



SENATE

S. No. 1318

(IN SUBSTITUTION OF SENATE BILL NOS. 34, 146, 648 AND 733)

PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEE AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND
AGRARIAN REFORM WITH SENATORS PANGILINAN,
VILLAR, REVILLA JR., POE, ANGARA, BINAY, CAYETANO,
DE LIMA, DELA ROSA, DRILON, GATCHALIAN, GO,
GORDON, HONTIVEROS, LACSON, LAPID, MARCOS,
PACQUIAO, PIMENTEL III, RECTO, SOTTO III,
TOLENTINO, VILLANUEVA AND ZUBIRI AS AUTHORS
THEREOF

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10068 OR
THE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE ACT OF 2010

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10068,
2 otherwise known as "An Act Providing for the Development
3 and Promotion of Organic Agriculture in the Philippines and
4 for Other Purposes," is hereby amended, to read as follows:

5 "SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby
6 declared the policy of the State to promote, propagate,
7 develop further and implement the practice of organic

1 agriculture in the Philippines that will cumulatively
2 condition and enrich the fertility of the soil, increase
3 farm productivity AND FARMERS' INCOMES, reduce
4 pollution and destruction of the environment, prevent
5 the depletion of natural resources, ENCOURAGE THE
6 PARTICIPATION OF INDIGENOUS ORGANIC
7 FARMERS PROMOTING THEIR SUSTAINABLE
8 PRACTICES further protect the health of farmers,
9 consumers, and the general public, [and] save on
10 imported farm inputs AND PROMOTE FOOD SELF-
11 SUFFICIENCY. Towards this end, a comprehensive
12 program for the promotion of community-based
13 organic agriculture systems which include, among
14 others, farmer-produced [~~purely organic fertilizers~~
15 ~~such as compost, pesticides~~] ORGANIC SOIL
16 AMENDMENTS, BIO-CONTROL AGENTS and other
17 farm inputs, together with a nationwide educational
18 and promotional campaign for their use and
19 processing[,] SHALL BE ESTABLISHED.

20 LIKewise, A NATIONWIDE EDUCATIONAL
21 AND AWARENESS CAMPAIGN AMONG
22 CONSUMERS ON THE BENEFITS OF
23 CONSUMING ORGANIC PRODUCTS TO BOOST
24 LOCAL PRODUCTION OF ORGANIC FOOD AND
25 NON-FOOD PRODUCTS, as well as adoption of
26 organic agricultural system as a viable alternative

1 shall be undertaken.

2 XXX”

3 SEC. 2. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby
4 amended, to read as follows:

5 “SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of
6 this Act, the following terms shall be defined as
7 follows:

8 XXX

9 (c) *Organic Production System* is a system designed
10 to:

11 (1) Enhance biological diversity within the whole
12 system;

13 (2) Increase [solid] SOIL biological activity;

14 (3) Maintain long term [solid] SOIL fertility;

15 X X X;

16 (h) *Certification* is the procedure by which [~~official~~
17 ~~certification bodies~~] AN ORGANIC CERTIFYING
18 BODY (OCB) [~~or officially recognized certification~~
19 ~~bodies~~] provides written or equivalent assurance that
20 FARMS, OR PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING
21 SYSTEMS, [~~foods or food control systems~~] conform to
22 [requirements] ORGANIC STANDARDS AS
23 MANDATED IN THIS ACT.

24 (i) *Accreditation* is the procedure by which a
25 government agency having jurisdiction formally
26 recognizes the competence of an [~~inspection and/or~~

1 ~~certification]~~ ORGANIC CERTIFYING body to provide
2 inspection and certification services.

3 XXX.

4 (O) *INSPECTION* IS THE EXAMINATION OF
5 FARMS, FOOD AND NON-FOOD PRODUCTS,
6 FOOD CONTROL SYSTEMS, RAW MATERIALS,
7 PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION AND RETAILING,
8 INCLUDING IN-PROCESS AND FINISHED
9 PRODUCT TESTING, IN ORDER TO VERIFY THAT
10 THEY CONFORM TO THE REQUIREMENTS FOR
11 BEING ORGANIC. INSPECTION INCLUDES THE
12 EXAMINATION OF THE PRODUCTION AND
13 PROCESSING SYSTEMS.

14 (P) *ORGANIC BIO-CONTROL AGENTS* REFER
15 TO ORGANISMS AND THEIR ASSOCIATED
16 METABOLITES AS WELL AS NATURALLY
17 OCCURRING SUBSTANCES THAT CONTROL
18 PESTS AND DISEASES. THESE ARE CLASSIFIED
19 AS BOTANICALS, MACROBIALS, MICROBIALS,
20 AND SEMIOCHEMICALS.

21 (Q) *ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY* (OCB)
22 REFERS TO A LEGAL ENTITY ACCREDITED BY A
23 GOVERNMENT AGENCY TO PERFORM
24 INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITIES.
25 IT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING THAT A
PRODUCT SOLD OR LABELED AS "ORGANIC" IS

1 PRODUCED, PROCESSED, PREPARED, HANDLED
2 ACCORDING TO RELEVANT GUIDELINES.

3 (R) *ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS* REFER
4 TO ALL THE PRODUCTS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF
5 THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARD, I.E.
6 ORGANIC FERTILIZERS, COMPOST/SOIL
7 CONDITIONER, MICROBIAL INOCULANTS, AND
8 ORGANIC PLANT SUPPLEMENTS THAT ARE
9 ADDED TO THE SOIL TO IMPROVE ITS PHYSICAL
10 PROPERTIES.

