Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2617

Introduced by: REP. ANTONIO T. ALBANO and
REP. RODOLFO B. ALBANO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to unify, coordinate, fund, implement, and strengthen all corn research and development (R&D) as well as manpower training and extension of technologies on corn and corn-based farming systems for the production of more food, feeds, forage, industrial materials, and bioenergy purposes, including those subsequent (or rotation) crops that are grown after rice in rainfed farms and in dryland and marginal upland farms in the country through the establishment of a national agency – the Philippine Corn Research Institute or Philcorn.

To ensure the country’s food, feeds, forage, and bioenergy security, it is imperative to develop a modern, highly productive,
efficient and competitive agriculture sector. A comprehensive program to modernize and industrialize corn production is integral to the realization of the vision for a modern, highly productive, efficient and competitive agriculture sector. It would also immensely contribute to improving and expanding employment and livelihood opportunities and thus, reduce poverty and hunger, particularly in the rural areas. Identifying target areas and considering the vulnerable upland and dryland agro-ecosystems where many of the resource-poor farmers, particularly the corn farmers, grow their food and feed crops, including poultry and livestock is imperative toward these ends.

Corn is the second most important national food crop next to rice. It is the staple food of 20 percent (20%) of the Philippine population. It is also the main component of up to 75% of formulated feeds for livestock, poultry, and aquaculture fishery. Corn is grown mainly in rainfed farms after rice is harvested, and in upland and dryland farms, including steep hillsides, in over 2.5 million hectares, mostly in Mindanao, Cagayan Valley, Ilocos Region, Central Luzon, Central Visayas, and Palawan.

The current national grain yield in various ecological regions is still low, ranging from 0.5 to 2.5 tons per hectare in resource-poor areas. That yields can be as high as 6 to 10 tons for hybrid corn varieties in a few favorable farm environments encourage confidence that there are bright prospects in further increasing corn yields in other farm sites.

The country needs to improve the overall productivity to achieve self-sufficiency, to stabilize food security and nutrition
among our rural population and to increase farm incomes.

The demand for both white corn as human food and yellow corn as animal feeds and for industrial uses have been increasing rapidly because of the high demand of our growing human population, the expanding livestock and poultry industries, and the rapid growth of the emerging industrial and bioenergy program (RA 9367, The Biofuels Act of 2006) designed to augment imports of fossil-based fuel as energy source. Thus, targeting the export markets over the medium- and long-term view is also a viable prospect.

Low crop yields and household income of majority of corn farmers in the rainfed, upland, and dryland farms are still far below those obtained in experiment stations because of the following factors and situations:

1. Limited access of farmers to and adoption of genetically improved seeds;

2. Inadequate information and use of integrated nutrient and pest management systems;

3. Slow adoption of crop rotation technologies;

4. Ineffective drought mitigation approaches;

5. Inadequate mechanization of field operations from land preparation to harvesting and drying;

6. Large portions of the corn-growing areas are hilly land with highly variable soil fertility; and

7. Many farms are prone to drought due to erratic rainfall pattern and therefore irrigation facilities should be installed.
Of the major crops other than rice that support the national economy, corn and corn-based farming systems (including crops planted after corn such as grain legumes) are the most neglected in research support with an allocation of less than 0.05 percent of the gross value added (GVA) compared to rice at 0.25 percent, coconut at 0.30 percent, and sugarcane at 0.5 percent.

The Philippines has more than three million hectares of upland and dryland areas inhabited by about five million households, most of whom are very poor especially those in Southern Mindanao, Central and Eastern Visayas, parts of Western Luzon, Palawan, and the Bicol Region.

Recurrent droughts and typhoons, environmental degradation due to short-duration and erratic rainfall, recurring El Nino and climate change phenomenon, soil infertility and inaccessibility of high quality crop seeds aggravate the low productivity and untold hardships of poor corn farming communities.

The millions of degraded lands and infertile soils in the upland and dryland areas without irrigation facilities, however, comprise an untapped potential resource for the growing of drought-tolerant corn and corn-based cropping systems such as, for example, sorghum and grain legumes for food and feeds. However, when properly managed, these crops will help ensure household food security and sustainable farm productivity.

