXX

The representatives of small farmers and NGOs and of agricultural colleges and universities shall be chosen by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Science and Technology, respectively, from among nominees submitted by their



respective national organizations. These representatives must [be] **REPRESENT FARMERS' ORGANIZATIONS NATIONWIDE, ACTUALLY AND ACTIVELY PRACTICING, PROMOTING ORGANIC AND OTHER SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRACTICES**, conversant in organic agriculture and committed to the policies and programs provided under this Act. **THE THREE SEATS GIVEN TO SMALL FARMERS SHALL BE CHOSEN FROM THE LIVESTOCK AND CROP SECTORS, WHICH WILL HAVE ONE (1) AND TWO (2) SEATS RESPECTIVELY."**

XXX

**Section 5.** Section 8 on Organization of the NOAB is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 8. *Organization of the NOAB.*—

XXX

The Chairperson shall call the members of the NOAB, or a majority thereof if not all have been designated, to a meeting to organize themselves and prescribe its rules and procedures for the attainment of the objectives of this Act. A majority of all the members of the NOAB shall constitute a quorum.

**THE MEMBERS OF THE NOAB SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE EVERY QUARTER AFTER ITS CONSTITUTION.**

XXX?

**Section 6.** Section 10 on “The Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards (BAFPS) of the DA” is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 10. *[The] BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES*  
*[PRODUCT] STANDARDS [BAFPS of the DA] (BAFS)*. The [BAFPS]  
BAFS of the DA shall be strengthened and [empowered] **SHALL**  
**EMPOWER** [in terms of establishing] **THE ESTABLISHED** functional  
divisions] **DIVISION FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE WHICH SHALL**  
**PERFORM AS THE** [and incremental staffing to serve as the national]  
technical and administrative secretariat of the NOAB [with the member  
agencies providing additional staff support as the need arises]. **THE BAFS,**

1 IN ADDITION TO ITS EXISTING FUNCTIONS AND  
2 RESPONSIBILITIES, SHALL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING  
3 FUNCTIONS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PURPOSES  
4 OF THIS ACT:  
5

- 6 1. UPDATE THE NOAB ON THE STATUS OF THE PROGRAMS,  
7 PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN FOR THE  
8 DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF ORGANIC  
9 AGRICULTURE;
- 10 2. FORMULATE AND UPDATE STANDARDS RELEVANT TO  
11 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;
- 12 3. ACCREDIT ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES (OCBS) AND CORE  
13 PGS GROUPS;
- 14 4. ISSUE REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL,  
15 FISHERY AND INPUTS;
- 16 5. RULE ON THE APPEAL OF FARMOWNERS AND CORE PGS  
17 GROUPS ON DECISIONS MADE BY MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS  
18 GROUPS ON CERTIFICATION ISSUES; AND
- 19 6. PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS, DUTIES AND  
20 RESPONSIBILITIES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT  
21 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL  
22 OF THE NOAB.”  
23  
24

25 Section 7. A new provision on Participatory Guarantee Systems is hereby  
26 inserted after Section 10 [The Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Product Standards  
27 (BAFPS) of the DA] to read as follows:  
28

29 “SECTION 11. PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEMS (PGS).  
30

31 A. *BASIC PRINCIPLES.* THE PGS SHALL BE THE MECHANISM BY  
32 WHICH SMALL FARMERS, FISHERFOLK, THEIR FARMS,  
33 ASSOCIATIONS, COOPERATIVES SHALL BE CERTIFIED AS  
34 ENGAGED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND AS PRODUCERS  
35 OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS.



1  
2 THE PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION FROM  
3 ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES, ORGANIZED IN  
4 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT, SHALL BE PROMOTED AND  
5 ACCEPTED.  
6

7 THE PRODUCTS CERTIFIED BY THESE GROUPS SHALL BE  
8 TRADED ONLY IN THE DOMESTIC MARKET.  
9

10 AN ASSOCIATION OR GROUP UNDER THE PGS SHALL  
11 ADHERE TO THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS (PNS)  
12 FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.  
13

14 FURTHER, ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS UNDER THE PGS  
15 SHALL ADOPT THE FOLLOWING FEATURES AND  
16 CHARACTERISTICS:  
17