11 (S) *PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM*
12 (*PGS*) REFERS TO A LOCALLY-FOCUSED
13 QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM WHICH IS
14 DEVELOPED AND PRACTICED BY PEOPLE
15 ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN ORGANIC
16 AGRICULTURE. IT IS BUILT ON A FOUNDATION
17 OF TRUST, SOCIAL NETWORK AND KNOWLEDGE
18 EXCHANGE. IT IS USED TO CERTIFY
19 PRODUCERS AND FARMERS AS ACTUAL AND
20 ACTIVE PRACTITIONERS OF ORGANIC
21 AGRICULTURE.

22 (T) *PGS GROUP* REFERS TO A LEGAL
23 ASSOCIATION OR COOPERATIVE OF
24 REGISTERED FARMER MEMBERS AND OTHER
25 STAKEHOLDERS IN A PARTICIPATORY
26 GUARANTEE SYSTEM.

1 (U) *CORE PGS GROUP* REFERS TO THE BASIC
2 GROUPING UNIT IN THE PGS. IT IS FURTHER
3 DEFINED IN SEC. 8, PAR. E1 OF THIS ACT.

4 (V) *PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATE*
5 REFERS TO A DOCUMENTARY PROOF THAT A
6 CORE PGS GROUP IS COMPLIANT WITH THE
7 REQUIREMENTS, STANDARDS AND NORMS OF
8 ORGANIC FARMING/AGRICULTURE. IT SHALL
9 BE ISSUED BY A GOVERNMENT AGENCY OR BY
10 AN AUTHORIZED ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY,
11 AFTER THE CONDUCT OF AN INVESTIGATION
12 AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY ON THE
13 APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION BY THE
14 CORE PGS GROUP. IT SHALL HAVE A VALIDITY
15 OF ONE (1) YEAR.

16 (W) *SMALL FARMER/FISHERFOLK* REFER
17 TO THOSE UTILIZING NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5)
18 HECTARES OF LAND AS AGRICULTURAL CROP
19 (INCLUDING RICE AND CORN) AND
20 AQUACULTURE PRODUCERS AND
21 AS POULTRY/LIVESTOCK RAISERS WITH NOT
22 MORE THAN THE FOLLOWING:

- 23 · POULTRY – 1,000 POULTRY
24 LAYERS OR 5,000 BROILERS
- 25 · SWINE – 10 SOW LEVEL OR 20
26 FATTENERS

- 1 • NATIVE PIGS – 30 HEADS
- 2 • CATTLE – 10 FATTENERS OR 5
- 3 BREEDERS
- 4 • DAIRY – 10 MILKING COWS
- 5 • GOAT – 50 HEADS

6 (X) *ORGANIC VALUE CHAIN* REFERS TO
 7 AGRICULTURE-RELATED ACTIVITIES THAT PUT
 8 FARMERS, PROCESSORS, DISTRIBUTORS AND
 9 CONSUMERS WITHIN A SYSTEM THAT
 10 PRODUCES, PROCESSES, TRANSPORTS,
 11 MARKETS AND DISTRIBUTES ORGANIC
 12 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.”

13 SEC. 3. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10068 is hereby
 14 amended, to read as follows:

15 “SEC. 4. *Coverage.* – The provisions of this Act
 16 shall apply to the development and promotion of
 17 organic agriculture and shall include, but not limited to,
 18 the following:

19 XXX

20 (c) Promotion and encouragement of the
 21 establishment of facilities, equipment and processing
 22 plants that would accelerate the production and
 23 commercialization of organic fertilizers, [~~pesticides,~~
 24 ~~herbicides~~] BIO-CONTROL AGENTS, ORGANIC SOIL
 25 AMENDMENTS and other appropriate farm inputs;
 26 and

1 (d) Implementation of organic agricultural
 2 programs, projects and activities, including the
 3 provision and delivery of support services with focus
 4 on the farmers, PRIORITIZING SMALL
 5 FARMERS/FISHERFOLK AND THEIR
 6 ORGANIZATIONS and other stakeholders.”

7 SEC. 4. Section 7 is hereby amended, to read as
 8 follows:

9 “SEC. 7. *Composition of the NOAB.* – The
 10 NOAB shall consist of THE FOLLOWING
 11 MEMBERS:

12 XXX

13 ~~[(d) The Secretary of Environment and Natural~~
 14 ~~Resources, or his duly authorized permanent~~
 15 ~~representative;]~~

16 [(e)] (d) The Secretary of Education, or his duly
 17 authorized permanent representative;

18 ~~[(f)]~~ (e) The Secretary of Agrarian Reform, or his
 19 duly authorized permanent representative;

20 ~~[(g)]~~ (f) The Secretary of Trade and Industry, or his
 21 duly authorized permanent representative;

22 ~~[(h)]~~ (g) The Secretary of Health, or his
 23 duly authorized permanent representative;

24 ~~[(i)]~~ (h) Three (3) representatives from the small
 25 farmers; ~~[and]~~

26 ~~[(j)]~~ (i) A representative each from the NGOs

1 involved in sustainable ORGANIC agriculture for at
 2 least three (3) years; THE agricultural colleges and
 3 universities; and THE private sector [~~or agribusiness~~
 4 ~~firms~~] IN THE ORGANIC VALUE CHAIN; [~~as~~
 5 ~~members.~~]

6 (j) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE
 7 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PGS GROUPS, TO
 8 BE CHOSEN FROM AMONG AND BY
 9 THEMSELVES: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE
 10 REPRESENTATIVE IS A SMALL FARMER;

11 (k) ONE (1) REPRESENTATIVE FROM A
 12 NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL
 13 GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS) ACTUALLY
 14 ENGAGED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE; AND

15 (L) ONE (1) QUALIFIED REPRESENTATIVE
 16 FROM THE INDIGENOUS ORGANIC FARMERS.

