

devote land for housing and industrial development.

To address food supply issues and food security concerns, innovative agricultural techniques are introduced to address every person's right to adequate food and to protection from hunger. Some of those techniques are vertical farming, known as controlled environment agriculture or indoor farming, and urban planning. These two are the solutions suggested by experts all over the globe to increase overall agricultural production.

Thus, this measure proposes to institutionalize, strengthen, and promote urban agriculture and vertical farming to meet food sufficiency targets, create agricultural jobs despite the rapid industrialization of many areas and the development of innovative agricultural techniques apt for the present time.

In view of this, early passage of this bill is sought.



MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

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- a. *Aeroponics* refers to a way of planting in which plants are suspended on the air and grow in a humid environment without soil;
- b. *Agricultural Innovation* refers to the process whereby individuals or organizations bring new or existing products, processes or ways of organization into use for the first time in a specific context in order to increase effectiveness, competitiveness, resilience to shocks or environmental sustainability and thereby contribute to food security and nutrition, economic development or sustainable natural resource management;
- c. *Agro-ecology* refers to a scientific discipline that studies how different components of the agro-ecosystem interact. It seeks sustainable farming systems that optimize and stabilize yields and pursues multifunctional roles for agriculture, promotes social justice, nurtures identity and culture, and strengthens the economic viability of farming communities;
- d. *Aquaculture* refers to the farming of aquatic organisms in both coastal and inland areas involving interventions in the rearing process to enhance production. It is the fastest growing food-producing sector and now accounts for 50 percent of the world's fish that is used for food;
- e. *Aquaponics* refers a system of aquaculture in which the waste produced by farmed fish or other aquatic animals supplies nutrients for plants grown hydroponically, which in turn purify the water;
- f. *Community garden* refers to a piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people that participates in sustainable, local food production and provide diversity and resiliency to the food supply chain. It provides food and additional household income, fosters stronger and safer communities, and develop green spaces that benefits the environment;
- g. *Council* refers to the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Council established through this Act.
- h. *Food Forest Farm* refers to multifunctional biodiverse agroforestry systems using several plant layers of different height (strata), including trees, shrubs, and groundcover;
- i. *Food Security* refers to when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary

1 needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. This widely accepted
2 definition points to the following dimensions of food security:

- 3 1. *Food availability* - the availability of sufficient quantities of food of
4 appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production or imports,
5 including food aid;
 - 6 2. *Food access* - access by individuals to adequate resources, or
7 entitlements, for acquiring appropriate foods for a nutritious diet.
8 Entitlements are defined as the set of all commodity bundles over which
9 a person can establish command given the legal, political, economic
10 and social arrangements of the community in which they live, including
11 traditional rights such as access to common resource;
 - 12 3. *Utilization* - utilization of food through adequate diet, clean water,
13 sanitation and health care to reach a state of nutritional well-being
14 where all physiological needs are met; and
 - 15 4. *Stability* - to be food secure, a population, household or individual must
16 have access to adequate food at all times;
- 17 j. *Food Systems* refer to the sum interactions along the food value chain—from
18 input supply and production of crops, livestock, fish, and other agricultural
19 commodities to transportation, processing, retailing, wholesaling, and
20 preparation of foods to consumption and disposal;
- 21 k. *Good Agricultural Practices* refer to the set of standards for the safe and
22 sustainable on-farm production and post- production processes resulting in
23 safe and healthy food and non-food agriculture products, while taking into
24 account economic, social and environmental sustainability;
- 25 l. *Hydroponics* refers to soil-less system consist of not using soil as substrate for
26 crop production;
- 27 m. *Idle Land*, as defined by the Urban Development and Housing Act of 1992,
28 refers to non-agricultural lands in urban and urbanized areas on which no
29 improvements have been made by the owner, as certified by the city, municipal
30 or provincial assessor;
- 31 n. *Idle Government Land* refers to lands including patrimonial properties of the
32 state, public properties and properties foreclosed by the government financing
33 institutions (GFIs), government owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs),
34 as certified by the city, municipal and provincial assessor on which no
35 improvement has been made by the government and have not been used for

1 the purpose for which they have been reserved or set aside for the past ten
2 (10) years;

3 o. *Indoor Farming* refers to growing of crops in a controlled environment, on
4 stacked shelves using artificial lights, and controlling temperature and moisture
5 to maximize plant growth;

6 p. *Integrated Urban Agriculture* refers to the practices of cultivation, processing,
7 and distribution of food within, or around a community, district or city to
8 address the needs of its inhabitants. Integrated Urban Agriculture is
9 undertaken for the following purposes:

- 10 1. for addressing food shortage and ensuring adequate food supply within
11 the community;
- 12 2. for maintaining the environment; and
- 13 3. stabilization and strengthening of food prices in the market.

