

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 626



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**Introduced by Hon. Fernando V. Gonzalez**

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to create a Carabao Center in the City of Ligao in the Province of Albay, amending for the purpose Republic Act No. 7307, entitled "An Act Creating The Philippine Carabao Center to Propagate And Promote The Philippine Carabao And For Other Purposes."

The said Law created thirteen Carabao Centers throughout the country but not one of them was located in the Bicol Region. It is hoped that with the enactment of this amendatory law, the Bicol Region shall be assured of the continued conservation, propagation, and promotion of the carabao or water buffalo as a source of milk and meat as well as draft animal power and hide to benefit its rural farmers.

For indeed, there's more to the water buffalo than just being a beast of burden. W. Ross Cockrill, author of "The Husbandry and Health of the Domestic Buffalo," said that in Brazil, buffaloes are credited for almost everything good.

An article in the newspaper Sun.Star Davao enumerated the benefits that can be derived from carabaos. For one, carabao milk is richer and creamier than goat and cow milk. It is also a most complete food because it contains protein, fat, lactose, vitamins and minerals and water. Its hide is useful too as it can be cooked into chicharon, kare-kare, and can be a favorite pulutan when its softened thin slices are spiced heavily with ginger, onion, and red pepper. The carabao also offers big opportunities for the meat industry and the current demand for carabeef is due to recent studies which show that buffaloes are the better source of quality meat than cattle. Carabao manure is a good organic fertilizer and fuel source and when mixed with clay, serves as a building material or as plaster.

And of course there is the carabao's famed strength as it pulls, plows, harrows, and carts with loads of several tons, forging through mud up to its belly - living up to its name as the farmer's best friend.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

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**AN ACT**  
**CREATING A CARABAO CENTER IN THE CITY OF LIGAO IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7307, ENTITLED "AN ACT CREATING THE PHILIPPINE CARABAO CENTER TO PROPAGATE AND PROMOTE THE PHILIPPINE CARABAO AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."**

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

**SECTION 1.** The third paragraph of Section 12 of Republic Act No. 7307 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 12. Implementation and Coordination of the Program - The PCC Advisory Board through the Executive Director shall coordinate, monitor and evaluate the *implementation of the carabao program.*

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"Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao shall [initially] have A total of [thirteen (13)] **FOURTEEN (14)** carabao centers. The Centers in Luzon shall be located at U.P. Los Banos (UPLB) in Laguna, **CITY OF LIGAO IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBAY**, Central Luzon State University (CLSU) in Nueva Ecija, Cagayan State University (CSU) in Cagayan, Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University (DMMMSU) in La Union."

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**SEC. 2. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, presidential issuances and other administrative rules and regulations or parts thereof which are



inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 3. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long vertical stroke, positioned to the right of the word "Approved,".