17 XXX

18 The representatives of small farmers and NGOs,
 19 and of agricultural colleges and universities, shall be
 20 chosen by the Secretaries of Agriculture and Science
 21 and Technology, respectively, from among nominees
 22 submitted to the agency concerned by their respective
 23 national organizations. These representatives must
 24 REPRESENT THEIR RESPECTIVE
 25 ORGANIZATIONS AT LEAST FROM THE
 26 PROVINCIAL LEVEL, ACTUALLY AND ACTIVELY

1 PRACTICING, PROMOTING ORGANIC AND OTHER
2 SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRACTICES, be
3 conversant in organic agriculture and committed to the
4 policies and programs provided under this Act. THE
5 THREE SEATS GIVEN TO SMALL FARMERS
6 SHALL BE CHOSEN FROM THE CROPS AND
7 LIVESTOCK SECTORS, WHICH WILL HAVE TWO
8 (2) SEATS AND ONE (1) SEAT RESPECTIVELY.

9 AN APPOINTED/ELECTED MEMBER OF THE
10 BOARD SHALL ONLY SERVE FOR A SINGLE
11 TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS, WITHOUT
12 REAPPOINTMENT. SHOULD THE MEMBER FAIL
13 TO COMPLETE HIS/HER TERM, THE
14 REPLACEMENT OR SUCCESSOR SHALL ONLY
15 SERVE THE UNEXPIRED PORTION OF THE
16 TERM.

17 XXX”

18 SEC. 5. Section 8 is hereby amended, to read as
19 follows:

20 “SEC. 8. *Organization of the NOAB.* –

21 XXX

22 The Chairperson shall call the members of the
23 NOAB, or a majority thereof if not all have been
24 designated, to a meeting to organize themselves and
25 prescribe its rules and procedures for the attainment
26 of the objectives of this Act. A majority of all the

1 members of the NOAB shall constitute a quorum.
2 THE NOAB SHALL MEET AT LEAST ONCE
3 EVERY QUARTER AFTER ITS CONSTITUTION.

4 XXX”

5 SEC. 6. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
6 hereby repealed and a new Section 10 is hereby inserted, to
7 read as follows:

8 “SEC. 10. NATIONAL ORGANIC
9 AGRICULTURE PROGRAM - NATIONAL
10 PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE (NOAP-
11 NPCO). - TO MANAGE THE EFFECTIVE
12 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC
13 AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, THE DA OFFICE OF
14 THE SECRETARY SHALL BE STRENGTHENED
15 AND EMPOWERED IN TERMS OF ESTABLISHING
16 A FUNCTIONAL OFFICE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE
17 NATIONAL ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PROGRAM -
18 NATIONAL PROGRAM COORDINATING OFFICE
19 (NOAP - NPCO). TO SERVE AS THE PLANNING
20 AND ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE
21 NOAB, AND AS THE COORDINATING OFFICE OF
22 THE PROGRAM.”

23 SEC. 7. Section 12 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
24 hereby renumbered as Section 11 of the Act and amended,
25 which shall read, as follows:

1 “SEC. [12] 11. *Work Plan.* – In line with the
2 National Organic Agriculture Program, the [BAFPS]
3 NOAP – NPCO shall submit to the Board for approval
4 the following:

5 XXX”

6 SEC. 8. Sections 10 and 11 of Republic Act No. 10068
7 are hereby repealed and a new Section 12 is hereby inserted,
8 to read as follows:

9 “SEC. 12. *BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE*
10 *AND FISHERIES STANDARDS (BAFS).* – THE
11 BAFS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
12 (DA) SHALL BE RESTRUCTURED,
13 STRENGTHENED AND EMPOWERED TO
14 SUPPORT THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT. IT
15 SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO
16 THE NOAB AND THE NOAP – NPCO. THE
17 BAFS, IN ADDITION TO ITS EXISTING
18 FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES, SHALL
19 PERFORM THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS,
20 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PURPOSES
21 OF THIS ACT:

22 1. FORMULATE AND UPDATE STANDARDS
23 RELEVANT TO ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;

24 2. ISSUE ACCREDITATION TO ORGANIC
25 CERTIFYING BODIES (OCBs);

1 3. CONDUCT INSPECTIONS ON
2 COMPLIANCE OF PGS GROUPS WITH
3 PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS ON
4 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, AND PUBLISH AT
5 LEAST ONCE A YEAR THE LIST OF COMPLIANT
6 PGS GROUPS;

7 4. ISSUE REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC
8 INPUTS, SUCH AS ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS
9 AND ORGANIC BIO-CONTROL AGENTS;

10 5. RULE ON THE APPEAL OF
11 FARM/FARMOWNER ON DECISIONS MADE BY
12 ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES ON INSPECTION
13 AND CERTIFICATION ISSUES; AND

14 6. PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS,
15 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AS MAY BE
16 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS ACT.”

17 SEC. 9. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
18 hereby renumbered as Section 13 of the Act and amended,
19 to read as follows:

20 “SEC. [15] 13. *Accreditation of Organic*
21 *Certifying Body.* – The [~~BAFPS~~] BAFS is hereby
22 designated and authorized to grant official
23 accreditation to AN organic certifying body or entity.
24 The [~~BAFPS~~] BAFS is tasked to formulate the
25 necessary rules and procedures in the accreditation of
26 organic certifying [~~body~~] BODIES PERFORMING

1 INCLUDING THIRD-PARTY CERTIFICATION, OR
2 GRANTING CERTIFICATION AS PART OF THE
3 PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE SYSTEM: *Provided,*
4 That there shall be at least one (1) accredited organic
5 certifying body, PERFORMING THIRD-PARTY
6 CERTIFICATION, each in Luzon, Visayas and
7 Mindanao or in case of only one (1) organic certifying
8 body PERFORMING THIRD-PARTY
9 CERTIFICATION is accredited, it shall have at least
10 one (1) satellite office or processing unit each in
11 Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.”