14 q. *Office* refers to the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office established
15 under this Act.

16 r. *Peri Urban Areas* refers to areas surrounding cities which are in most ways
17 integrated with the city. These spaces act as a transitional zone between the
18 inner city and the countryside. It also has high growth rates and receive up to
19 70 percent of the migrants from rural areas as well as migrants from the city
20 itself;

21 s. *Protected cultivation* is a process of growing crops in a controlled environment
22 where the temperature, humidity, light and such other factors can be regulated
23 as per requirement of the crop;

24 t. *Social Preparation* refers to the series of activities designed to prepare the
25 affected families to cope with the changes brought about by government
26 programs or development projects and to encourage them to actively
27 participate and prepare their society, community and personal responsibilities
28 in their quest for tenurial security, human development and basic services,
29 employment and livelihood, and other government programs for the urban
30 poor;

31 u. *Soilless Agriculture* refers to growing plants without the use of soil, in which
32 the nutrients required for growth are supplied through other means;

33 v. *Urban and peri-urban agriculture* can be defined as practices that yield food
34 and other outputs from agricultural production and related processes , such as
35 transformation, distribution, marketing, and recycling, taking place on land and

1 other spaces within cities and surrounding regions, involving urban and peri-
2 urban actors, communities, methods, places, policies, institutions, systems,
3 ecologies and economies, largely using and regenerating local resources to
4 meet the changing needs of local populations while serving multiple goals and
5 functions;

- 6 w. *Urban Areas* refer to areas with barangays with the following characteristics:
- 7 1. a population size of five thousand (5,000) or more;
 - 8 2. at least one establishment with a minimum of one hundred (100)
9 employees;
 - 10 3. five (5) or more establishments with a minimum of zero (0) employee,
11 and five (5) or more facilities within the two (2)-kilometer radius from
12 the barangay hall;
- 13 x. *Urban Planning* refers to design and regulation of the uses of space that focus
14 on the physical form, economic functions, and social impacts of the urban
15 environment and on the location of different activities within it. It is the
16 systematic assessment of land and water potential, alternatives for land use
17 and economic and social conditions in order to select and adopt the best land-
18 use options. Its purpose is to select and put into practice those land uses that
19 will best meet the needs of the people while safeguarding resources for the
20 future;
- 21 y. *Urbanizable areas* refer to sites and lands which, considering present
22 characteristics and prevailing conditions, display marked and great potential of
23 becoming urban areas within the period of five (5) years; and
- 24 z. *Vertical Farming* refers to a highly industrialized year-round cultivation method
25 for food production, adaptable for multiple crop types, where the verticalized
26 building typology, its program and functions primarily focus on optimum plant
27 growth.

28 **SECTION 4. Purpose.** — The purpose of this Act is to institutionalize integrated urban
29 agriculture and other emerging innovative sustainable agricultural production practices and
30 technologies in the Philippines and contribute to the following:

- 31 a. to ensure availability, access, stability, and utilization of food;
- 32 b. to promote consumption of nutritious food;
- 33 c. to support local food infrastructure;
- 34 d. to increase domestic food production;

- 1 e. to strengthen relationships between urban consumers and agriculture;
- 2 f. to inspire a new generation of agricultural producers in the Philippines;
- 3 g. to innovate agricultural production practices using modern production methods
- 4 in newly identified locations;
- 5 h. to create new markets for agricultural producers, consumers, and businesses;
- 6 i. to augment and /or complement livelihood and economic recovery;
- 7 j. to create jobs and develop the workforce;
- 8 k. to better mental health;
- 9 l. to create inroads for climate adaptation/ new normal practices for Philippine
- 10 food production and processing;
- 11 m. to revitalize abandoned or underused property and buildings;
- 12 n. to preserve natural resources, enhance green space and improve air quality;
- 13 o. to provide pollinator habitat;
- 14 p. to mitigate storm / monsoon water runoff;
- 15 q. to create energy efficiencies; and
- 16 r. to encourage community engagement.