In the Philippines, there are well established research institutes devoted to major crops and disciplines such as: rice, coconut, sugarcane, fiber and abaca, cotton, silkworm, tobacco,
root crops, biotechnology, plant breeding, crop protection, farming systems, irrigation, carabao, dairy, fishery, hogs, farm mechanization and post harvest, and other strategic commodities and disciplines.

**There is no similar research institute for corn and corn-based farming systems** that includes crops such as sorghum and grain legumes that are important as food, feed, forage, and fuel.

**It is imperative to establish the Philippine Corn Research Institute (PhilCorn) now!**

Globalization and climate change require that the country continuously develops cutting-edge technology and agricultural innovations that enable corn farmers to increase their income by increasing the productivity and quality of their produce through modern farm planting, harvesting, processing, and packaging systems and techniques for both the domestic and global markets.

The proposed modern agricultural research and extension institute for corn – The **Philippine Corn Research Institute (PhilCorn)** is a strategically imperative step toward achieving these ends because it is designed to:

1. Unify, coordinate, fund, implement, and strengthen all national and farm-level efforts on Research & Development, Extension (RDE) for corn and corn-based farming systems for food, feeds, forage, and fuel; □

2. Hasten technology sharing activities that will improve the livelihood of resource-poor farming communities and empower them to cope up with low yields owing to frequent occurrences of drought, warming temperatures, land degradation, and other risks arising
from environmental calamities and climate changes;

3. Ensure adequate and stable supply of quality corn products for domestic and foreign markets, and

3. Improve the economic condition and income of farmers in the upland and dryland regions of the country.

That our province, Isabela, is one of the major corn producing provinces in the country, and the Isabela State University (ISU) is the proposed primary site of the Institute further underscores the paramount significance of this bill to our constituents and to the advancement of our development efforts in the farming sector in our province.

In view of the foregoing, and in order to improve farm incomes, expand opportunities for employment and livelihood particularly in the rural areas, and ensure national food sufficiency and security, the immediate approval of this bill is imperative.

[Signatures]

REP. ANTONIO T. ALBANO

REP. RODOLFO B. ALBANO
Republic of the Philippines

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HOUSE BILL NO. 2617

Introduced by REP. ANTONIO T. ALBANO and
REP. RODOLFO B. ALBANO

AN ACT ESTABLISHING
THE PHILIPPINE CORN RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

3 SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the
4 Philippine Corn Research Institute Act.

5 SECTION 2. Philippine Corn Research Institute. - The
6 Philippine Corn Research Institute, hereinafter referred to as
7 PhilCorn, is hereby established as a body corporate attached to the
8 Department of Agriculture (DA) in order to modernize the corn
9 industry and consequently, to expand livelihood opportunities and
10 increase the income of resource-poor corn farmers in the rainfed,
upland, and dryland farming communities, and to equip with and
enable farmers to use and harness appropriate science and
technologies to effectively address problems of low yields and other
farm concerns brought about by droughts, floods, land
degradation, global warming, and other risks arising from
environmental and climate changes.

**SEC. 3. Objectives** - The objectives and goals of this Act are
as follows:

a) To develop and implement a dynamic, innovative, farmer-
centered and need-based national corn research and development,
technology sharing, training, and extension programs;

b) To strengthen and expand the national capabilities and
knowledge for corn research and extension, modernize production,
utilization and industrial processing of corn and corn-based crops,
diversify harvests through sequential crops to sustain soil health
and fertility and enhance long-term higher farm productivity and
income;

c) To improve and expand livelihood opportunities of
resource-poor and small-scale farmers who are growing corn after
rainfed rice as well as in upland and dryland farming ecosystems;

d) To work closely with regulatory agencies such as the BPI
(i.e. National Seed Quality Control Laboratory, NSQCL; Quarantine
Division, and National Seed Industry Council, NSIC), Bureau of
Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS), and relevant private
stakeholders (i.e. PhilMaize) and NGOs in the collection,
conservation, and utilization of endemic or traditional corn varieties
as well as in the experimentation, planting, and monitoring of corn
hybrid and genetically engineered varieties;