12 SEC. 10. A new Section 14 is hereby inserted after the
13 new Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10068, to read as
14 follows:

15 “SEC. 14. *PARTICIPATORY GUARANTEE*
16 *SYSTEMS (PGS).* –

17 A. *BASIC PRINCIPLES.* THE PGS SHALL
18 BE THE MECHANISM BY WHICH SMALL
19 FARMERS/FISHERFOLK, THEIR
20 FARMS/ASSOCIATIONS/COOPERATIVES SHALL
21 BE CERTIFIED AS ENGAGED IN ORGANIC
22 AGRICULTURE AND AS PRODUCERS OF
23 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS. THE
24 PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATION
25 FROM ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODIES,
26 ORGANIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT,

1 SHALL BE PROMOTED AND ACCEPTED. THE
2 PRODUCTS CERTIFIED THROUGH THE PGS
3 SHALL BE TRADED ONLY IN THE DOMESTIC
4 MARKET, UNLESS COVERED BY AN
5 INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION OR A MUTUAL
6 RECOGNITION AGREEMENT.

7 AN ASSOCIATION OR GROUP UNDER THE
8 PGS SHALL ADHERE TO THE PHILIPPINE
9 NATIONAL STANDARDS (PNS) FOR ORGANIC
10 AGRICULTURE.

11 FURTHER, ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS
12 UNDER THE PGS SHALL ADOPT THE
13 FOLLOWING FEATURES AND
14 CHARACTERISTICS:

15 i. EXISTENCE OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
16 NORMS CONCEIVED BY THE ORGANIC
17 AGRICULTURE STAKEHOLDERS, NORMS THAT
18 ARE APPROPRIATE TO SMALLHOLDER
19 AGRICULTURE;

20 ii. GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION: THE
21 PARTICIPATORY CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE
22 PERCEIVED AS A RESULT OF A SOCIAL
23 DYNAMIC, BASED ON THE ACTIVE
24 PARTICIPATION OF ALL STAKEHOLDERS;

25 iii. EXISTENCE OF PRINCIPLES AND VALUES
26 THAT ENHANCE THE LIVELIHOODS AND WELL-

1 BEING OF FARMING FAMILIES AND PROMOTE
2 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;

3 iv. DOCUMENTED MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS AND
4 PROCEDURES;

5 v. PROVISION OF MECHANISMS TO VERIFY
6 FARMER'S COMPLIANCE TO ESTABLISHED
7 NORMS;

8 vi. PROVISION OF MECHANISMS FOR
9 SUPPORTING FARMERS TO PRODUCE ORGANIC
10 PRODUCTS AND BE CERTIFIED AS ORGANIC
11 FARMERS, WHICH SHALL INCLUDE FIELD
12 ADVISORS, NEWSLETTERS, FARM VISITS, WEB
13 SITES, AMONG OTHERS;

14 vii. EXISTENCE OF A BOTTOM-LINE
15 DOCUMENT, SUCH AS A FARMER'S PLEDGE, THAT
16 SHALL STATE HIS/HER AGREEMENT TO THE
17 ESTABLISHED NORMS;

18 viii. INTRODUCTION OR USE OF SEALS OR
19 LABELS PROVIDING EVIDENCE OF ORGANIC
20 STATUS; AND

21 ix. EXISTENCE OF A CLEAR AND PREVIOUSLY
22 DEFINED SET OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND
23 MEASURES AGAINST FARMERS WHO FAIL TO
24 COMPLY WITH STANDARDS.

25 A. *LEGAL PERSONALITY.* THE CORE PGS
26 GROUP SHALL BE REGISTERED WITH THE

1 MUNICIPALITY/CITY WHERE THE PGS GROUP, OF
2 WHICH IT IS A PART OF, IS PREDOMINANTLY
3 LOCATED. IT SHALL SECURE A MAYOR'S PERMIT
4 FROM SAID MUNICIPALITY/CITY, POSSESSION OF
5 WHICH SHALL SUFFICE AS PROOF OF
6 REGISTRATION AND THE GRANT OF LEGAL
7 PERSONALITY, LIMITED TO PGS TRANSACTIONS.

8 A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL
9 GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS) ACTUALLY
10 ENGAGED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE SHALL
11 ALSO SECURE A LEGAL PERSONALITY FOR
12 PURPOSES OF ACCREDITATION BY BAFS.

13 ANY OTHER ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY
14 SHALL SECURE A MAYOR'S PERMIT FROM THE
15 MUNICIPALITY/CITY WHERE IT INTENDS TO
16 OPERATE AND POSSESSION OF WHICH SHALL
17 SUFFICE TO GRANT THEM LEGAL PERSONALITY
18 FOR PURPOSES OF ACCREDITATION BY BAFS.

19 B. *CERTIFICATION.* THE BAFS SHALL
20 PROVIDE THE GUIDELINES FOR THE
21 CERTIFICATION OF FARMS, PURSUANT TO THE
22 PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.

23 A FARM/FARMOWNER APPLYING FOR
24 CERTIFICATION AS AN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
25 PRACTITIONER SHALL JOIN A PGS GROUP IN THE
26 SAME MUNICIPALITY/CITY WHERE IT/HE IS

1 LOCATED, OR WITH A PGS GROUP IN A
2 MUNICIPALITY/CITY WITHIN THE SAME
3 PROVINCE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE FARM IS
4 CONTIGUOUS TO THE FARMS OF THE PGS GROUP
5 IN THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY.

