

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1237

Submitted by the Committees on Science and Technology and Appropriations on
September 20, 2021

Re: House Bill No. **10251**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bill Numbered 1100, 1464, 3056, 3885, 4572, 6409 and 7767

Sponsors: Representatives Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado, Eric Yap, and Ron Salo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committees on Science and Technology and Appropriations to which were referred the following measures:

House Bill No. 1100 introduced by Rep. Salo, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO PROVINCIAL AND TECHNOLOGY
OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR”**

House Bill No. 1464 introduced by Rep. Yu, entitled:

**“AN ACT
UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY OFFICER INTO THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE
DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 3056 introduced by Rep. Babasa, entitled:

**“AN ACT
UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY OFFICER INTO THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY AND AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959,**

APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

House Bill No. 3885 introduced by Rep. Umali, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959 AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

House Bill No. 4572 introduced by Rep. Rodriguez, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 6409 introduced by Rep. Acop, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”**

and House Bill No. 7767 introduced by Rep. Tambunting, entitled:

**“AN ACT
UPGRADING THE POSITION OF THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICER INTO THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY DIRECTOR IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFORE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES ”**

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 10251, entitled:

**“AN ACT
CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959”**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1100, 1464, 3056, 3885, 4572, 6409 and 7767 with Reps. Ron Salo, Divina Grace C. Yu, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Rufus B. Rodriguez Jr., Resurrecion M. Acop, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado, Faustino “Inno” A. Dy V, Domingo C. Rivera, Francis Gerald A. Abaya,

Carlito S. Marquez, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, and Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Pablo John F. Garcia, Weslie T. Gatchalian, Strike B. Revilla, Tyrone D. Agabas, Ria Christina G. Fariñas, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Luisa LlorenCuaresma, Paul Ruiz Daza, Michael John R. Duavit, Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I, Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Greg G. Gasataya, Ed Christopher S. Go, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Romeo M. Jalosjos, Jr., Jocelyn SyLimkaichong, Francisco Jose "Bingo" F. Matugas II, CPA,CESO,LLB, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Horacio P. Suansing, Jr., David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Juliette T. Uy, Alfred Vargas, Micaela S. Violago, Way Kurat Zamora, Angelo Marcos Barba, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Narciso R. Bravo, Fernando T. Cabredo, Wilfredo "Willy" S. Caminero, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, France L. Castro, Angelica Natasha Co, Sergio C. Dagooc, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Alfred C. Delos Santos, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan "Aldu" R. Dujali, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Gerardo "Gerryboy" J. Espina, Jr., Eduardo "Eddie" R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, M.D., Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Hector S. Sanchez, Lorna C. Silverio, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., John Reynald M. Tiangco, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara, Jake Vincent S. Villa, Sarah I. Elago, Mark O. Go, Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran and Edgar Mary S. Sarmientoas authors thereof.

Respectfully yours,



HON. ERIC D. YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations

HON. ERICO ARISTOTLE C. AUMENTADO
Chairperson
Committee on Science and Technology

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10251

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 100, 1464, 3056, 3885, 4572, 6409 AND 7767)

Introduced by Representatives Reps. Ron P. Salo, Divina Grace C. Yu, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Rufus B. Rodriguez Jr., Resurrecion M. Acop, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado, Faustino "Inno" A. Dy V, Domingo C. Rivera, Francis Gerald A. Abaya, Carlito S. Marquez, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., Manuel Jose "Mannix" M. Dalipe, Rose Marie "Baby" J. Arenas, Pablo John F. Garcia, Weslie T. Gatchalian, Strike B. Revilla, Tyrone D. Agabas, Ria Christina G. Fariñas, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Elenita Milagros "Eileen" Ermita-Buhain, Lorna P. Bautista-Bandigan, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Luisa LlorenCuaresma, Paul Ruiz Daza, Michael John R. Duavit, Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I, Vincent Franco "Duke" D. Frasco, Jose Enrique "Joet" S. Garcia III, Greg G. Gasataya, Ed Christopher S. Go, Sandro L. Gonzalez, Romeo M. Jalosjos, Jr., Jocelyn SyLimkaichong, Francisco Jose "Bingo" F. Matugas II, CPA,CESO,LLB, Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Horacio P. Suansing, Jr., David "Jay-Jay" C. Suarez, "Kuya" Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Jose "Pingping" I. Tejada, Juliette T. Uy, Alfred Vargas, Micaela S. Violago, Way Kurat Zamora, Angelo Marcos Barba, Jose Francisco "Kiko" B. Benitez, Ph.D., Joseph Sto. Niño B. Bernos, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Narciso R. Bravo, Fernando T. Cabredo, Wilfredo "Willy" S. Caminero, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, France L. Castro, Angelica Natasha Co, Sergio C. Dagooc, Maximo Y. Dalog, Jr., Alfred C. Delos Santos, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan "Aldu" R. Dujali, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Gerardo "Gerryboy" J. Espina, Jr., Eduardo "Eddie" R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, M.D., Ma. Lucille L. Nava, M.D., Emmarie "Lolypop" Ouano-Dizon, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Janice Z. Salimbangon, Hector S. Sanchez, Lorna C. Silverio, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D., John Reynald M. Tiangco, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Rosanna "Ria" V. Vergara, Jake Vincent S. Villa, Sarah I. Elago, Mark O. Go, Florida "Rida" P. Robes, Princess Rihan M. Sakaluran and Edgar Mary S. Sarmiento.

"AN ACT

**CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO
THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title.-This Act shall be known as the “*Provincial Science and Technology Office Act.*”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy and duty of the State to fast track the transfer of relevant and appropriate technologies and services to the rural areas particularly in the enhancement and development of technology-based livelihood enterprises in the countryside.