e) To develop and implement sustainable and environment-
friendly corn and corn-based farming systems in the vulnerable
and marginal areas like sloping terrains and evaluate those areas
where crops other than corn may be more appropriate to grow;

f) To gather and provide up-to-date and reliable data to guide
policy makers with regard to, among others, corn improvement and
development, import and export volumes, and develop strong
linkages among stakeholders in promoting the national corn
industry;

g) To expand employment opportunities through corn and
corn-based farming systems in the rural areas, and ultimately
promote the general welfare of the people through higher efficiency
and profitability in production, industrial products development,
processing, and marketing;

h) To initiate and undertake such other related programs in
partnership with the DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research (DA-
BAR), the DA regional research centers (DA-RIARCs), the Philippine
Council for Agriculture, Aquatic Resources, Forestry, and Natural
Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), State Colleges
and Universities (SCUs), and the private sector.

SEC. 4. Principal and Regional Offices. - The PhilCorn
shall have its principal office at the Isabela State University.
It may also establish other offices, branches, satellite offices, or subsidiaries in any geographically suitable region in the Philippines that are major producers of corn and as may be necessary or proper for the accomplishment of its purposes and objectives.

**SEC. 5. Duties and Functions.** - The PhilCorn shall exercise the following duties and functions:

a) Unify, plan, fund, conduct, monitor, and evaluate corn research, development, and technology promotion in different scientific and technological fields and programs, including but not limited to the following:

1. germplasm collection, conservation, breeding, and biotechnology;
2. natural resources management, watershed conservation, drought adaptation and mitigation;
3. corn engineering, farm mechanization, and postharvest management;
4. pest surveillance, early warning system, integrated pest management, and biological control methods;
5. socio-economics, impact assessment, and policy advocacy;
6. technology packaging and demonstration, promotion and deployment, training and communication;
(7) processing and industrial-chemical products development; and

(8) corn-based farming systems, farm management improvement, and experiment station development.

b) Unify, lead, fund, and coordinate a national network of corn and corn-based farming systems research and extension agencies, centers, and stations located in the different agro-ecological regions of the country where corn is a major crop;

c) Develop technologies suitable for the rainfed, upland, and dryland agro-ecosystems that will maximize the productivity and quality of locally grown corn and corn-based crops while also reducing production costs and ensuring long-term and sustainable corn and corn-based production systems through genetic improvement and environmental resources and conservation measures;

d) Enhance income of corn farmers by developing suitable corn-based crops and livestock farming systems as well as crop rotations where applicable; value-adding corn technologies including on-farm verification, processing, packaging, marketing, and promotion of economically viable technologies as well as entrepreneurial skills, giving emphasis on those aspects necessary for group endeavors of small-scale farmers, cooperatives, and seed growers;

e) Develop databases needed in the identification and preparation of necessary policy recommendations towards efficient, highly productive and competitive corn industry and corn-based
f) Organize and develop strong training and communication programs for corn and corn-based farming systems scientists, research managers, and extension specialists to enable them undertake effective and timely technology promotion of packaged technologies among clusters of farmers and corporate growers by utilizing modern extension systems such as information, education, and communication (IEC) technology and participatory social mobilization procedures;

g) Publish and disseminate research and extension findings and recommendations through scientific journals, books, technical and extension bulletins, videos, and other print and communication channels.

SEC. 6. **Corporate Powers.** - The PhilCorn shall exercise the following corporate powers:

a) Exercise all the powers of a corporation under the general corporation law, in so far as such powers are not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act;

b) Enter into, make and execute lawful contracts and agreements of any kind or nature, and to sue and be sued in its corporate name;

c) Obtain loans from all sources, whether local or foreign and whether government or private, in accordance with existing laws and regulations, to help finance its research programs and its
capital and operating expenditures, or provide support to farmer
entrepreneurial activities;

d) Invest in, purchase or otherwise acquire, own, lease,
mortgage, pledge, sell, assign, convey, exchange, encumber,
borrow, or otherwise engage in lawful transactions involving real
and personal properties of whatever kind and nature, or any
interest therein, including shares of stock, bonds, notes, securities,
and other evidences of indebtedness of natural or juridical persons,
whether domestic or foreign and whether government or private;