6 THE FARM/FARMOWNER SHALL APPLY FOR A
7 PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATE WITH A
8 CORE PGS GROUP OF THE PGS GROUP WHERE
9 IT/HE BELONGS; OR WITH A NATIONAL
10 ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS
11 INITIATING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRACTICES,
12 A MEMBER OF WHICH IS THE
13 MUNICIPALITY/CITY WHERE THE PGS GROUP IS
14 LOCATED; OR WITH ANY PRIVATE GROUP OR
15 ORGANIZATION ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN
16 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND OPERATING IN
17 THAT MUNICIPALITY/CITY; ANY OF WHICH IS
18 ACCREDITED AS AN ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY.

19 THE DECISION OF ANY OF THE ABOVE-
20 MENTIONED OCBS SHALL BE APPEALABLE TO
21 THE BAFS: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE BAFS SHALL
22 RULE ON THE APPEAL WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS
23 FROM ITS RECEIPT. OTHERWISE, THE APPEALED
24 DECISION SHALL BE CONSIDERED REVERSED.

25 THE WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE
26 PGS GROUP SHALL MEAN FORFEITURE OF THE

1 PRIVILEGE FOR THE FARM/FARMOWNER TO USE
2 THE PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATE.

3 IN CASE A MEMBER OF THE CORE PGS
4 GROUP REPRESENTING A FARM APPLIES FOR
5 RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATION WITH THE SAME
6 CORE PGS GROUP, THE MEMBER OF THE CORE
7 PGS GROUP MUST INHIBIT HIMSELF BEFORE THE
8 APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL CAN BE
9 CONSIDERED.

10 C. ACCREDITATION. THE BAFS SHALL
11 PROVIDE THE GUIDELINES FOR ACCREDITATION.

12 A REGISTERED CORE PGS GROUP SHALL
13 APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION WITH THE BAFS. A
14 CORE PGS GROUP SHALL BE ACCORDED
15 ACCREDITATION BY THE BAFS ONLY IF IT HAS AT
16 LEAST FIVE (5) MEMBERS, COMING FROM
17 DIFFERENT FARMS IN THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY,
18 OR WITHIN TWO (2) ADJACENT MUNICIPALITIES
19 ACTUALLY PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.
20 THE BAFS SHALL EXTEND TECHNICAL AND
21 FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PGS IN ITS APPLICATION
22 FOR ACCREDITATION.

23 FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, THE BAFS
24 IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CERTIFY AT MOST
25 FIVE (5) INDIVIDUAL FARMS OF A PGS GROUP
26 WHOSE OWNERS OR REPRESENTATIVES WILL

1 THEN COMPOSE THE CORE PGS GROUP:
2 *PROVIDED*, THAT ONCE SUCH CORE PGS GROUP
3 HAS BEEN SUBSEQUENTLY ACCREDITED BY THE
4 BAFS, THE AUTHORITY OF THE BAFS TO CERTIFY
5 THE FARMS OF THE SAME CORE PGS GROUP
6 SHALL CEASE: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT THE
7 CERTIFICATION ISSUED BY BAFS SHALL
8 AUTOMATICALLY LAPSE AND BE DEEMED
9 REVOKED WHEN A FARMER CEASES TO BE A
10 MEMBER OF THE CORE PGS GROUP.

11 A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF LOCAL
12 GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS) ACTUALLY
13 INITIATING OR ENGAGED IN ORGANIC
14 AGRICULTURE; OR ANY PRIVATE GROUP OR
15 ORGANIZATION ACTUALLY ENGAGED IN ORGANIC
16 AGRICULTURE, AS DIRECT FARM PRODUCER, AS A
17 PROMOTER/ADVOCATE OF THE WAYS, METHODS
18 AND PRINCIPLES OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE, OR
19 AS A MARKETER OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
20 PRODUCE; MAY ALSO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION
21 AS AN ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY.

22 THE BAFS SHALL ISSUE ITS DECISION ON THE
23 APPLICATION FOR ACCREDITATION BY A CORE
24 PGS GROUP OR ANY QUALIFIED ENTITY
25 APPLYING FOR ACCREDITATION WITHIN SIXTY
26 (60) DAYS FROM THE SUBMISSION OF THE

1 COMPLETE REQUIREMENTS. FAILURE TO
2 RENDER DECISION WITHIN SUCH PERIOD SHALL
3 BE DEEMED AN APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION
4 FOR ACCREDITATION AS AN OCB. THE BAFS
5 SHALL NOT CHARGE ANY APPLICATION FEE.

6 E. ORGANIZATIONAL LEVELS.

7 1. *THE CORE PGS GROUP.* EVERY CORE PGS
8 GROUP SHOULD HAVE AT LEAST FIVE (5)
9 MEMBERS, COMPOSED OF FARMERS FROM A
10 COMBINATION OF BOTH THE CROPS AND
11 LIVESTOCK SECTORS. IT MAY ADD TO ITS
12 MEMBERSHIP FARMERS FROM OTHER SECTORS
13 IN AGRICULTURE, NON-GOVERNMENT
14 ORGANIZATIONS, PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATIONS,
15 BUYERS OF ORGANIC AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS,
16 SUPPLIERS OF ORGANIC INPUTS, AMONG
17 OTHERS, WHO ALL LIVE IN THE SAME
18 MUNICIPALITY, CITY OR WITHIN TWO (2)
19 ADJACENT MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN THE
20 PROVINCE AND REGULARLY INTERACT WITH
21 EACH OTHER.

