

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2670



Introduced by Hon. Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill aims to establish a mechanism whereby the "best practices" in agriculture can be shared among provinces and municipalities nationwide. This shall be spearheaded by the Department of Agriculture, assisted by the Departments of (1) Agrarian Reform, (2) Science and Technology, and the (3) Interior and Local Government.

One of its main attributes is the identification of the "best practices" in technology/systems in the livestock propagation, fisheries, rice and corn farming, and other agriculture related industries all over the country. Once identified, these can then be replicated where most applicable.

There is no doubt that agriculture remains to be one of the principal sources of income and employment of the Philippine economy. In 2010, almost 35% of the labor force, roughly almost 12 million people, is employed in the agriculture industry.

Once the aim of this measure is achieved and the mechanism established, our farmers will hopefully learn from each other and gain unhampered access to the best practices available.

Immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized 'F' followed by several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

FAUSTINO MICHAEL CARLOS T. DY III
5th District, Isabela

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INTRODUCED BY REP. FAUSTINO MICHAEL CARLOS T. DY III

AN ACT TO PROMOTE AGRICULTURAL "BEST PRACTICES" SHARING AMONG PROVINCES, CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY TO HELP BOOST AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSE

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy. - It is a declared policy of the House of the Representatives to promote agricultural development by providing the policy framework, public investments and support services needed to enhance the well-being of farmers, fishermen, livestock producers and other agricultural workers in order to increase their income, improve their living conditions, and maximized their contributions to the national economy.

SEC. 2. Technology Sharing Program. - To carry out the above policy, there is hereby established a countrywide agricultural technology sharing program to be known as "BEST PRACTICES SHARING PROGRAM", hereinafter referred to as the "Program",

The Program shall encourage and promote agricultural technology transfer between and among the different provinces, cities and municipalities throughout the country in order that the innovative techniques and experiences in agriculture, and fishery and livestock production developed and successfully implemented in specific localities, can be shared with other areas in the country, particularly in the depressed localities.

SEC. 3. Implementing Agencies. - The Program shall be jointly implemented by the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).

SEC. 4. Program Components; Responsibilities of Agencies. - The Department of Agriculture as lead agency shall, with the active collaboration of the DAR, DOST and the DILG, discharge the following functions and responsibilities:

a) Conduct, coordinate, and disseminate research studies on appropriate technologies for the improvement and development of agricultural crops, fisheries, livestock, and other allied commodities by optimizing the use of resource;

b) Promote the development of indigenous techniques and adaption in farming, fishing and livestock production;

c) Provide extension services and assistance in agricultural development as may be needed by local government units; and

d) Conduct a nationwide survey on farming, fishery and livestock technologies successfully developed and utilized in specific localities and provide the necessary funding and services in order that such technologies, to the extent applicable and appropriate, are shared with, and transferred to, other areas in the country in order to increase incomes and productivity of the farmers and the economy.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be promulgated by the agencies mentioned in Section 3 hereof within thirty (30) days from effectivity of the Act.

SEC 6. Appropriation. - To finance the initial implementation of the Program, the sum of FIFTY MILLION PESOS (P50,000,000.00) is hereby allocated to be charged equally against the current appropriations of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Science and Technology and the Contingent Fund. Thereafter, such amount as may be determined and necessary for the continued operation of the Program establish under this Act shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of Agriculture under the General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees, *executive* orders, rules *and* regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,