17 **SECTION 5. Scope.** — The provisions of this Act shall apply to the development and
18 promotion of integrated urban agriculture and other emerging innovative sustainable
19 agricultural production practices and technologies and shall include, but not limited to, the
20 following:

- 21 a. Research, development and extension of appropriate, sustainable environment
- 22 and gender-friendly integrated urban agriculture;
- 23 b. Promotion and encouragement of the establishment of facilities, equipment
- 24 and processing plants that would accelerate the production and propagation of
- 25 the use of natural / organic or GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) accepted
- 26 fertilizers, bio-pesticides bio-herbicides and other appropriate farm inputs; and
- 27 c. Implementation of programs, projects and activities on integrated urban
- 28 agriculture and other emerging innovative agricultural production practices
- 29 including the provision and delivery of support services with focus on the
- 30 farmers, prioritizing small sustainable farming practitioners and their
- 31 organizations and other stakeholders.

32 **SECTION 6. Coverage.** — This Act shall cover idle or abandoned government or
33 private lands, buildings, shipping containers, subdivisions or villages, public housing, open

1 spaces in all urban, peri-urban and urbanizable areas in the country; and all available land
2 resources and buildings in schools, state or private universities and colleges, military camps
3 suitable for processes and technologies in growing crops including but not limited to:
4 community garden, aeroponics, hydroponics, aquaponics, food forest farming, vertical
5 farming, indoor farming protected cultivation and other soilless agricultural methods among
6 others.

7 Provided, That, the raising of poultry, livestock, small ruminants and aquaculture shall
8 be limited to peri-urban and urbanizable areas subject to health and safety and environmental
9 sanitation standards and regulations issued by the Department of Health (DOH), Department
10 of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Human Settlements and Urban
11 Development (DHSUD), Department of Agriculture (DA) and other relevant government
12 agencies.

13 **SECTION 7. *Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office.*** — To carry out the above-
14 declared policy, there shall be established in all independent cities and capital cities of
15 provinces (Covered Cities) an Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office, which shall be
16 community-based and maintained by local government units (LGUs) and a number of non-
17 governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society organizations (CSO) or community-based
18 organizations (CBOs) and state universities and colleges (SUCs). The Urban Agriculture and
19 Food Security Office shall be linked to the regional offices of the Department of Agriculture
20 (DA) for coordination and technical supervision, and to the DA central office.

21 a. *Objective.* The objective of the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office shall
22 be to encourage and promote integrated urban agriculture and other emerging
23 innovative sustainable agricultural production practices and technologies,
24 including, but not limited to:

- 25 1. community gardens and farms located in urban areas, suburbs, and urban
26 clusters;
- 27 2. rooftop farms, outdoor vertical production, and green walls;
- 28 3. indoor farms, greenhouses, and high-tech vertical technology farms;
- 29 4. hydroponic, aeroponic, aquaponic and aquaculture farm facilities; and
- 30 5. other innovations in agricultural production, as determined by the Urban
31 Agriculture and Food Security Office.

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- 1 b. *Food Security Plan.* The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office shall
2 formulate a Food Security Plan of the urban area in which it operates, in
3 consultation with the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Council and other
4 stakeholders, and oversee its implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

5 **SECTION 8. *Department Head.*** — The Mayor shall appoint a senior official to serve
6 as the Department Head of the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office, referred to in this
7 Act as the “Head”. The Head shall be responsible for engaging in activities to carry out the
8 objectives described in Section 7 of this Act including —

- 9 a. managing and facilitating programs for community gardens, urban farms,
10 rooftop agriculture, and indoor vertical production and other emerging
11 innovative agricultural production practices;
- 12 b. coordinating with the agencies and officials of City Local Government Unit
13 (LGU) and the National Government;
- 14 c. advising the Mayor on issues relating to the mission of the Urban Agriculture
15 and Food Security Office;
- 16 d. ensuring that the programs of the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office
17 are updated to address urban, indoor, and other emerging innovative
18 sustainable agricultural production practices and technologies, in coordination
19 with the officials in the LGU responsible for these programs;
- 20 e. engaging in external relations with stakeholders and coordinating external
21 partnerships to share best practices, provide mentorship, and offer technical
22 assistance;
- 23 f. facilitating interagency program coordination and developing interagency tools
24 for the promotion of existing programs and resources;
- 25 g. creating resources that identify common city and barangay best practices for
26 navigating local policies;
- 27 h. reviewing and improving farm enterprise development programs that provide
28 information about financial literacy, business planning, and food safety record
29 keeping;
- 30 i. coordinating networks of community gardens and facilitating connections to
31 local food pantries, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture; and
- 32 j. collaborating with other national agencies that use agricultural practices on-
33 site for food production or infrastructure.