22 EACH CORE PGS GROUP SHALL HAVE THE
23 FOLLOWING DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

24
25 i. DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE
26 ORGANIC STANDARDS;

- 1 ii. MAKE SURE FARM PRACTICES ARE
2 COMPLIANT;
- 3 iii. MAKE A PLEDGE THAT THEY UNDERSTAND
4 AND ADHERE TO THE ORGANIC STANDARDS;
- 5 iv. CONDUCT INSPECTION AND
6 CERTIFICATION ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER FARMS
7 IN THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY, OR IN THE
8 ADJACENT MUNICIPALITY/CITY, AS THE CASE
9 MAYBE. AT LEAST A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS
10 OF THE CORE PGS GROUP WHO JOINED IN THE
11 ACTUAL INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION
12 ACTIVITY SHOULD SIGN ON THE TRUTHFULNESS
13 OF THE FINDINGS OF THE INSPECTION AND
14 CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY;
- 15 v. RECOMMEND WHICH FARMS WILL BE
16 CERTIFIED;
- 17 vi. INITIATE KEY FIELD TRAININGS FOR
18 FARMER-MEMBERS AND RESIDENTS IN THEIR
19 LOCALITY TO PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;
- 20 vii. ATTEND MUNICIPAL/PROVINCIAL PGS
21 MEETINGS AND SHARE INFORMATION;
- 22 viii. TAKE ACTIONS ON DEFAULTS/NON-
23 COMPLIANCE AS PER SANCTION GUIDELINES TO
24 BE PROVIDED BY THE BAFS, ORGANIC
25 CERTIFYING BODIES AND MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS
26 GROUPS; AND

1 ix. ASSIST DEFAULTING AND NON-
2 COMPLIANT MEMBERS TO REGAIN
3 CERTIFICATION STATUS.

4 2. MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP. THE
5 MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP SHALL BE
6 COMPOSED OF THE FOLLOWING: 1) ONE (1)
7 REPRESENTATIVE FOR EACH CORE PGS GROUP IN
8 THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY, AND 2) ONE (1)
9 REPRESENTATIVE FROM A REGIONAL
10 AGRICULTURAL STATE UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE
11 (SUC) OR LOCAL PRIVATE AGRICULTURAL
12 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION: *PROVIDED*, THAT
13 THERE SHOULD BE AT LEAST TWO (2) CORE PGS
14 GROUPS IN THE MUNICIPALITY/CITY BEFORE A
15 MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP CAN BE
16 ESTABLISHED.

17 THE MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP SHALL
18 CONDUCT ITS BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS BASED ON
19 MAJORITY DECISION OF MEMBERS PRESENT,
20 AFTER HAVING SECURED A QUORUM.

21 THE MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP SHALL
22 HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS, DUTIES AND
23 RESPONSIBILITIES:

24 i. TOGETHER WITH THE BAFS, DEVELOP OR
25 UPDATE AND IMPLEMENT THE PARTICIPATORY
26 GUARANTEE SYSTEM, AS PROVIDED IN THIS ACT;

1 ii. ENSURE THAT COMPLIANT FARMER
2 MEMBERS CONTINUE TO COMPLY WITH ALL
3 REQUIREMENTS OF THE APPLICABLE
4 PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS (PNS) ON
5 ORGANIC AGRICULTURE AND RELEVANT
6 REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS;

7 iii. MAINTAIN A REGISTRY OF CORE PGS
8 GROUPS OPERATING WITHIN ITS AREA OF
9 JURISDICTION, WHICH SHALL BE FORWARDED
10 TO THE BAFS ON YEAR-END FOR THE LATTER'S
11 NATIONAL DATA BASE;

12 iv. TOGETHER WITH THE ORGANIC
13 CERTIFYING BODY INVOLVED IN THE
14 INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION ACTIVITY, AND
15 IN COORDINATION WITH THE BAFS, ISSUE
16 PARTICIPATORY ORGANIC CERTIFICATE AND
17 THE "PGS GUARANTEED ORGANIC" LABEL/MARK
18 TO COMPLIANT SMALL FARMER/FISHERFOLK
19 AND/OR THEIR FARM/ASSOCIATION/ COOPERATIVE;
20 AND

21 v. SUBMIT REGULARLY TO THE BAFS A LIST
22 OF CERTIFIED SMALL FARMER/FISHERFOLK
23 AND/OR THEIR FARM/ASSOCIATION/COOPERATIVES.

24 IN CASE A MUNICIPAL/CITY PGS GROUP HAS
25 YET TO BE ESTABLISHED, THE BAFS, IN
26 COORDINATION WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1 UNIT CONCERNED, SHALL ASSUME THE POWERS,
2 DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THIS GROUP.

3 3. *PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL PGS GROUP.*

4 IT SHALL BE THE OPTION OF THE PGS GROUPS
5 TO FORM THEIR AGGRUPATION AT THE
6 PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL LEVELS. THEY
7 SHALL RECEIVE THE FINANCIAL AND
8 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, SUPPORT AND
9 GUIDANCE OF THE DEPARTMENTS IN THE NOAB
10 AND THE DA-BAFS IN THIS REGARD. THE
11 PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS SHALL ENCOURAGE
12 AND SUPPORT THE FORMATION AND ACTIVITIES
13 OF THESE PGS GROUPS IN THE DIFFERENT
14 PROVINCES, CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES
15 WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION.

