



01 March 2021

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO :** **The Directors**  
Biodiversity Management Bureau  
Land Management Bureau  
Environmental Management Bureau  
Forest Management Bureau  
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau  
Climate Change Service  
Legal Affairs Service  
Policy and Planning Service

**The Regional Executive Director**  
DENR - Region X

**FROM :** The Assistant Secretary  
Field Operations-Mindanao and Legislative Affairs

**SUBJECT :** **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
ON VARIOUS BILLS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
ARBORETUM IN THE PROVINCE OF LANA DEL NORTE**

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This pertains to the letter dated March 01, 2021 from **SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILAR**, Chairperson, Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change requesting DENR for comments, recommendations and position papers on the following proposed legislations:

- **SENATE BILL NO. 1243** – An Act establishing the Mindanao State University–Lanao del Norte Agricultural College Arboretum in Barangay Ramain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo and appropriating funds therefor (Introduced by Senator Sotto III);
- **HOUSE BILL NO. 7798** – An Act establishing the Mindanao State University – Lanao del Norte Agricultural College Arboretum in Barangay Ramain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte, and appropriating funds therefor. (Introduced by Representatives Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Marl O. Go, and Eric Go. Yap);
- **SENATE BILL NO. 1244** – An Act establishing an arboretum within the vicinity of the Mighty Cave Park located in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte, to be known as the Mighty Cave Park Arboretum and appropriating funds therefor (Introduced by Senator Sotto III);

- **HOUSE BILL NO. 6929** – An Act establishing an arboretum in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte, to be known as the Mighty Cave Park Arboretum, and appropriating funds therefor. (Introduced by Representatives Dimaporo, Dimaporo, Bulut, Yap, Chungalao, et al.);
- **SENATE BILL NO. 1245** – An Act establishing an arboretum within the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office in the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the Kolambugan Arboretum and appropriating funds therefor (Introduced by Senator Sotto III); and
- **HOUSE BILL NO. 6928** – An Act establishing an arboretum in the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte, to be known as the Kolambugan Arboretum, and appropriating funds therefor. (Introduced by Representatives Dimaporo, Dimaporo, Bulut, Yap, Chungalao, et al.).

Kindly submit to this office your comments and/or position papers in hard and soft copy at the Legislative Liaison Office, or through telephone number 8920-1761 and email [denrlegislative@yahoo.com](mailto:denrlegislative@yahoo.com) for consolidation. Or you may contact the committee secretariat at [mcrmendoza@yahoo.com](mailto:mcrmendoza@yahoo.com) or at Mobile 0945 750 5319 the soonest possible time.

  
JOAN A. LAGUNDA, D.M., D.F.A





Republic of the Philippines  
**SENATE**  
Pasay City

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

March 1, 2021

**SUBJECT : REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
VARIOUS BILLS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
ARBORETUM IN THE PROVINCE OF LANAOS DEL NORTE**

**HON. ROY A. CIMATU**

*Secretary*

Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
Visayas Avenue, Quezon City

Dear **Secretary Cimat**:

The Senate Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change is in receipt of the following proposed legislative measures which seek to establish arboretum in certain areas of the Province of Lanao del Norte, to wit:

- **SENATE BILL NO. 1243** – An Act establishing the Mindanao State University–Lanao del Norte Agricultural College Arboretum in Barangay Ragain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo and appropriating funds therefor (*Introduced by Senator Sotto III*);
- **HOUSE BILL NO. 7798** – An Act establishing the Mindanao State University – Lanao del Norte Agricultural College Arboretum in Barangay Ragain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte, and appropriating funds therefor. (*Introduced by Representatives Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Marl O. Go, and Eric Go. Yap*);
- **SENATE BILL NO. 1244** – An Act establishing an arboretum within the vicinity of the Mighty Cave Park located in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte, to be known as the Mighty Cave Park Arboretum and appropriating funds therefor (*Introduced by Senator Sotto III*);
- **HOUSE BILL NO. 6929** – An Act establishing an arboretum in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte, to be known as the Mighty Cave Park Arboretum, and appropriating funds therefor. (*Introduced by Representatives Dimaporo, Dimaporo, Bulut, Yap, Chungalao, et al.*);

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LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE SUPPORT SERVICE FOR GOVERNANCE AND LEGAL CONCERNS

Room 304-A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Senate of the Philippines, J.W. Diokno Boulevard, Pasay City

Tel. No. (02) 8552-6601 local 3318

Telefax Nos. (02) 8552-6750 / 8552-6888

- **SENATE BILL NO/ 1245** – An Act establishing an arboretum within the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office in the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the Kolambugan Arboretum and appropriating funds therefor (*Introduced by Senator Sotto III*); and

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6928** – An Act establishing an arboretum in the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte, to be known as the Kolambugan Arboretum, and appropriating funds therefor. (*Introduced by Representatives Dimaporo, Dimaporo, Bulut, Yap, Chungalao, et al.*).

In this regard, the Committee would like to request for your comments and recommendations on the abovementioned proposed legislations. Kindly submit your position paper the soonest possible time.