e) Receive and acquire, in accordance with law and
regulations, from any person, government and private entity,
whether foreign or domestic, or from any corporation, partnership,
association or other entity such characters, licenses, franchises,
rights, privileges, concessions, assistance, grants, donations, loans,
and contributions consisting of such properties, real or personal,
including funds and valuable effects, as may be useful, necessary
or proper to finance its research, capital and operating
expenditures or otherwise carry out its purposes and objectives,
and to administer the same in accordance with the terms and
agreement consistent with its purposes and objectives; and

f) Acquire from the government, whether national or local or
from any person, corporation, partnership, association or other
entity, such characters, franchises, rights, privileges, assistance,
financial or otherwise and concessions as may be conducive to and
necessary or proper for the attainment of the purposes and
objectives of PhilCorn.
SEC. 7. Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees, hereinafter referred to as the Board, shall exercise all the corporate functions and powers of the PhilCorn and shall control and supervise all the activities, transactions and properties of the Institute.

The Board shall be composed of the Secretary of Agriculture or his designate as ex-officio Chairperson and ten (10) members from the following agencies and sectors:

a) Executive Director of the Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquaculture, Forestry, and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) who will act as Co-Chairperson;

b) Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Research (BAR) who will act as Vice-Chairperson;

c) Undersecretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM);

d) Director of the Agriculture Division of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA);

e) two (2) University Presidents from the State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) representing major corn producing and corn-based agriculture regions;

f) two (2) private sector representatives from among the national outstanding corn farmers, farmers’ organizations or federations (Philippine Maize Federations, Inc.), private companies engaged in corn research and seed production, and the
livestock/poultry industry; and
g) two (2) distinguished scientists from the public and
private sectors.

The credentials of private sector representatives shall be
evaluated and scrutinized by competent members of the Board.

b) The term of office of the members of the Board who are
heads or officials from their respective agencies or institutions shall
be co-terminus with their respective appointments; Provided,
however, That the term of office of the private sector representatives
shall be for four (4) years without prejudice to a reappointment for
another four (4) years based on merits and excellent performance in
the Board. The PhilCorn Executive Director shall serve as Secretary
of the Board. All government officials in the Board shall serve as ex-
officio members and shall receive only per diems or every meeting
attended but not any fixed salary or compensation.

c) The Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and
members of the Board shall receive per diem, as the Board may
determine, for each Board meeting actually attended; Provided,
however, That such members shall also be entitled to reimbursable
transportation and representation allowances in going to and
coming from board meetings and in transacting official business for
the Institute.

d) The Board shall meet regularly at least once (1) every two
months or as often as the exigencies of the service demands. The
presence of the Chairperson, Co-Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson
and at least seven (7) members of the Board shall constitute a
quorum and the majority vote of the members present, there being
a quorum, shall be necessary for the adoption of any resolution,
rule, regulation, decision or any other act of the Board.

SEC. 8. Powers and Functions of the Board. - The PhilCorn
Board shall exercise the following powers and functions:

a) Adopt its by-laws and promulgate policies, rules,
regulations, and procedures for the efficient and effective
operations of the Institute;

b) To define and guide in the formulation of the vision,
mission, strategy, and research-extension priorities, general plans
and programs, and guidelines for the proper operation and
management of the PhilCorn in accordance with its purposes and
objectives and in line with research planning and monitoring
policies and procedures of PCAARRD and BAR;

c) To approve the PhilCorn’s organizational structure and
staffing pattern, operation and capital expenditures, and financial
budget prepared in accordance with its corporate plans;

d) To approve the plantilla and salary ranges, benefits,
privileges, bonuses, scholarship and manpower development,
housing facilities and support to staff as warranted by job
conditions, and other terms and conditions of service, including
promotion systems, medical insurance and retirement benefit
systems and such other lawful benefits for all officers and
employees of the PhilCorn, upon recommendation of the Executive
Director;
e) To appoint, promote, transfer, suspend, remove or otherwise discipline any subordinate officer or employee of the Institute, upon recommendation of the Executive Director;

f) To create committees and appoint the members thereof, as may be necessary and proper for the effective management of the PhilCorn and for the attainment of its purposes and objectives; and

g) To exercise such other powers and functions and perform such other acts as may be necessary or proper for the attainment of the purposes and objectives of the PhilCorn, or as may be delegated by the Secretary of Agriculture or any competent authority through the Board of Trustees.