16 F. *PROMOTION.* THE NOAB SHALL ACTIVELY
17 PROMOTE, SEARCH AND RECOGNIZE
18 ASSOCIATIONS OR GROUPS THAT HAVE BEEN
19 PRACTICING ORGANIC AGRICULTURE THROUGH
20 THE PGS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS ACT. THE
21 NOAB SHALL ENSURE THAT EACH PROVINCE IN
22 THE COUNTRY HAS A PGS GROUP. EVERY PGS
23 GROUP SHALL CONDUCT TRAININGS AND
24 PROMOTE ORGANIC AGRICULTURE.

25 G. *TRAINING AND INSPECTION.* THE
26 AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (ATI)

1 SHALL, IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE
2 BAFS, MAKE AVAILABLE THE REQUIRED
3 TRAINING PROGRAM ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE
4 STANDARDS AND PROCESSES FOR PGS GROUPS
5 APPLYING FOR BAFS ACCREDITATION. THE BAFS
6 SHALL CONDUCT RANDOM INSPECTIONS TO
7 ENSURE THAT PGS GROUPS ARE ALL COMPLIANT
8 WITH THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL STANDARDS
9 ON ORGANIC AGRICULTURE. THE BAFS SHALL
10 KEEP A RECORD OF COMPLIANT PGS GROUPS IN
11 THE COUNTRY AND SHALL PUBLISH A LIST OF
12 SUCH COMPLIANCE AT LEAST ONCE A YEAR.

13 H. *INCENTIVES*. ANY SMALL FARMER/FISHERFOLK
14 OR THEIR FARMS/ASSOCIATIONS/COOPERATIVES
15 ENGAGED IN ORGANIC AGRICULTURE OR ANY
16 ORGANIC INPUT PRODUCER, CERTIFIED BY ITS
17 CORE PGS GROUP OR ANY ORGANIC CERTIFYING
18 BODY, ACCREDITED UNDER THIS SECTION, TO BE
19 COMPLIANT FOR A PERIOD OF 5 YEARS, WITHOUT
20 ANY OFFENSE OR INFRACTION, SHALL BE
21 ELIGIBLE FOR A FULL GOVERNMENT SUBSIDY
22 OF THE COST FOR AN INTERNATIONAL
23 CERTIFICATION FOR ONE (1) YEAR: *PROVIDED*,
24 THAT THEY SHALL EXPORT THEIR PRODUCTS.
25 FURTHER, SO LONG AS THE SAME ENTITIES
26 MAINTAIN THEIR STATUS OF COMPLIANCE, THEY

1 SHALL BE INVITED AND GIVEN, FOR FREE, PRIME
2 LOCATION IN ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY-
3 INITIATED OR SPONSORED TRADE AND
4 BUSINESS MARKETING GATHERING OF FILIPINO
5 PRODUCTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISPLAYING
6 AND SELLING THEIR OWN ORGANIC PRODUCTS.”

7 SEC. 11. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
8 hereby renumbered as Section 15.

9 SEC. 12. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
10 hereby amended and renumbered, to read as follows:

11 “SEC. [15] 16. *Local Executive [Committees]*
12 *CONCERNS.* – Every provincial governor shall,
13 insofar as practicable XXX

14 XXX

15 XXX

16 THE MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES ARE
17 HEREBY ENJOINED TO ENACT ORDINANCES
18 THAT SHALL PROTECT ORGANIC FARMING
19 ZONES AND ORGANIC FARMING PRACTICES.

20 XXX”.

21 SEC. 13. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
22 hereby repealed and replace it with a new Section 17, to read
23 as follows:

24 “SEC. 17. *REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC*
25 *PRODUCE AND INPUTS AND ORGANIC*
26 *PROCESSED FOOD.* – THE BAFS OF THE DA

1 SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
2 REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC INPUTS SUCH AS
3 ORGANIC SOIL AMENDMENTS AND ORGANIC
4 BIO-CONTROL AGENTS. THE BUREAU OF PLANT
5 INDUSTRY (BPI) OF THE DA SHALL BE
6 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF
7 ORGANIC SEEDS, PLANTING MATERIALS, AND
8 CROPS.

9 FURTHER, THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
10 (BAI) OF THE DA SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR
11 THE REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC BEES,
12 LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY AND ITS FEEDS. THE
13 BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC
14 RESOURCES (BFAR) OF THE DA SHALL BE
15 RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF
16 ORGANIC FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
17 RESOURCES AND ORGANIC AQUACULTURE
18 FEEDS.

19 THE BAFS, BPI, BAI, AND BFAR OF THE DA
20 SHALL COME UP WITH A SINGLE UNIFIED SET
21 OF RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE
22 REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PRODUCE AND
23 INPUTS.

24 THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
25 (FDA) OF THE DOH SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE
26 FOR THE PRODUCT REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC

1 PROCESSED FOOD. IT SHALL FORMULATE ITS
2 RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE
3 REGISTRATION OF ORGANIC PRE-PACKAGED
4 AND PROCESSED FOOD.”

5 SEC. 14. Section 17 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
6 hereby amended and renumbered, to read as follows:

7 “SEC. [17] 18. Labeling of Organic Produce. -
8 The label of organic produce shall contain the name,
9 logo or seal of the organic certifying body and the
10 accreditation number issued by the BAFPS. [~~Only~~
11 ~~third party certification is allowed to be labeled as~~
12 ~~organically produced.~~] THE ORGANIC LABEL/MARK
13 SHALL ALSO INCLUDE THE TRADE NAME, AS
14 DEFINED BY PERTINENT DOMESTIC PROPERTY
15 RIGHTS LAWS, AND THE ADDRESS OF ORIGIN
16 OF THE PRODUCE.