1 **SECTION 9. *Urban Agriculture and Food Security Council.*** — The local government
2 units in the Covered Cities are hereby directed to convene Urban Agriculture and Food Security
3 Council and to formulate and implement their respective Food Security Plan within a year from
4 the enactment of this Law.

5 a. *Composition.* The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Council shall be
6 composed of representatives from the following offices, departments and
7 institutions:

- 8 1. Convenor: City Mayor
- 9 2. Co-Convenor: Head, Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office Members
- 10 3. Local Economic Investment Promotions Office
- 11 4. Small Business Cooperative Development Promotions Office
- 12 5. Public Employment Service Office
- 13 6. Environmental Protection and Waste Management Department
- 14 7. City Health Department
- 15 8. City Veterinary Department
- 16 9. Parks Development and Administration Department
- 17 10. City Planning and Development Office
- 18 11. Barangay and Community Relations Department
- 19 12. Committee on Micro, Small and Medium Business and Entrepreneurship of
20 the City Council
- 21 13. Committee on Parks and Environment of the City Council
- 22 14. Division of City Schools
- 23 15. Three (3) Sectoral Representatives with established track record in the
24 practice of sustainable agricultural methods of production:
- 25 16. Agri-Business sector
- 26 17. Urban Agriculture Organizations
- 27 18. Civil Society Organizations; and
- 28 19. Such other non-permanent members that the City Council deems necessary
29 to achieve the objectives of this Act.

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31 b. *Responsibility.* The Council shall advise the City Mayor and the Urban
32 Agriculture and Food Security Office on:

- 1 1. the development of policies and initiatives relating to integrated urban
2 agriculture and other emerging innovative sustainable agricultural
3 production practices and technologies and food security;
- 4 2. furthering the mission of the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office
5 described in Section 7;
- 6 3. the review and evaluation of ongoing research and extension activities
7 relating to integrated urban agriculture and other emerging innovative
8 sustainable agricultural practices and technologies;
- 9 4. identifying new and existing barriers to successful integrated urban
10 agriculture and other emerging innovative agricultural practices;
- 11 5. provide additional assistance and advice to the Director as appropriate; and
- 12 6. any other aspects of the implementation of this Ordinance.

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14 c. *Membership.* The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Council shall be
15 composed of one (1) convenor, one (1) co-convenor and 15 members, of
16 whom—

- 17 1. not more than ten (10) shall be representatives from different offices of the
18 executive branch of the City Government;
- 19 2. not fewer than two (2) individuals shall be agricultural producers located in
20 an urban area or urban cluster with related experience or expertise on
21 integrated urban agriculture and other emerging innovative sustainable
22 agricultural processes and technologies;
- 23 3. One (1) shall be an individual who represents an educational institution of
24 the government;
- 25 4. One (1) shall be an individual who represents a nonprofit organization,
26 which may include agricultural, environmental, or community organization;
27 and
- 28 5. One (1) shall be an individual who represents business and economic
29 development, which may include a business development entity, a chamber
30 of commerce or any agricultural business organization whose office is
31 located within the territory of the Covered City.

32 d. *Appointments.* The City Mayor shall appoint the members of the Urban
33 Agriculture and Food Security Council not later than 90 days after the date of
34 enactment of this Act.

35 e. *Vacancies.* Any vacancy in the Advisory Council shall:

1. not affect the powers of the Council; and
2. be filled as soon as practicable in the same manner as the original appointment.

f. *Meetings.*

1. The Council shall meet not fewer than four (4) times in a year.
2. Not later than 30 days after the date on which the members are appointed under Section 9 Subsection (d) of this Act, the Council shall hold its first meeting.

SECTION 10. *Educational Research and Development.* — The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office shall develop, enhance, support, and consolidate activities and related technologies for the formulation and implementation of a unified and integrated agriculture research and development plan and programs for the city in which it operates.