SEC. 9. Executive Director and Other Officers. - The PhilCorn shall be headed by an Executive Director who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines, upon recommendation of the Board of the Trustees (BOT), based on the findings and recommendations of a Search Committee duly organized and commissioned by the Board for such purpose.

a) The Executive Director shall serve for a term of four (4) years, subject to a one term extension of four (4) years for meritorious performance, or a maximum total of eight (8) years without further extension; Provided, however, That there shall be a reserved plantilla position of the same salary rate for the outgoing Executive Director, if he is previously a holder of a plantilla position at PhilCorn and shall not yet be of retirement age at the end of his term as Executive Director; Provided, further, That the Board of
Trustees, through a *Search Committee* duly organized at least four (4) months earlier, shall have chosen a new Executive Director who shall immediately assume office during a turn-over ceremony on the expiration date of the term of office of the outgoing Executive Director; and *Provided*, finally, that no *Officer-in-Charge* shall be designated as head of the Institute.

b) The Executive Director shall be assisted by two (2) Deputy Executive Directors, Division Heads, and Branch Station Directors or Managers as the Board may determine, to carry out the purposes and objectives of the PhilCorn.

**SEC. 10. Powers, Functions, and Duties of the Executive Director.** - The Executive Director shall be directly responsible to the Board and shall have the following powers, functions, and duties:

a) To establish a clear vision, map out the mission, provide strategic direction, and undertake systematic supervision over the planning and implementation of all research, development, technology sharing programs, training and extension, upgrading of scientists and staff of the Institute and, in general, administer and direct the management and operation in a transparent and accountable administration of the PhilCorn;

b) To enter into all contracts, incur obligations, acquire and dispose of assets, and deliver documents on behalf of the PhilCorn within the parameters of the authority delegated by the Board through an appropriate Board Resolution, and upon prior approval by the Chairman of the Board;
c) To implement and enforce policies, decisions, orders, rules, and regulations that are promulgated by the Board;

d) To arrange for the conduct of an External Program and Management Review (EPMR) by a Panel of Experts every four (4) years or as often as may be necessary in order to assess the outputs and understand the impact of PhilCorn programs on corn production and on the farmers and stakeholders of the corn industry, and to provide guidance to management in charting directions for future researches and programs of the institute; and

e) To exercise such other powers and perform such other duties and functions as may be authorized, assigned, or delegated by the Board.

SEC. 11. Technical Advisory Committee. - A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), organized and approved by the Board, shall assist the Executive Director, Division heads, Program Directors, and Branch Station Directors or Managers in pursuing inter-agency activities and participation of the national RD&E network.

The TAC shall be composed of not more than nine (9) members designated by the Board from among the heads, representatives, or scientists and experts of agencies, government or private, that are actively involved in any critical aspect of corn research, corn-based farming systems, seed quality certification, training and extension, production and processing, marketing and consumption, policy advocacy, and capacity building. TAC
members may be assigned to assist specific programs, divisions, or branch stations as the services may require in achieving the goals of PhilCorn.

**SEC. 12. Services of Other Government Personnel.** - The PhilCorn may, for the purpose of its research, development, training, and extension activities, obtain and secure the services of scholars and scientists as well as specialists in research, training, extension, and communication of any unit, experiment station, institute or center of the Department of Agriculture, University of Southern Mindanao, Central Mindanao University, Visayan State University, University of the Philippines Los Banos, Mariano Marcos State University, Isabela State University, Central Luzon State University, and other agencies and universities of the national government and foreign institutions.

Those personnel of national and international reputations, from public or private institutions, shall be designated as visiting scientists and research fellows for a term of one year to five years to assist in conducting major research problems of strategic importance and consequences in pursuing the goals and objectives of the Institute. The selected personnel may be paid such honoraria or incentives acceptable to all concerned and as may be fixed and authorized by the Board.

