



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4482

BY REPRESENTATIVES VILLAFUERTE AND BANAAG, PER COMMITTEE REPORT
NO. 944

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE BIKOL BOTANICAL GARDEN IN THE PROVINCE OF CAMARINES SUR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. There is hereby established within the territorial
2 jurisdiction of the Province of Camarines Sur, a botanical garden to be known
3 as the "Bikol Botanical Garden". It shall occupy an area of at least fifteen (15)
4 hectares and its facilities shall be built within landscaped spaces in order to
5 create a park-like recreational environment dedicated to botanic research,
6 experimental planting, collection of study specimens, and the teaching and
7 dissemination of botanic knowledge.

8 SEC. 2. The Bikol Botanical Garden shall have open-air plantings,
9 living plant collections housed in greenhouses either for research, teaching or
10 seasonal public display, and herbarium houses for specimens.

1 To the extent practicable as space and technical requirements may
2 allow, the Bikol Botanical Garden may have an arboretum for trees and shrubs;
3 a bamboo setum, pinetum; medicinal plants setum; flowering and ornamental
4 plants setum; an aquatic plant setum; palm setum; fernery; and orchidarium.

5 The facilities shall be built within a five-year period, depending upon
6 the availability of funds provided by the Provincial Government of Camarines
7 Sur, national government assistance, and donations and grants from local or
8 foreign sources.

9 Satellite gardens may be established elsewhere in a municipality or city
10 within the Province of Camarines Sur, either in an urban or rural setting or
11 both, depending upon the type of soil, topography or climatic conditions
12 *required to cultivate or maintain plants intended or suitable* for such satellite
13 gardens, and depending upon such appropriate cooperative arrangements as
14 may be agreed upon with the other local governments within the Province of
15 Camarines Sur.

16 SEC. 3. The buildings for its officials and staff, the library, and
17 facilities for conferences, seminars, workshops and audio-visual presentations
18 shall be built within a three-year period.

19 SEC. 4. The Bikol Botanical Garden shall endeavor to maintain a
20 system for the classification of plants for various utilitarian purposes; adopt a
21 program for botanical expeditions to augment its collections; undertake studies

1 and experiments on the commercial cultivation of otherwise wild species of
2 certain plants; arrange for exchanges with other botanical gardens or collectors
3 of plant samples or specimens it may have or with other plants or specimens it
4 seeks to have; cultivate medicinal plants found in the Bicol Region or
5 elsewhere; and establish linkages with agricultural schools and other
6 institutions interested in botanical science.

7 SEC. 5. The Provincial Government of Camarines Sur shall, by
8 purchase, expropriation, or by grant from the national government or through
9 donation from governmental or private philanthropic sources, provide or
10 arrange to provide the lands suitable for establishing the Bikol Botanical
11 Garden and any satellite gardens referred to in this Act.

12 The Provincial Government of Camarines Sur shall provide the
13 necessary capital outlays and operating expenses required to maintain the
14 botanical garden to be established under this Act.

15 SEC. 6. In the implementation of this Act, the Department of
16 Environment and Natural Resources and other agencies of the national
17 government shall extend technical assistance to the Provincial Government of
18 Camarines Sur.

19 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,