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Congress of the Philippines }
First Regular Session

SENATE

S. NO. 704

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS ROMULO, MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, GUINGONA, JR., MACEDA, TATAD AND HERRERA

AN ACT CONSTITUTING THE LEGISLATIVE-EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policies.* - It is the policy of the
2 State to formulate sustainable socioeconomic development programs
3 based on the Constitutional mandate to promote social justice in all
4 phases of national development and to develop a self-reliant and
5 independent national economy effectively controlled by Filipinos.

6 The national development plan shall be formulated after proper
7 consultation with, and active participation of the appropriate public
8 or private sector agencies, and local government units.

9 The Legislative-Executive Development Council shall consti-
10 tute an effective mechanism to coordinate executive development
11 planning and congressional budgeting.

1 **SEC. 2. Legislative-Executive Development Council.** - Pursuant
2 to these policies, there is hereby created a Legislative-Executive
3 Development Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council. It shall
4 be composed of the President of the Philippines as Chairman, and
5 sixteen (16) members as follows: the President of the Senate, the
6 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Secretary of Finance, the
7 Director General of the National Economic and Development
8 Authority (NEDA), the Secretary of Environment and Natural
9 Resources, the Secretary of Labor and Employment, the Secretary
10 of Education, Culture and Sports, the Secretary of Trade and Industry,
11 the Secretary of Agriculture, the Chairman of the Senate Committee
12 on Economic Affairs, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on
13 Finance, the Chairman of the House Committee on Economic Affairs,
14 the Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, a repre-
15 sentative of the local government units to be designated by the
16 President from among those recommended by the members of the board
17 of the leagues of governors, vice governors and vice mayors,
18 provincial board members, city mayors or municipal mayors and
19 councilors, one (1) Senator to be designated by the Senate President
20 upon nomination by the Senate Minority Leader, and one (1) Congress-
21 man to be designated by the Speaker upon nomination by the House
22 Minority Floor Leader.

23 Membership in the Council of the Members of the legislature
24 shall be an extension of their legislative functions. Membership in the
25 Council of the Members of the Cabinet shall be in *ex officio* capacity.

1 Subcommittees shall be created under the Council to be composed
 2 of the Chairmen of the Senate and House committees relating to social
 3 and economic development and the heads of the executive agencies
 4 corresponding to said subcommittees.

5 The Chairman and Members of the Council who are government
 6 officials shall serve in the Council without any additional emoluments,
 7 allowances, or pay, by virtue of and in connection with the positions
 8 they have been elected to or appointed to, as the case may be.

9 **SEC. 3. Functions of the Council.** - The Council shall serve as a
 10 consultative and advisory body to both the President of the Philippines
 11 and to Congress, and shall, among others:

12 a) determine sustainable socioeconomic development
 13 goals in pursuance of established policies which shall
 14 guide the formulation and implementation of the
 15 national development plan;

16 b) propose to Congress the enactment of laws and to the
 17 President of the Philippines the issuance of necessary
 18 executive orders, as may be required to effectively
 19 implement the national development plan as well as
 20 policies and programs relevant thereto including pro-
 21 posals for the creation of an independent economic and
 22 planning agency as provided in Section 9, Article XII
 23 of the Constitution. The NEDA shall continue to
 24 function as the government planning agency until
 25 otherwise provided by law;

- 1 c) direct the study of measures to ensure that regional
2 development plans and programs are integrated into
3 the national development plan;
- 4 d) receive, and in appropriate cases, require reports on,
5 and study measures to improve, the implementation of
6 official development assistance from multilateral and
7 bilateral entities;
- 8 e) assess effectiveness of implementation of the national
9 development plan;
- 10 f) integrate environmental and development concepts,
11 principles and practices into a balanced and cohesive
12 approach to national development;
- 13 g) review the relationship of the legislative agenda to the
14 national development plan to ensure the integration of
15 both;
- 16 h) provide policy advice to the President of the Philippines
17 and to Congress on vital issues affecting the sustainable
18 socioeconomic development of the country; and
- 19 i) study and recommend to the President of the
20 Philippines and to Congress sources of revenue as well
21 as measures to reduce unnecessary expenditures to the
22 end that the resources of government will be used to the
23 optimum.

24 **SEC. 4. Staff Support.** - The NEDA Secretariat shall serve as the
25 principal secretariat in providing staff support to the Council, assisted

1 by personnel of the Congressional Planning and Budget Office (CPBO)
2 and the Senate Staff.

3 **SEC. 5. *Meetings of the Council.*** - The Council shall meet at least
4 once every quarter, but may be convened by its Chairman to such
5 special meetings as may be necessary. The Members of the Council
6 shall be duly notified of any meeting in advance. The first meeting of
7 the Council shall take place within one (1) month from the effectivity
8 of this Act, at a time and place to be designated by the Chairman.

9 **SEC. 6. *Priority Concerns.*** - The Council shall give special
10 attention to measures which will:

- 11 a) decentralize the development planning process
12 including strengthening the capabilities of regional,
13 provincial and other local development councils and of
14 local government units to carry out socioeconomic
15 planning;
- 16 b) involve concerned private sectors and non-
17 governmental and people's organizations in the proc-
18 esses of economic planning by national agencies
19 and by regional, provincial and other local develop-
20 ment councils, as well as in monitoring imple-
21 mentation of development projects;
- 22 c) bring about effective integration of the priority develop-
23 ment programs and projects proposed by regional,
24 provincial and other local development councils into
25 the national development plan, within the constraints of

- 1 the national budget;
- 2 d) accelerate the study and formulation of projects and
- 3 programs which will answer priority needs of the people
- 4 for livelihood and social services, and which may be
- 5 funded from national revenues and/or grants and
- 6 concessional loans from external sources;
- 7 e) hasten the utilization of grants and concessional loans
- 8 for priority development projects and programs, while
- 9 also improving the efficiency of project implementa-
- 10 tion; and
- 11 f) strengthen mechanisms for monitoring the
- 12 implementation of development projects and
- 13 programs, and for promoting efficiency of execution
- 14 and timeliness of completion.

15 SEC. 7. The Council shall render reports after every meeting to
16 every Senator and Congressman who are not members of the Council,
17 particularly the progress and action taken on priority concerns embodied
18 in Section 6 hereof.

19 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within sixty
20 (60) days from the approval of this Act, the Council shall promulgate all
21 necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

22 SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* - The amount of Five million pesos
23 (P5,000,000.00) is hereby authorized out of the funds of the National
24 Treasury not otherwise appropriated for the operating and capital
25 expenditure of the Council for the Fiscal Year 1993. Thereafter, the

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1 necessary appropriations shall be provided in the annual General
2 Appropriations Act.

3 SEC. 10. *Separability Clause.* - In case any provision hereof
4 is declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared and
5 affected shall remain in force and effect.

6 SEC. 11. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws and executive orders
7 which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed
8 and/or amended accordingly.

9 SEC. 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect upon its
10 publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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