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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 2581

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE MONTEJO, TEVES, PAYUMO, PLAZA, RAMIREZ, BAGATSING, JR., GULLAS, DRAGON, DE VENECIA, JR., VILLAR, JR., RECTO, VENEGAS, BELMONTE, JR., GILLEGO, MENDOZA, DIAZ (A.), STARKE, SILVERIO, ORBOS, SARMIENTO (A.), GOLEZ, VELOSO, VERCELES, JR., VILLAROSA, ANDAYA (R.), TILANDUCA, CATANE, ESCUDERO III, ALFELOR, ROXAS, JR., DEL ROSARIO, CHIONGBIAN, YAP (R.), ESTRELLA (E.), PONCE ENRILE, COJUANGCO, JR., TANJATCO, JR., ALMARIO, BAGATSINO (A.), ROMERO, PUA, LIBAN, DEL MAR, CERILLES, PUEY, GARCIA (M.), GARCIA (P.), ISIDRO, GUANZON, LOPEZ (J.), SANCHEZ, TUAZON, LOPEZ (E.), SINGSON, PEREZ (A.), AMATONG, ABLAN, JR., MARCOS II, GORDON, DEQUINA, PALMA GIL, ORTEGA, PANCHE, ESTRELLA III, FUENTEBELLA, ANDAYA (V.), ANTONINO, PUNZALAN (M.), CLAUDIO, TAJON, JAJAFAR, PUNZALAN (J.), DOMINGUEZ, CUA, RAMIRO, JR., YAP (J.), FUGOSO, ALMENDRAS, SR., APOSTOL, LINGAD, LAGMAN, MASTURA, AQUINO (H.), VALDEZ, ARROYO, LAZATIN, ABAYA, ABINES, ABUEG, JR., ACOSTA, ACUÑA, ADASA, JR., ALBANO, ALMORO, ANDOLANA, AQUINO (F.), ASISTIO, ASPIRAS, AUMENTADO, BADELLES, SR., BAGUIO, BAKUNAWA, BARBERS, BAUTISTA, SR., BICHARA, BONDOC, CANDAZO, CAPPLEMAN, CARMONA, CEZAR, CHAVES, CUENCO, DAMASING, DANGWA, DATUMANGONG, DAZA, DIAZ (R.), DOMINGO, DURANO III, DUREZA, DY, JR., ECLEO, ENVERGA, ERMITA, ESPINOSA, FAJARDO, FIGUEROA, FUENTES, GARIN, HENSON, IMPERIAL, JAVIER (E.), JAVIER (R.), KHO, LACSON, LANTO, LARA, LAUREL-TRINIDAD, LEVISTE, LIZARDO, LOBREGAT, LOCSIN, LOPEZ (A.), LOPEZ-VITO, LORENZO, LORETO, MADRONA, MAMBA, MARTINEZ, JR., MATTI, MERCADO, NATIVIDAD, NAZARENO, JR., PALACOL, PANES, PARAS, PAREDES, JR., PEREZ (H.), PEREZ (L.), PIMENTEL,

PONCE DE LEON, QUIMPO, REYES, ROLDAN, ROMUALDO, SOON-RUIZ, SARMIENTO (R.), SATOR, SERAPIO, SUAREZ, TAMMANG, TINGA, TINGZON, TIRADOR, TUGUNG, TULAWIE, TUPAS, TY, UNAS, URRO, VERGARA, VIOLAGO, YULO, ZAMORA, ZAPATA, AND ZUBIRI, JR., PER COMMITTEE REPORT No. 18

AN ACT CONSTITUTING THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC CONSULTATIVE AND ADVISORY COUNCIL

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

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.** - It is the policy of the
2 State to formulate after consultations with appropriate public
3 agencies, the private sector, and local government units
4 socioeconomic development programs in accordance with its
5 constitutional mandate to promote a more equitable distribution of
6 opportunities, income, and wealth; a sustained increase in the
7 amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit
8 of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the
9 quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged.