17 PRODUCTS WHICH ARE CERTIFIED AND
18 GUARANTEED BY THIRD-PARTY ORGANIC
19 PRODUCTION SYSTEMS, INCLUDING THOSE
20 WITH CERTIFICATION FROM THE PGS, SHALL
21 BE ALLOWED TO BE LABELLED AND SOLD AS
22 ORGANIC.”

23 SEC. 15. Section 18 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
24 hereby renumbered accordingly.

25 SEC. 16. Section 19 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
26 hereby repealed and a new section is inserted, to read as

1 follows:

2 "SEC. 20. MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND
3 TRADE PROMOTION. -

4 THE AGRIBUSINESS AND MARKETING
5 ASSISTANCE SERVICE OF THE DA, IN
6 COLLABORATION WITH OTHER RELEVANT
7 AGENCIES, SHALL DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT
8 MARKET DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE
9 PROMOTION PROGRAMS FOR ORGANIC
10 AGRICULTURE, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED
11 TO THE FOLLOWING:

12 1. DEVELOPMENT OF MARKETING AGENDA
13 FOR ORGANIC AGRICULTURE;

14 2. ESTABLISHMENT, ENSURING SUSTAIN-
15 ABILITY AND MONITORING OF ORGANIC TRADING
16 POSTS AND STALL/OUTLETS, PROVIDED THAT
17 THESE TRADING POSTS AND STALLS/OUTLETS
18 ARE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED IN AN AREA
19 SUCH AS IN THE PUBLIC MARKET AND IN
20 OTHER CENTERS OF TRADING AND LOCAL
21 BUSINESS ACTIVITIES;

22 3. DEVELOPMENT OF MARKET INFORMATION
23 SYSTEM;

24 4. PROMOTION OF ORGANIC FOOD, NON-FOOD
25 AND INPUT PRODUCTS; AND

26 5. FACILITATION OF MARKET MATCHING

1 ACTIVITIES.”

2 SEC. 17. Sections 20 to 24 of Republic Act No. 10068
3 are hereby renumbered accordingly.

4 SEC. 18. Section 25 of Republic Act No. 10068 is
5 hereby amended and renumbered, to read as follows:

6 “SEC. [25] 26. *Appropriation* – xxx

7 THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND
8 MANAGEMENT SHALL INCLUDE ANNUALLY IN
9 THE PRESIDENT’S PROGAM OF EXPENDITURE
10 FOR SUBMISSION TO AND APPROVAL BY
11 CONGRESS ONE BILLION PESOS
12 (P1,000,000,000.00) FOR THE PROMOTION AND
13 DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL ORGANIC
14 AGRICULTURE PROGRAM, ALLOCATED AS
15 FOLLOWS:

16 THIRTY FIVE PERCENT (35%) FOR SHARED
17 FACILITIES;

18 TWENTY FIVE PERCENT (25%) FOR SEEDS
19 DEVELOPMENT/PLANTING MATERIALS AND
20 ANIMALS DISTRIBUTION AND FEEDS FOR
21 AQUACULTURE, SOIL AMENDMENTS AND BIO
22 CONTROL AGENTS;

23 TWENTY PERCENT (20%) FOR EXTENSION
24 AND TRAINING;

25 FIVE PERCENT (5%) FOR SOCIALIZED
26 CREDIT;

1 FIVE PERCENT (5%) FOR SMALL SCALE
2 IRRIGATION SYSTEM;

3 FIVE PERCENT (5%) FOR RESEARCH AND
4 DEVELOPMENT; AND

5 FIVE PERCENT (5%) FOR MARKETING AND
6 PROMOTION.

7 XXX".

8 SEC. 19. Section 26 is hereby amended and
9 renumbered, to read as follows:

10 "SEC. [26] 27. *Penal Provisions AND OTHER*
11 *PENALTIES*. - Any person who willfully and
12 deliberately:

13 XXX

14 (c) mislabels or claims that the product is organic
15 when it is not in accordance with the existing standards
16 for Philippine organic agriculture or this Act shall, upon
17 conviction, be punished by imprisonment of not less
18 than one (1) month nor more than six (6) months, or a
19 fine of not more than Fifty thousand pesos
20 (P50,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court. If
21 the offender is a corporation or a juridical entity, the
22 official who ordered or allowed the commission of the
23 offense shall be punished with the same penalty. If the
24 offender is in the government service, he shall, in
25 addition, be dismissed from office: *PROVIDED, THAT*
26 *ANY ORGANIC CERTIFYING BODY FOUND TO*

1 HAVE ISSUED A CERTIFICATION TO A FARM OR
2 PRODUCER ESTABLISHED TO BE NOT
3 COMPLIANT WITH ANY OF THE PHILIPPINE
4 NATIONAL STANDARDS ON ORGANIC
5 AGRICULTURE OR WITH THE PROVISIONS OF
6 THIS ACT, SHALL BE PENALIZED BY THE BAFS
7 AS FOLLOWS:

8 1. FIRST OFFENSE. WRITTEN WARNING.

9 2. SECOND OFFENSE. SUSPENSION OF
10 ACCREDITATION.”

11 SEC. 20. Sections 27 to 32 are hereby renumbered
12 accordingly.

13 SEC. 21. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).*

14 – The NOAB shall adopt rules and regulations to implement
15 the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the
16 effectivity of this Act and submit the same to the
17 COCAF. In the drafting of the IRR, the Department of
18 Finance shall be consulted in connection with the tax
19 incentives provided under Section 24 of Republic Act No.
20 10068.

21 SEC. 22. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of
22 this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other
23 provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force
24 and effect.

25 SEC. 23. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential
26 decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules

1 and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent
2 with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

3 SEC. 24. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect
4 fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2)
5 newspapers of general circulation or in the *Official Gazette*.

Approved,