- 18 i. EXISTENCE OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE NORMS  
19 CONCEIVED BY THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE  
20 STAKEHOLDERS; THAT ARE APPROPRIATE TO  
21 SMALLHOLDER AGRICULTURE;
- 22 ii. GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION WITH ITS  
23 PARTICIPATORY CERTIFICATION A RESULT OF A  
24 SOCIAL DYNAMIC, AND BASED ON THE ACTIVE  
25 PARTICIPATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS;
- 26 iii. EXISTENCE OF PRINCIPLES AND VALUES THAT  
27 ENHANCE THE LIVELIHOODS AND WELL-BEING OF  
28 FARMING FAMILIES AND PROMOTE ORGANIC  
29 AGRICULTURE; DOCUMENTED MANAGEMENT  
30 SYSTEMS AND PROCEDURES;
- 31 iv. PROVISION OF MECHANISMS TO VERIFY FARMER'S  
32 COMPLIANCE TO ESTABLISHED NORMS;
- 33 v. PROVISION OF MECHANISMS FOR SUPPORTING  
34 FARMERS TO PRODUCE ORGANIC PRODUCTS AND BE

1 CERTIFIED AS ORGANIC FARMERS, WHICH SHALL  
2 INCLUDE THE SERVICES OF FIELD ADVISORS,  
3 NEWSLETTERS, FARM VISITS, WEB SITES, AMONG  
4 OTHERS;

5 vi. EXISTENCE OF A BOTTOM-LINE DOCUMENT, SUCH AS  
6 A FARMER'S PLEDGE, THAT SHALL CONFIRM THE  
7 FARMER'S AGREEMENT TO THE ESTABLISHED  
8 NORMS;

9 vii. INTRODUCTION OR USE OF SEALS OR LABELS  
10 PROVIDING EVIDENCE OF ORGANIC STATUS; AND

11 viii. EXISTENCE OF A CLEAR AND PREVIOUSLY DEFINED  
12 SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND MEASURES  
13 AGAINST FARMERS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH  
14 STANDARDS.

15  
16 B. *LEGAL PERSONALITY.* THERE SHALL BE A CORE PGS GROUP  
17 AS THE BASIC UNIT IN THE PGS. THE CORE PGS GROUP  
18 SHALL BE REGISTERED WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OR CITY  
19 IN WHICH IT OPERATES. IT SHALL SECURE A MAYOR'S  
20 PERMIT FROM THE SAID MUNICIPALITY OR CITY, THE  
21 POSSESSION OF WHICH SHALL SUFFICE AS PROOF OF  
22 REGISTRATION AND THE GRANT OF LEGAL PERSONALITY  
23 FOR WHATEVER TRANSACTION IT MAY ENTER INTO.

24  
25 A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
26 UNITS (LGUS) ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN ORGANIC  
27 AGRICULTURE AND REGISTERED OR ACCREDITED BY A  
28 NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY EMPOWERED TO DO SO,  
29 SHALL ALSO ACQUIRE LEGAL PERSONALITY FOR THE  
30 PURPOSES OF OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION BY BAFS.

31  
32 ANY OTHER ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY SHALL  
33 SECURE A MAYOR'S PERMIT FROM THE MUNICIPALITY OR  
34 CITY WHERE IT INTENDS TO OPERATE, THE POSSESSION OF



1 WHICH SHALL SUFFICE TO GRANT IT LEGAL PERSONALITY  
2 FOR PURPOSES OF RECOGNITION BY BAFS.

3  
4 C. *CERTIFICATION.* THE BAFS SHALL PROVIDE THE  
5 GUIDELINES FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF FARMS,  
6 PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT. A FARM OR  
7 FARMOWNER APPLYING FOR CERTIFICATION AS AN  
8 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRACTITIONER SHALL APPLY  
9 WITHIN THE SAME MUNICIPALITY OR CITY. THE DECISION  
10 OF THE CORE PGS GROUP OR OF THE ORGANIC  
11 CERTIFYING BODY ON SAID APPLICATION FOR  
12 CERTIFICATION SHALL BE SUBJECT TO APPEAL: *PROVIDED*,  
13 THAT SUCH CERTIFICATION SHALL BE ISSUED IN THE  
14 NAME OF THE CORE PGS GROUP OF WHICH THE FARM OR  
15 FARMOWNER IS A MEMBER. FURTHER, WITHDRAWAL OF  
16 MEMBERSHIP IN SAID CORE PGS GROUP SHALL RESULT IN  
17 THE FORFEITURE OF THE PRIVILEGE THE FARM OR  
18 FARMOWNER TO USE THE CORE PGS GROUP CERTIFICATE:  
19 *PROVIDED* FURTHER, THAT ONLY MINIMAL FEES SHALL BE  
20 COLLECTED FOR THE APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION.