SEC. 3. Provincial Science and Technology Offices (PSTOs). – The Provincial Science and Technology Centers of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) which are the principal instruments of technology transfer and development of technology-based enterprises of the government in the rural areas are converted into Provincial Science and Technology Offices (PSTOs) which shall be headed by a Chief Research Science Specialist: *Provided*, that the existing clustered area offices of the DOST in the National Capital Region (NCR) shall also serve as PSTO to be known as Clustered Area Science and Technology Offices (CASTOs), subject to the approval of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and existing civil service rules and regulations. .

SEC. 4. Functions of the Provincial Science and Technology Offices (PSTOs). - The Provincial Science and Technology Offices shall be under the supervision of the Regional Offices of the DOST with the following functions:

- a) Identify the needs and opportunities in science and technology (S&T) in the provinces;
- b) Help accelerate the adoption of scientific and modern technologies by the various sectors of the economy and thus enhance productivity in the NCR and other regions
- c) Implement DOST programs and projects on technology promotion and transfer, S&T human resource development, S&T promotion and information dissemination, delivery of technical and consultancy services, and such other areas of concern that will benefit the people in the provinces;
- d) Develop institutional linkages with provincial offices of other departments local government units, academe and non-governmental offices for the effective implementation of science and technology programs in the provinces; and
- e) Perform other functions as may be determined by the DOST Secretary and the Regional Director

SEC. 5. Provincial Science & Technology Office Head. – The existing position item of Senior Science Research Specialist at salary grade level 19 which is currently held by the head of the PSTCs is hereby reclassified as Chief Science Research Specialist at salary grade level 24.

SEC. 6. Duties and Responsibilities of the Provincial Science & Technology Office Head – The head of the Provincial Science and Technology Office shall hold the position of Chief Science Research Specialist and shall perform the following duties and responsibilities:

- a) Formulate the provincial S&T plan, programs, and projects designed to promote science, technology, and innovation culture among the people in the province, consistent with and supportive to the regional and national S&T development plans;
- b) Implement and monitor the technology promotion, transfer, and commercialization projects of the DOST in the province;
- c) Promote the adoption of the appropriate technology by micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to improve operational efficiency and increase productivity to harness the result of scientific researches and innovations to produce new and competitive products;
- d) Disseminate S&T related information and R&D results through the conduct of trainings, symposia and other similar fora;
- e) Maintain effective liaison with the public and private academic institutions and other government agencies engaged in scientific and technological research, education, and training;
- f) Coordinate with the local government units and academic institutions for the promotion of scholarship programs aimed to attract science-oriented students to pursue basic and applied sciences in order to broaden the S&T human resource in the province;
- g) Coordinate with the DOST Regional Office and the Regional Development Council for the promotion of all S&T activities;
- h) Coordinate with public and private organizations in the implementation of human resource and institutional development programs in the province;
- i) Act as focal person and represent the DOST in inter-agency meetings, conferences, and other coordinative activities in the province;
- j) Responsible for the overall supervision and fiscal management of services and operations of the PSTO;
- k) Ensure that the quality management system is properly implemented in accordance with established Quality Management standards in all aspects of operations of the PSTO;

l) Enter into lawful contracts, memoranda of agreement, and other instruments and represent the PSTO in all actions filed by or against it; *Provided*, that the Regional Director shall be apprised of all actions undertaken in the aforesaid matters;

m) Perform other related functions as may be assigned by the Regional Director and other higher authorities from time to time.

SEC. 7. Staff of the Provincial Science and Technology Office. The DOST shall determine and prepare the organizational structure and staffing pattern of the PSTOs in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management.

SEC. 8. Appropriations. – The initial amount for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the DOST. Thereafter, such amount shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from its effectivity, the DOST shall in consultation with concerned agencies and stakeholders, promulgate rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. Separability Clause. -If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 11. Repealing Clause. Republic Act No. 6959, entitled "An Act Establishing Provincial Centers for Science and Technology in all Provinces of the Philippines and Appropriating Funds Therefore," is hereby repealed. All laws, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 12. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.

House of Representatives
Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

House Bill No. 10251

(In substitution of House Bill No. 1100, 1464, 3056, 3885, 45721 6409 and 7767)

**“AN ACT
CONVERTING THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER INTO
THE PROVINCIAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICE IN EVERY PROVINCE
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, REPEALING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6959**

Introduced by:

Committee Referral: ***Committee on Science and Technology***

Committee Chairperson: ***Rep. Erico Aristotle C. Aumentado***

OBJECTIVE:

- To enable the transfer of relevant and appropriate technologies and services to the rural areas, bridge the gap between highly urbanized cities and provinces, and garner support from the public and private institutions for sustainable development.

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Converts the Provincial Science and Technology Center (PSTC) established under RA 6959 into the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) which shall be headed by a Chief Science Research Specialist;
- Provides for the reclassification of the position of Senior Science Research Specialist currently at salary grade level 19, to Chief Science Research Specialist Salary at salary grade level;
- Directs the PSTOs to identify the needs and opportunities in science and technology in the provinces and help accelerate the adoption of scientific and modern technologies by the various sectors of the economy;
- Proposes that the existing Clustered Area Offices of the DOST in the National Capital Region (NCR) shall also serve as PSTO to be known as Clustered Area Science and Technology Offices (CASTOs), subject to the approval of the

Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and existing civil service rules and regulations;

- Mandates that the PSTOs and the CASTOs shall be under the direct supervision of the Regional Offices of the DOST.

RELATED LAWS:

RA 6959 *-An Act Establishing Provincial Centers for Science and Technology in all Provinces of the Philippines and Appropriating Funds Therefor*