The organic agriculture research and development plans and programs shall include, but not limited to the following:

- a. Research, development and propagation of appropriate, innovative and viable integrated urban agricultural technologies.
- b. Promotion of developed and viable biodegradable farm wastes and by-products through various extension strategies to accelerate the production, use and distribution of naturally produced fertilizers.
 1. Organize educational seminars, webinars, learning fora, online and offline to educate the community on—
 2. issues relating to food systems and food security, including connections between rural farmers and urban communities;
 3. health and nutrition;
 4. environmental impacts, including pollinator health, soil fertility, composting, heat islands, and storm / monsoon water runoff; and
 5. agricultural production, including pest and disease management.

SECTION 11. *Promotion of Integrated Urban Agriculture.* — The City Local Government shall implement programs and projects within their respective food security plan including but not limited to:

- a. *Establishment of Community Gardens.* — The City Local Government of Unit through the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office shall establish,

1 recognize and support urban farms and community gardens including those
2 initiated by the Private Sector that will promote, market and develop integrated
3 urban agriculture and other emerging innovative sustainable agricultural
4 production practices and technologies;

- 5 b. *Demo Urban Integrated Farm.* — Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office
6 shall develop and select Demo Urban Integrated Farms that shall provide
7 facilities for the training of persons who wishes to establish their own
8 community garden. These demo farms shall also provide instructional
9 resources for those that want to learn or experience urban agriculture; and
10 c. *Inventory of Urban Farms / Community Gardens.* — The Urban Agriculture and
11 Food Security Office shall conduct an inventory of all urban farms, community
12 garden and spaces suitable to urban agriculture and provide for the assignment
13 of an urban agriculture identification number for urban farms including rooftop
14 farms, indoor farms, and other farms, as determined by the Council.

15 **SECTION 12.** *Support Services to Urban Agriculture Practitioners.* — The City Local
16 Government shall ensure support to practitioners of integrated urban agriculture and other
17 emerging innovative sustainable agricultural production practices and technologies by
18 providing technical training on production, marketing and branding to develop an agriculture
19 product that will ensure a market niche, including the practice of fair trade.

- 20 a. *Coordination with Concerned Institutions.* — The City Local Government shall
21 coordinate with the Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Science
22 and Technology (DOST), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG),
23 Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Social Welfare and
24 Development (DSWD), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department
25 of Finance (DOF), Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and other concerned
26 government agencies, and non-government stakeholders and lending
27 institutions to assist urban agriculture practitioners through the provision of
28 adequate financial, technical, marketing and other services and resources.
29 b. *Grants.* — The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office may award
30 competitive grants in the form of tools, equipment, facilities or machineries to
31 eligible entities that has an existing community garden and or has an ongoing
32 program/project in support of the development of integrated urban agriculture
33 and innovative production.
34 c. *Eligible Entity.* — In this Act, the term "eligible entity" refers to:

- 1 1. a community farming organization;
 - 2 2. a nonprofit organization;
 - 3 3. barangay local government unit;
 - 4 4. any school that serves any of grades kindergarten through grade 12;
 - 5 and
 - 6 5. an institution of higher education.
- 7 d. *Funding Priority.* — In awarding grants under Section 12 Subsection (b.),
- 8 priority shall be given to an eligible entities that uses and provides an evaluation
- 9 of a grant received under this subsection:
- 10 1. to plan and construct commercial gardens or nonprofit community
 - 11 farms;
 - 12 2. to operate community gardens or nonprofit farms that:
 - 13 i. produces food for donation and/or have demonstrated
 - 14 environmental benefit and educational component; and
 - 15 ii. are part of community efforts to address local food security
 - 16 needs.
 - 17 3. to provide multiple small equity investments to help offset start-up costs
 - 18 relating to new production, land access, and equipment for new and
 - 19 beginning farmers who—
 - 20 i. develop a 3-year business plan;
 - 21 ii. live in the community in which they plan to farm; and
 - 22 iii. provide a match to the start-up investment in the form of cash
 - 23 or an in-kind contribution.
- 24 e. *Establishment of Trading Posts* — There shall be established dedicated stalls
- 25 within the commercial area of the city and special market day for agricultural
- 26 products produced by recognized community gardens.
- 27 f. *Seed Bank and Kits.* The City Local Government shall establish Seed Banks in
- 28 strategic areas where recognized community gardens exist.
- 29 1. The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office in coordination with the
 - 30 Barangay Councils, Non-Government Organizations and the Parks
 - 31 Development and Administration Department shall establish seed banks
 - 32 that will produce and supply seeds for the urban agriculture program of
 - 33 the city.