21  
22 D. *OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION.* THE BAFS SHALL PROVIDE THE  
23 GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION. A  
24 REGISTERED CORE PGS GROUP SHALL APPLY FOR  
25 OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION WITH THE BAFS. A CORE PGS  
26 GROUP SHALL BE ACCORDED OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION  
27 BY THE BAFS ONLY IF IT HAS AT LEAST FIVE (5) MEMBERS,  
28 WHO SHALL COME FROM DIFFERENT FARMS IN THE  
29 MUNICIPALITY OR CITY THAT ARE ACTUALLY  
30 PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.

31  
32 THE BAFS SHALL ISSUE ITS DECISION ON THE  
33 APPLICATION FOR OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION BY A CORE  
34 PGS GROUP OR ANY QUALIFIED ENTITY APPLYING FOR

1 ACCREDITATION WITHIN SIXTY WORKING (60) DAYS FROM  
2 THE SUBMISSION OF THE COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS, AND  
3 FAILURE TO RENDER DECISION WITHIN SUCH PERIOD  
4 SHALL BE UNDERSTOOD AS AN APPROVAL OF THE  
5 APPLICATION FOR OFFICIAL ACCREDITATION OF THE  
6 PGS/OCB. THE BAFS SHALL NOT CHARGE ANY OFFICIAL  
7 ACCREDITATION OR APPLICATION FEES.  
8

9 *E. ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS.*  
10

11 1. *THE CORE PGS GROUP.* EVERY PGS GROUP SHOULD HAVE AT  
12 LEAST FIVE (5) MEMBERS, COMPOSED OF FARMERS FROM A  
13 COMBINATION OF BOTH THE CROPS AND LIVESTOCK  
14 SECTORS. IT MAY ADD TO ITS MEMBERSHIP FARMERS FROM  
15 OTHER SECTORS IN AGRICULTURE, NON-GOVERNMENT  
16 ORGANIZATIONS, PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS, BUYERS OF  
17 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS, SUPPLIERS OF ORGANIC  
18 INPUTS, AMONG OTHERS, WHO LIVE IN THE SAME  
19 MUNICIPALITY OR CITY, AND REGULARLY INTERACT WITH  
20 EACH OTHER.  
21

22 EACH CORE PGS GROUP WILL HAVE THE FOLLOWING  
23 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:  
24

- 25 i. DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORGANIC  
26 STANDARDS;
- 27 ii. ENSURE THAT FARM PRACTICES ARE COMPLIANT  
28 WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS  
29 FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;
- 30 iii. UNDERTAKE BY WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT  
31 THEY UNDERSTAND AND ADHERE TO THE  
32 ORGANIC STANDARDS;
- 33 iv. CONDUCT INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION  
34 ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER FARMS IN THE



1 MUNICIPALITY/CITY. AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF  
2 THE MEMBERS OF THE PGS CORE GROUP WHO  
3 JOINED IN THE ACTUAL INSPECTION AND  
4 CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY SHOULD SIGN ON THE  
5 TRUTHFULNESS OF THE FINDINGS OF THE  
6 INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY;

- 7 v. RECOMMEND WHICH FARMS WILL BE CERTIFIED;
- 8 vi. INITIATE KEY FIELD TRAININGS FOR FARMER-  
9 MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS IN THEIR LOCALITY TO  
10 PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;
- 11 vii. ATTEND MUNICIPAL AND PROVINCIAL PGS  
12 MEETINGS AND SHARE INFORMATION WITH  
13 OTHER PARTICIPANTS;
- 14 viii. TAKE ACTIONS ON DELISTING AND NON-  
15 COMPLIANCE AS PER SANCTION GUIDELINES TO  
16 BE PROVIDED BY THE BAFS, ORGANIC  
17 CERTIFYING BODIES AND MUNICIPAL OR CITY  
18 PGS GROUPS; AND
- 19 ix. ASSIST DELISTED AND NON-COMPLIANT MEMBERS  
20 TO REGAIN ACTIVE CERTIFICATION STATUS.