**SEC. 13. Buildings, Facilities, and Equipment.** - The PhilCorn is hereby authorized to own, acquire, borrow, lease, plan, and construct or repair buildings, laboratories, experimental farms, and other facilities as may be necessary or proper to attain its purposes and objectives. It may also utilize facilities of any unit of
any cooperating SUC, the Department of Agriculture, and of the
national government that is engaged, directly or indirectly, in
activities that relate to agriculture, farming systems, corn
production or products development of the corn industry.

The PhilCorn is further authorized to purchase equipment,
materials and articles, either locally or abroad, as may be
necessary or proper to carry out its powers and functions and
attain its purposes and objectives.

It shall be exempted from the payment of any and all forms of
taxes, duties, fees and charges on any and all such importation of
equipment, materials, articles, and services; Provided, however,
That the same are not available locally on favorable terms.

The PhilCorn shall be authorized to expropriate lands for corn
and corn-based farming systems research and development
purposes provided that just compensation is paid to the owners of
the land. If the land belongs to the government or is inalienable,
the Institute is granted automatic title to the land.

Likewise, all lands, farms, plantations, whether directly or
indirectly owned, used, utilized or administered by the PhilCorn
and those that it may hereinafter acquire or utilize for research,
training, extension and technology demonstration, and seed
production purposes shall be exempted from the coverage of the
Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law.

SEC. 14. Appropriation. - The Secretary of Agriculture and
the Secretary of Budget and Management are hereby authorized
and directed to set aside out of the existing funds of the
Department of Agriculture the amount of Four Hundred Million Pesos (P400M) as the initial fund of the PhilCorn for CY 2019 to be used for its initial operations, including provisions for salary of personnel, conduct of research and technology promotion, construction of laboratories and other physical infrastructures, purchase and development of experimental farms, and acquisition and purchase of equipment for laboratories, farm development, and offices. This initial amount shall be drawn from the DA National Corn Program, BAR appropriations for research, RP-Japan Fertilizer Grant (KR-2), Public Law PL 480 (PL480), and/or any other existing bilateral funding sources in the Department of Agriculture. Thereafter, the government contribution to the Institute's operations shall be provided for under its own Key Budgetary Inclusion (KBI) in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

Furthermore, the PhilCorn Board of Trustees may seek and receive financial support from foreign donors such as Japan International Japan Agency (JICA), Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and similar institutions for the establishment and improvement of PhilCorn infrastructures, laboratory facilities, field experiment station development, and training and scholarship of qualified personnel.

The annual appropriations herein provided shall be subject to the fiscal control and management procedures provided for in Executive Order 714 of 1981.
SEC. 15. Use of Funds, Savings, Income and Grants. - All funds, savings, grants, and income of the PhilCorn shall constitute a revolving fund, to be managed as Trust Fund, and shall be considered part of the funds automatically released to the PhilCorn.

SEC. 16. Applicability of Civil Service Laws. - The PhilCorn and its officers and employees shall be subject to the Civil Service Law, rules and regulations; Provided, however, That all technical personnel shall be selected on the basis of the highest standards of merit and fitness for public officials and employees, preferably those with postgraduate degrees, to be determined in accordance with such policies and guidelines as may be approved by the Board.

SEC. 17. Auditor. - The Chairperson of the Commission on Audit (COA) shall be the Ex-Officio Auditor of the PhilCorn. For this purpose, he may appoint a representative who shall be the auditor of the PhilCorn, together with the necessary personnel to assist the COA representative in the performance of his duties.

SEC. 18. Legal Counsel. - The Government Corporate Counsel shall be the Legal Counsel of the PhilCorn; Provided, however, That the PhilCorn may establish its own legal unit, subject to the supervision and control of the Government Corporate Counsel, to handle the day-to-day legal matters affecting the affairs of the PhilCorn.

SEC. 19. Annual Report. - The Board shall submit to the President of the Philippines through the Secretary of Agriculture an
annual report, together with the audit report on the relevant accounts, generally dealing with the activities and operations of the PhilCorn.

SEC. 20. Separability Clause. - The provisions of this Act are hereby declared separable. If any portion hereof shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the other provisions, which shall remain in full force and effect in their entirety.

Sec. 21. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in any national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,