Please find attached to this letter copies of the Senate and House bills for your ready reference.

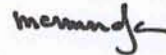
For further queries and concerns or for the submission of the requested position paper, kindly coordinate with the undersigned at [mcrmendoza@yahoo.com](mailto:mcrmendoza@yahoo.com) or at 0945 750 5319.

The Committee appreciates your prompt action on its request.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

**FOR THE CHAIRPERSON:  
SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**



by:

**Maria Clarinda R. Mendoza**  
*Committee Secretary*

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7798  
(In substitution of House Bill No. 3978)

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Introduced by Representatives Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Mark O. Go, and Eric Go Yap

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-LANAO DEL NORTE**  
**AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ARBORETUM IN BARANGAY RAMAIN,**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO, PROVINCE OF LANAO DEL**  
**NORTE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1           **SECTION 1.** There is hereby established an arboretum of one hundred (100) hectares within  
2 the site reserved for the Mindanao State University-Lanao del Norte Agricultural College (MSU-  
3 LNAC) in Barangay Ragain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte,  
4 to be known as the MSU-LNAC Arboretum.

5           For purposes of this Act, the term *Arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially for  
6 a well-grown and representative collection of tree or shrub species planted and maintained for  
7 purposes of scientific study and maintaining a convenient source of seed and herbarium materials.

8           **SEC. 2.** The MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

9  
10          a)       To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology, and other  
11 related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by faculty and students of nearby  
12 schools;

\*

13           b)     To be a sanctuary for the preservation and conservation of genetic resources of trees  
14 and shrubs, and as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

15           c)     To be a nursery within which the best species of indigenous woody plants can be  
16 propagated and where new species can be introduced;

17           d)     To be a place for recreation where the people can renew their affinity with nature and  
18 thus be more conscious of their responsibility as stewards and guardians of the natural environment;  
19 and

20           e)     To serve as the habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals,  
21 and other wildlife in the area.

22           **SEC. 3.** The layout and design of the arboretum shall conform to its purpose, objectives and  
23 the following considerations:

24           a) The trees should be planted in rows following the contour of the land area;

25           b) At least five (5) replicates of each species should be planted to ensure the security of the  
26 species;

27           c) Each tree species should be numbered, labelled and tagged with its scientific common or  
28 local name, and the date and place of collection. In case of mortality, the appropriate species should  
29 be replanted.

30           **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted, the following shall be  
31 observed:

32           a) Tree species should be of high quality, the selection of which should be made at least  
33 twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the  
34 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

35 b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting, which will include  
36 brushing/slashing, staking, digging of holes, plowing and/or cultivation; and,

37 c). Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

38 **SEC. 5.** The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall management and supervision of the  
39 DENR. The DENR Secretary shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together with a  
40 staff to be selected by the DENR from among its staff, shall ensure the proper management of the  
41 Arboretum.

42 **SEC. 6.** A Monitoring Committee is hereby created to track the development and oversee  
43 the operation of the arboretum. It shall be composed of the following:

44 1) DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative as Chairperson;

45 2) Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or a duly designated  
46 representative as Co-Chairperson;

47 3) Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao del Norte, as  
48 Vice-Chairperson;

49 4) President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte, or the Vice-  
50 President thereof, if the Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo, Province of Lanao  
51 del Norte is the President of the League, as member;

52 5) Chancellor or Head of the MSU-LNAC as member; and,

53 6) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)  
54 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

55 **SEC. 7.** All grants, bequests, endowments, donations, and contributions made to the  
56 MSU for the development and improvement of the arboretum shall be administered solely for the  
57 benefit of the arboretum in accordance with the instructions of the donor, or in default thereof, of  
58 the MSU-LNAC.

\*

59           **SEC. 8.** The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in  
60 the annual General Appropriations Act.

61           **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
62 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

63           *Approved,*



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

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE BILL NO. 6929**  
(In substitution to HB No. 3979).

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**Introduced by Reps. Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Elias C. Bulut, Jr., Eric Go Yap, Solomon R. Chungalao, Cyrille "Beng" Abueg-Zaldivar, Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat, Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, Mark O. Go, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Angelo Marcos Barba, and Michael Edgar V. Aglipay**

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1  
2 **AN ACT**

3 **ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGOLOAN,**  
4 **LANAO DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY CAVE PARK ARBORETUM,**  
5 **AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

8  
9 **SECTION 1.** There is hereby established an arboretum with an area of approximately two  
10 hundred (200) hectares and which shall include the Mighty Cave Park in the Municipality of  
11 Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the "Mighty Cave Park Arboretum," hereinafter  
12 referred to as the Arboretum.

13 As used in this Act, the term *arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially for a  
14 well-grown and representative collection of trees, shrubs and herbs planted and maintained for the  
15 purpose of reference, scientific studies and as a convenient source of seeds and herbarium  
16 materials.