- 1 2. The Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office shall develop and
2 distribute start-up kits for aspiring urban farmers composed of farming
3 tools, seedlings, organic fertilizers, inputs, and soil.

4 **SECTION 13. *Incentives and Award System.*** — The City Local Government through
5 the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office, shall establish and institutionalize incentives
6 and awards systems for individuals and organizations in the form of financial, in-kind and
7 technical assistance for projects that promote and develop integrated urban agriculture and
8 other emerging innovative sustainable agricultural production practices and technology. These
9 award systems may include the following components:

- 10 a. Annual search, recognition and awards for model farmers and farmer
11 organizations practicing organic farming in barangay and city level;
12 b. Support for access to organic inputs for interested farmers to encourage their
13 entry/involvement in organic agriculture;
14 c. Institutionalization of certification by self-regulating organizations of small
15 holder groups of farmers;
16 d. Linkages to markets, including provision of display area in the City Local
17 Government’s City Hall Complex and other government facilities; and local
18 produce as food supply preference for the city’s feeding programs, catering,
19 token gifts, and other city related activities and events; and
20 e. other awards and incentives that may hereinafter be developed.

21 **SECTION 14. *Urban Agriculture Tax Incentives.*** — Land owners shall be exempted
22 from paying their idle land tax, provided, that, the landowner, on a voluntary basis, shall enter
23 into a contract with the City Local Government pursuant to the provisions of this Act, restrict
24 the use of vacant, unimproved, or otherwise devastated lands to uses consistent with
25 integrated urban agriculture.

26 The contract entered into pursuant to this Act shall include, but is not limited to, all of
27 the following provisions:

- 28 a. An initial term of not more than three (3) years;
29 b. A restriction on property size that is at least 100 sqm, and not more than one
30 (1) hectare;
31 c. A requirement that the entire property subject to the contract shall be
32 dedicated toward commercial or noncommercial agricultural use only;

- 1 d. A prohibition against any dwellings on the property while under contract;
- 2 e. A notification that if a landowner cancels a contract, the City Local Government
- 3 Unit through its appropriate department is hereby required to assess a
- 4 cancellation fee and idle land tax pursuant to tax ordinances of the city;
- 5 f. A non-prohibition of the use of structures that support agricultural activity,
- 6 including, but not limited to, toolsheds, greenhouses, produce stands, and
- 7 instructional space;
- 8 g. A prohibition on the use of pesticide and other harmful chemicals on properties
- 9 under contract;

10 **SECTION 15. *Report and Review***— Within the year of the implementation of this Act
11 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Department of Agriculture shall render an annual report
12 to both houses of Congress.

- 13 a. the Department of Agriculture shall submit a report describing a summary of
- 14 the following:
 - 15 1. the status of the urban agriculture program under this Act;
 - 16 2. accomplishments of the urban agriculture and food security offices and
 - 17 councils established through this Act; and
 - 18 3. the types and volume of assistance and services provided to farmers in
 - 19 barangays in which integrated urban agriculture programs and / or
 - 20 community gardens are established.
- 21 b. A review on the viability of the program shall be made by the Congress after
- 22 five (5) years of implementation.

23 **SECTION 16. *Implementing Rules and Regulations***. — The Department of
24 Agriculture (DA), Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Department of Interior and
25 Local Government (DILG), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Social Welfare
26 and Development (DSWD), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Finance
27 (DOF) and other concerned government agencies, non-government organizations, civil society
28 organizations, community based organizations and other stakeholders, shall promulgate and
29 issue the implementing rules and regulations within ninety (90) days upon approval of this
30 Act.

31 City Local Government shall establish an Urban Agriculture and Food Security Office
32 and convene the Urban Agriculture and Food Security Council ninety (90) days from effectivity

1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act upon the directive of the Department
2 of Interior and Local Government.

3 **SECTION 17. Appropriations.** — The amount necessary for the initial
4 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the existing appropriation of the
5 Department of Agriculture.

6 **SECTION 18. Separability Clause.** — In the event that any part, section or provision
7 of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid by a competent court, the remaining
8 provisions thereby shall remain valid and in full force and effect as if the sections or provisions
9 so annulled or voided had never been incorporated herein.

10 **SECTION 19. Repealing Clause.** — All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances,
11 rules and regulations, or parts thereof not consistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
12 repealed or modified and/or superseded as case may be by this Act accordingly.

13 **SECTION 20. Effectivity.** — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
14 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
15 circulation.

16 *Approved,*