

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7798
(In substitution of House Bill No. 3978)

Introduced by Representatives Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Mark O. Go, and Eric Go Yap

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-LANAO DEL NORTE
AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ARBORETUM IN BARANGAY RAMAIN,
MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL
NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby established an arboretum of one hundred (100) hectares within
2 the site reserved for the Mindanao State University-Lanao del Norte Agricultural College (MSU-
3 LNAC) in Barangay Ragain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte,
4 to be known as the MSU-LNAC Arboretum.

5 For purposes of this Act, the term *Arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially for
6 a well-grown and representative collection of tree or shrub species planted and maintained for
7 purposes of scientific study and maintaining a convenient source of seed and herbarium materials.

8 **SEC. 2.** The MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

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10 a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology, and other
11 related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by faculty and students of nearby
12 schools;

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13 b) To be a sanctuary for the preservation and conservation of genetic resources of trees
14 and shrubs, and as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

15 c) To be a nursery within which the best species of indigenous woody plants can be
16 propagated and where new species can be introduced;

17 d) To be a place for recreation where the people can renew their affinity with nature and
18 thus be more conscious of their responsibility as stewards and guardians of the natural environment;
19 and

20 e) To serve as the habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals,
21 and other wildlife in the area.

22 **SEC. 3.** The layout and design of the arboretum shall conform to its purpose, objectives and
23 the following considerations:

24 a) The trees should be planted in rows following the contour of the land area;

25 b) At least five (5) replicates of each species should be planted to ensure the security of the
26 species;

27 c) Each tree species should be numbered, labelled and tagged with its scientific common or
28 local name, and the date and place of collection. In case of mortality, the appropriate species should
29 be replanted.

30 **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted, the following shall be
31 observed:

32 a) Tree species should be of high quality, the selection of which should be made at least
33 twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the
34 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

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35 b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting, which will include
36 brushing/slashing, staking, digging of holes, plowing and/or cultivation; and,

37 c). Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

38 **SEC. 5.** The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall management and supervision of the
39 DENR. The DENR Secretary shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together with a
40 staff to be selected by the DENR from among its staff, shall ensure the proper management of the
41 Arboretum.

42 **SEC. 6.** A Monitoring Committee is hereby created to track the development and oversee
43 the operation of the arboretum. It shall be composed of the following:

44 1) DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative as Chairperson;

45 2) Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or a duly designated
46 representative as Co-Chairperson;

47 3) Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte, as
48 Vice-Chairperson;

49 4) President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte, or the Vice-
50 President thereof, if the Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao
51 del Norte is the President of the League, as member;

52 5) Chancellor or Head of the MSU-LNAC as member; and,

53 6) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)
54 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

55 **SEC. 7.** All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to the
56 MSU for the development and improvement of the arboretum shall be administered solely for the
57 benefit of the arboretum in accordance with the instructions of the donor, or in default thereof, of
58 the MSU-LNAC.

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59 **SEC. 8.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in
60 the annual General Appropriations Act.

61 **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*
62 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

63 *Approved,*