21  
22 2. *MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP.* THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS  
23 GROUP SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING: 1) ONE (1)  
24 REPRESENTATIVE FOR EACH CORE PGS GROUP IN THE  
25 MUNICIPALITY OR CITY, AND 2) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE  
26 FROM A REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATE UNIVERSITY OR  
27 COLLEGE (SUC) OR LOCAL PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL  
28 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: *PROVIDED*, THAT, THERE  
29 SHOULD BE AT LEAST TWO (2) CORE PGS GROUPS IN THE  
30 MUNICIPALITY OR CITY BEFORE A MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS  
31 GROUP SHALL BE ESTABLISHED.

32  
33 THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS GROUP SHALL CONDUCT  
34 ITS BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS BASED ON THE DECISION OF THE

1 MAJORITY OF MEMBERS PRESENT IN A MEETING, THERE  
2 BEING A QUORUM.

3  
4 THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS GROUP SHALL HAVE THE  
5 FOLLOWING POWERS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:  
6

- 7 i. TOGETHER WITH THE BAFS, DEVELOP OR UPDATE  
8 AND IMPLEMENT THE PARTICIPATORY  
9 GUARANTEE SYSTEM, AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT;  
10  
11 ii. ENSURE THAT FARMER MEMBERS CONTINUE TO  
12 COMPLY WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
13 APPLICABLE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS  
14 (PNS) ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND RELEVANT  
15 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS;  
16  
17 iii. HEAR AND DECIDE ON APPEALS OF THE FARMER  
18 MEMBERS ON THE FINDINGS OF THE  
19 INVESTIGATION AND CERTIFICATION OF  
20 ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES. AN ADVERSE  
21 DECISION OF THE MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS  
22 GROUP MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE BAFS ON  
23 APPEAL. THE BAFS SHALL RULE ON THE APPEAL  
24 WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE FILING  
25 THEREOF. FAILURE TO RULE ON SUCH APPEAL  
26 SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS A REVERSAL OF THE  
27 APPEALED DECISION.  
28  
29 iv. THE INACTION OR INDECISION OF THE  
30 MUNICIPAL OR CITY PGS GROUP ON AN APPEAL  
31 FROM THE DECISION OF THE ORGANIC  
32 CERTIFYING BODY, AFTER FIFTEEN (15) DAYS  
33 FROM THE FILING OF THE APPEAL, SHALL BE  
34 CONSIDERED THE UPHOLDING OF THE APPEALED



1 DECISION. THE FARMER COMPLAINANT MAY  
2 THEN HAVE THE OPTION TO FILE AN APPEAL  
3 WITH THE BAFS. THE BAFS SHALL RULE ON THE  
4 APPEAL WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM THE  
5 FILING THEREOF. FAILURE TO RULE ON SUCH  
6 APPEAL SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS A REVERSAL  
7 OF THE APPEALED DECISION;  
8

9 v. MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF CORE PGS GROUPS  
10 OPERATING WITHIN ITS AREA OF JURISDICTION,  
11 WHICH SHALL BE FORWARDED TO THE BAFS AT  
12 THE END OF EACH YEAR AND ENTERED INTO THE  
13 LATTER'S NATIONAL DATABASE;  
14

15 vi. TOGETHER WITH THE ORGANIC CERTIFYING  
16 BODY INVOLVED IN THE INSPECTION AND  
17 CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY, AND IN  
18 COORDINATION WITH THE BAFS, ISSUE  
19 PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATE AND THE  
20 "PGS GUARANTEED ORGANIC" LABEL OR MARK  
21 TO COMPLIANT SMALL FARMERS AND  
22 FISHERFOLK AND THEIR FARMS, ASSOCIATIONS,  
23 OR COOPERATIVE (FAC); AND

24 vii. SUBMIT REGULARLY TO THE BAFS A LIST OF  
25 CERTIFIED SMALL FARMERS, FISHERFOLK AND  
26 THEIR FARMS, ASSOCIATIONS AND  
27 COOPERATIVES (FAC).  
28

29 IN THE MEANTIME THAT A CORE PGS GROUP OR A  
30 MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS HAS YET TO BE  
31 ESTABLISHED, THE BAFS, IN COORDINATION WITH  
32 THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT CONCERNED,  
33 SHALL ASSUME THE POWERS, DUTIES AND  
34 RESPONSIBILITIES OF THESE GROUPS.