10 The State shall promote industrialization and full employment
11 based on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform,
12 through industries that make full and efficient use of human and
13 natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and
14 foreign markets. However, the State shall protect Filipino enter-

1 **prises against unfair foreign competition and trade practices.**

2 **SEC. 2. *National Economic Consultative and Advisory***

3 ***Council.*** - Pursuant to the foregoing policy, there is hereby

4 constituted a consultative and advisory body to be known as the

5 National Economic Consultative and Advisory Council, hereinafter

6 referred to as the Council. It shall be composed of twenty (20)

7 members, with the President of the Philippines as Chairman and the

8 following as members: the Vice-President of the Philippines, the

9 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Represent-

10 tives, seven (7) Members of the Cabinet to be designated by the

11 President of the Philippines, three (3) Members of the Senate to be

12 designated by the President of the Senate, three (3) Members of

13 the House of Representatives to be designated by the Speaker of

14 the House of Representatives at least one (1) of whom shall come

15 from the dominant minority party, and the following to be

16 appointed by the President of the Philippines: a representative of

17 the local government units, a representative of the youth, and a

18 representative of the private sector from any or a combination of

19 the following: business, cooperatives, agriculture, and labor.

20 **Membership in the Council of the Members of**

21 Congress shall be considered an extension of their legislative

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1 functions. Membership in the Council of the Members of the
2 Cabinet shall be in an *ex officio* capacity.

3 The Chairman and members of the Council who are
4 government officials shall serve without any additional
5 emoluments, allowances, or pay.

6 **SEC. 3. *Functions of the Council.*** - The Council
7 shall serve as a consultative and advisory body to the
8 President as the head of the national economic and planning
9 agency for further consultations and advice on certain programs
10 and policies essential to the realization of the goals of the national
11 economy with the following functions:

12 (a) To recommend socioeconomic development
13 goals which shall guide in the formulation and implementation of
14 continuing, integrated, and coordinated plans and programs for
15 national development;

16 (b) To facilitate the integration of regional development
17 plans and programs into the comprehensive national development
18 plan that will be formulated by national government agencies;

19 (c) To receive reports on and cause the study of
20 measures to improve the implementation of all official
21 development assistance from multilateral and bilateral

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1 entities;

2 (d) To review the major economic programs of the
3 Government as well as the relationship of the legislative
4 agenda to the national development plan to facilitate the
5 integration of both; and

6 (e) To provide policy advice to the President and to
7 Congress on vital issues affecting the socioeconomic
8 development of the country.

9 **SEC. 4. Secretariat.** - The National Economic Con-
10 sultative and Advisory Council shall have the National
11 Economic and Development Authority Secretariat as the
12 principal secretariat in providing staff support to the
13 Council, assisted by personnel from the Presidential
14 Management Staff and the economic planning staff of both
15 the Senate and the House of Representatives.

16 **SEC. 5. Meetings of the Council.** - The Council shall
17 meet at least once every quarter, but may be convened for
18 special meetings as may be deemed necessary upon the
19 call of its Chairman. The Council members shall be duly
20 notified of any meeting in advance. The first meeting of
21 the Council shall take place within one (1) month from the

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1 effectivity of this Act at a time and place to be designated
2 by its Chairman.

3 SEC. 6. *Priority Concerns.* - The Council shall give
4 special attention to measures which shall:

5 (a) Involve relevant nongovernment groups and
6 people's organizations in the processes of economic
7 planning by national agencies and by regional, provincial,
8 and other local development councils, as well as in monitoring the
9 implementation of development projects;

10 (b) Bring about effective integration of the priority
11 development programs and projects proposed by the
12 regional, provincial, and other local development councils
13 into the national development program within the constraints of the
14 national budget;

15 (c) Accelerate the study and formulation of projects
16 and programs which shall answer the priority needs of the
17 people for livelihood and social services, that may be
18 funded from national revenues and/or grants and conces-
19 sional loans from external sources; and

20 (d) Hasten the utilization of grants and concessional
21 loans for priority development projects and programs.

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SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* -

Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Council shall promulgate all the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Appropriations.* -

The amount of Two million five hundred thousand pesos (P2,500,000) needed to initially carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the Contingent Fund. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the operation and maintenance of the Council shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* -

Any provision of this Act which may be declared unconstitutional shall not affect the remaining provisions hereof.

SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* -

All laws and executive orders which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity Clause.* -

This Act shall take effect upon its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,