1  
2 3. *PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL PGS GROUP.* IT SHALL BE THE  
3 OPTION OF THE PGS GROUPS TO FORM AGGRUPATIONS AT  
4 THE PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS. THEY SHALL  
5 RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE,  
6 SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE OF THE DEPARTMENTS IN THE NOAB  
7 AND THE DA-BAFS IN THIS REGARD.  
8

9 THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS ARE ENJOINED TO  
10 ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THE FORMATION AND ACTIVITIES  
11 OF PGS GROUPS, PURSUANT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE  
12 INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG) MEMORANDUM  
13 CIRCULAR NO. 2019-70.  
14

15 F. *PROMOTION.* THE NOAB SHALL ACTIVELY PROMOTE AND  
16 SEARCH FOR ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS THAT HAVE BEEN  
17 PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE FOR OFFICIAL  
18 ACCREDITATION AS PGS COMPLIANT IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
19 THIS ACT. THE NOAB SHALL ENSURE THAT EACH PROVINCE IN  
20 THE COUNTRY HAS A PGS. EVERY PGS SHALL CONDUCT  
21 TRAININGS AND PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.  
22

23 G. *TRAINING AND INSPECTION.* THE AGRICULTURE TRAINING  
24 INSTITUTE (ATI) SHALL CONDUCT TRAININGS FOR PGS  
25 GROUPS AND THE BAFS SHALL CONDUCT RANDOM  
26 INSPECTIONS TO ENSURE THAT PGS GROUPS ARE ALL  
27 COMPLIANT WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS ON  
28 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. THE BAFS SHALL KEEP A RECORD  
29 OF COMPLIANT PGS GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY AND SHALL  
30 PUBLISH A LIST OF SUCH COMPLIANT PGS GROUPS AT LEAST  
31 ONCE A YEAR.  
32

33 H. *INCENTIVES.* SMALL FARMERS OR FISHERFOLKS, OR THEIR  
34 FARMS, ASSOCIATIONS, COOPERATIVES ENGAGED IN



1 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, OR ANY ORGANIC INPUT PRODUCER,  
2 CERTIFIED BY AN OFFICIALLY ACCREDITED PGS GROUP OR  
3 ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY TO BE COMPLIANT FOR A  
4 PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS, WITHOUT ANY OFFENSE OR  
5 INFRACTION, SHALL BE ELIGIBLE FOR A FULL GOVERNMENT  
6 SUBSIDY OF THE COST OF INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION  
7 ACCREDITATION. FURTHER, SO LONG AS THE SAME ENTITIES  
8 MAINTAIN THEIR COMPLIANT STATUS, THEY SHALL BE  
9 INVITED TO GOVERNMENT AGENCY-INITIATED OR  
10 SPONSORED TRADE AND BUSINESS MARKETING GATHERINGS,  
11 AND GIVEN, FOR FREE, PRIME LOCATION THEREAT, FOR THE  
12 PURPOSE OF DISPLAYING AND SELLING THEIR OWN ORGANIC  
13 PRODUCTS.”

14  
15 Section 8. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby repealed and a  
16 new Section 12 is hereby inserted, to read as follows:  
17

18 “[SEC. 11. *Functions, Duties and Responsibilities of the BAFPS.* —  
19 The BAFPS, in addition to its existing functions and responsibilities shall  
20 perform the following functions, duties and responsibilities for purposes of  
21 this Act:

22 (a) Implement organic agriculture programs and projects approved by the  
23 NOAB;

24 (b) Update the NOAB on the status of the programs, projects and activities  
25 undertaken for the development and promotion of organic agriculture;

26 (c) Create effective networking with the various stakeholders involved in  
27 organic production; and

28 (d) Perform such other functions, duties and responsibilities as may be  
29 necessary to implement this Act and as directed by the NOAB.]

30  
31 SEC 12. NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM -  
32 NATIONAL PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE (NOAP-NPCO) OF  
33 THE DA. TO MANAGE THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF  
34 THE NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, THE DA-  
35 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY SHALL BE STRENGTHENED AND

1       **EMPOWERED IN TERMS OF ESTABLISHING A FUNCTIONAL**  
2       **OFFICE TO SERVE AS THE NATIONAL PROGRAM**  
3       **COORDINATING OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC**  
4       **AGRICULTURE PROGRAM.”**

5  
6       **Section 9.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby repealed and a new  
7 section is inserted, to read as follows:

8               “[SEC. 16. *Registration of Organic Food and Organic Input*  
9       *Producers.* — All organic food and input establishments must register with the  
10       director, BAFPS, registration under this section shall begin within ninety (90)  
11       days of the enactment of this Act. Each such registration shall be submitted to  
12       the director through an electronic portal and shall contain such information as  
13       the director by guidance may determine to be appropriate. Such registration  
14       shall contain the following information:

15       (a) The name, address and emergency contact information of each organic  
16       food or input establishment that the registrant owns or operates;

17       (b) The primary purpose and business activity of each organic food or input  
18       establishment, including the dates of operation if the organic food  
19       establishment is seasonal;

20       (c) A list of the organic food or input produced and corresponding brand  
21       names;

22       (d) For organic food establishment, the name, address and contact information  
23       of the organic food certifying body that certified the organic products sold by  
24       the company;

25       (e) An assurance that the registrant will notify the director of any change in the  
26       products, function or legal status of the domestic food establishment  
27       (including cessation of business activities) not later than thirty (30) days after  
28       such change; and

29       (f) For organic input producers, a list of materials used in the production of  
30       each particular input.]

31       **SEC. 17. REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PRODUCE AND**  
32       **INPUTS AND ORGANIC PROCESSED FOOD. THE BAFS SHALL BE**  
33       **RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF CERTIFIED**  
34       **ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, FISHERY AND INPUT PRODUCTS,**  
35       **AND REGISTRY OF ORGANIC PRODUCERS.**  
36



1           **FURTHER, THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY (BAI) OF**  
2           **THE DA SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF**  
3           **ORGANIC BEES, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY AND ITS FEEDS.**

4  
5           **THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES**  
6           **(BFAR) OF THE DA SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE**  
7           **REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE**  
8           **RESOURCES AND ORGANIC AQUACULTURE FEEDS.**

9  
10           **THE BAFS, BPI, BAI, AND BFAR OF THE DA SHALL COME**  
11           **UP WITH A SINGLE UNIFIED SET OF RULES AND REGULATIONS**  
12           **FOR THE REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PRODUCE AND INPUTS.**

13  
14           **THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION (FDA) OF THE**  
15           **DOH SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRODUCT**  
16           **REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PROCESSED FOOD. IT SHALL**  
17           **FORMULATE ITS RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE**  
18           **REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PRE-PACKAGED AND PROCESSED**  
19           **FOOD.”**

20  
21           **Section 10.** Section 17 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby amended and  
22           renumbered, to read as follows:

23           “SEC. [47] 18. Labeling of Organic Produce. The label of organic  
24           produce shall contain the name, logo or seal of the organic certifying body and  
25           the **OFFICIAL** accreditation number issued by the [BAFPS] BAFS. [Only  
26           third-party certification is allowed to be labeled as organically produced.]  
27           **THE ORGANIC LABEL OR MARK SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE**  
28           **TRADE NAME, AS DEFINED BY PERTINENT DOMESTIC**  
29           **PROPERTY RIGHTS LAWS, AND THE ADDRESS OF ORIGIN OF**  
30           **THE PRODUCE.**

31  
32           **PRODUCTS FROM CERTIFIED THIRD-PARTY ORGANIC**  
33           **PRODUCTION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THOSE WITH**  
34           **CERTIFICATION FROM THE OCB AND PGS, SHALL BE**

1 **ALLOWED TO BE LABELLED AND SOLD AS ORGANIC.”**

2  
3 **Section 11.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby amended and  
4 renumbered, to read as follows:

5  
6 “SEC.14. *Local Executive Committees.* Every provincial governor  
7 shall, insofar as practicable, form a provincial technical committee, and which  
8 shall, in coordination with and assistance of the BAFS [BAFPS]/DA-Regional  
9 Field Units (RFUs) implement activities in line with the National Organic  
10 Agricultural Program within each province.

11  
12 Every municipal mayor shall likewise, insofar as practicable, form a  
13 municipal technical committee for purposes of implementing activities in line  
14 with the National Organic Agricultural Program within each municipality.

15  
16 A local government unit that intends to shift its area of responsibility to  
17 organic agriculture must ensure that local industries have been adequately  
18 informed and consulted and that a viable plan to ensure supply for vulnerable  
19 industries is in place.

20  
21 **THE MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES ARE HEREBY**  
22 **ENJOINED TO ENACT ORDINANCES THAT SHALL PROTECT**  
23 **ORGANIC FARMING ZONES AND ORGANIC FARMING**  
24 **PRACTICES.**

25  
26 The governors shall monitor implementation of and compliance with  
27 this Act within their respective jurisdictions.”

28  
29 **Section 12.** Section 19 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby repealed and a  
30 new section is inserted, to read as follows:

31  
32 “SEC. 20. **MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE**  
33 **PROMOTION.**



1 THE NOAB OF THE DA, IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER  
2 RELEVANT AGENCIES, SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT  
3 MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAMS  
4 FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.”

5  
6 Section 13. Section 26 is hereby amended and renumbered, to read as follows:

7  
8 “SEC. [26] 27. Penal Provision AND OTHER PENALTIES. Any  
9 person who willfully and deliberately:

10  
11 XXX

12  
13 (c) mislabels or claims that the product is organic when it is not in accordance  
14 with the existing standards for Philippine organic agriculture or this Act shall,  
15 upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment of not less than one (1) month  
16 nor more than six (6) months, or a fine of not more than Fifty thousand pesos  
17 (P50,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court. If the offender is a  
18 corporation or a juridical entity, the official who ordered or allowed the  
19 commission of the offense shall be punished with the same penalty. If the  
20 offender is in the government service, he shall, in addition, be dismissed from  
21 office: *PROVIDED, THAT ANY PGS GROUP OR ORGANIC*  
22 *CERTIFYING BODY FOUND TO HAVE ISSUED A CERTIFICATION*  
23 *TO A FARM OR PRODUCER WHO IS FOUND TO BE NOT*  
24 *COMPLIANT WITH ANY OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL*  
25 *STANDARDS ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE OR WITH THE*  
26 *PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT, SHALL BE PENALIZED BY THE BAFS*  
27 *AS FOLLOWS:*

28  
29 1. FIRST OFFENSE. WRITTEN WARNING.

30 2. SECOND OFFENSE. SUSPENSION OF OFFICIAL  
31 ACCREDITATION.”

32  
33 Section 14. Succeeding sections are hereby renumbered accordingly.

34 Section 15. *IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. THE*  
35

1 NOAB SHALL ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THE  
2 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS FROM THE  
3 EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT.

Commented [u1]: N.B. Approval?

4  
5 **Section 16. *Separability Clause.*** If any provisions of this Act is declared  
6 invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in  
7 full force and effect.

8  
9 **Section 17. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,  
10 presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or  
11 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

12  
13 **Section 18. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its  
14 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official  
15 Gazette, whichever comes first.

Commented [u2]: N.B. Unless desired by the Committee, E.O. 200s. 1987 provides that publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation suffices.

16  
17 Approved.



## FACT SHEET

### HOUSE BILL NO. 6878

(In substitution to House Bills Numbered 869, 1290, 2656, 3599, 4483, 5641 & 5864)

### AN ACT

## STRENGTHENING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 10068 OR THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010

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Introduced by Representatives Conrado M. Estrella III, Luis Raymund "LRay" F. Villafuerte, Jr., Ian Paul L. Dy, Sharon S. Garin, Michael Odylon L. Romero, Ruth Mariano-Hernandez, Josephine Ramirez-Sato, "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, John Marvin "Yul Servo" C. Nieto, Faustino "Inno" A. Dy V, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savellano, Carlos O. Cojuangco, Jose "Ping-ping" L. Tejada, Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Ma. Bernardita "Ditas" B. Ramos, Sharee Ann T. Tan, Virgilio S. Lacson, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Evelina G. Escudero, and Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga

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*Committee Referral:* **COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD**

*Committee Chairperson:* **REPRESENTATIVE WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA**

### OBJECTIVE:

- Promotes the development of organic farming and other sustainable agricultural practices to attain food sufficiency

### KEY PROVISIONS:

- Encourages the promotion and establishment of facilities and processing plants to accelerate production and commercialization of bio-control agents, organic soil amendments and other appropriate farm inputs;
- Reorganizes the National Organic Agriculture Board (NOAB) to include only those who are actually and actively engaged in organic farming and other sustainable practices;
- Strengthens and empowers the established functional division for organic agriculture to act as the technical and administrative secretariat of the NOAB;
- Institutionalizes the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS) to ensure swift certification of producers and farmers actually practicing organic agriculture. The PGS is a mechanism by which small farmers/fisherfolk, their farms/associations/cooperatives and their products shall be certified as engaged in organic agriculture and as producers of organic agriculture products. This system is built on a foundation of trust, social networks, and knowledge exchange; and
- Mandates the conduct of a nationwide educational and awareness campaign among consumers on the benefits of consuming organic products;