17 **SEC. 2.** The Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

18 a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology and other  
19 related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by both faculty and students of  
20 nearby schools;

1           b) To serve as a sanctuary for the preservation and conservation of genetic resources of  
2 trees, shrubs and herbs, and as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

3           c) To provide an area wherein the best species of indigenous woody plants can be  
4 propagated and where new species, can be introduced and be allowed to thrive in the locality;

5           d) To provide a healthy and conducive area for recreation and at the same time enhance  
6 the consciousness of the community to preserve and protect the environment; and

7           e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals, and  
8 other wildlife in the area.

9           **SEC. 3.** The Arboretum shall conform to the following considerations:

10          a) The trees shall be planted in rows following the contour of the land area;

11          b) At least five (5) replicates of each specie shall be planted to ensure its preservation;  
12 and

13          c) Each tree specie shall be numbered, labelled and tagged with its scientific name,  
14 common or local name, and the date and place of collection.

15          **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted:

16          a) The seedling of every specie to be planted shall be of high quality, and shall be selected  
17 at least twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the  
18 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

19          b) Proper site preparation shall be done prior to planting, to include brushing/slashing,  
20 staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or cultivation;

21          c) In case of mortality, the replanting of the respective specie shall be undertaken; and

22          d) Planting shall be done at the onset of the rainy season.

23          **SEC. 5.** The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall management and supervision of  
24 the DENR. The DENR Secretary shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together

1 with a staff to be provided by the DENR from among its staff, shall ensure the proper management  
2 of the Arboretum.

3 **SEC. 6.** An Oversight Committee is hereby created to oversee and monitor the development  
4 and operation of the Arboretum to be composed of the following:

- 5 a) The DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative as Chairperson;  
6 b) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or a duly designated  
7 representative, as co-Chairperson;  
8 c) The Mayor of the Municipality of Tagoloan as Vice-Chairperson;  
9 d) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte or the Vice-  
10 President thereof if the Mayor of Tagoloan is the President of the League, as member; and  
11 e) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)  
12 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

13 **SEC. 7.** The Arboretum may accept donations from government agencies or local and  
14 foreign private entities.

15 **SEC. 8.** The amount necessary to implement initially the provisions of this Act shall be  
16 taken from the available savings of the DENR System. Such sums as may be necessary for the  
17 continued operation of the Arboretum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

18 The local government units concerned shall set aside from any available local revenue an  
19 amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operation of the Arboretum  
20 herein established.

21 **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
22 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

23 *Approved,*

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6928  
(In substitution to HB No. 3977)

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Introduced by Reps. Mohamad Q. Khalid Dimaporo, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Elias C. Bulut, Jr., Eric Go Yap, Solomon R. Chungalao, Cyrille "Beng" Abueg-Zaldivar, Eufemia "Ka Femia" C. Cullamat, Joseph Stephen "Caraps" S. Paduano, Mark O. Go, Alfonso V. Umali, Jr., Angelo Marcos Barba, and Michael Edgar V. Aglipay

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM IN THE PREMISES OF THE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE (CENRO) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF KOLAMBUGAN, LANAOS DEL NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE KOLAMBUGAN ARBORETUM, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1.** There is hereby established an arboretum in the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the *Kolambugan Arboretum*.

As used in this Act, the term *arboretum* refers to a reserved area which is essentially for a well-grown and representative collection of trees, shrubs and herbs planted and maintained for the purpose of reference, scientific studies and as a convenient source of seeds and herbarium materials.

**SEC. 2.** The Arboretum shall serve the following purposes:

a) To aid in the study and teaching of dendrology, phenology, botany, biology, and other related fields of study by being utilized as an outdoor laboratory by both the faculty and students of nearby schools;

1           b) To serve as a sanctuary for the preservation and conservation of genetic resources of  
2 trees, shrubs and herbs, and as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

3           c) To provide an area wherein the best species of indigenous woody plants can be  
4 propagated and where new species, can be introduced and be allowed to thrive in the locality;

5           d) To provide a healthy and conducive area for recreation and at the same time enhance  
6 the consciousness of the community to preserve and protect the environment; and

7           e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small mammals, and  
8 other wildlife in the area.

9           **SEC. 3.** The Arboretum shall conform to the following considerations:

10          a) The trees shall be planted in rows following the contour of the land area;

11          b) At least five (5) replicates of each specie shall be planted to ensure its preservation; and

12          c) Each tree specie shall be numbered, labelled and tagged with its scientific name, common  
13 or local name, and the date and place of collection.

14          **SEC. 4.** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted:

15          a) The seedling of every specie to be planted shall be of high quality, and shall be selected  
16 at least twelve (12) months prior to planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the  
17 Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

18          b) Proper site preparation shall be done prior to planting, to include brushing/slashing,  
19 staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or cultivation;

20          c) In case of mortality, the replanting of the respective specie shall be undertaken; and

21          d) Planting shall be done at the onset of the rainy season.

22          **SEC. 5.** The Arboretum shall be placed under the overall management and supervision of  
23 the DENR. The DENR Secretary shall appoint a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together  
24 with a staff to be provided by the DENR from among its staff, shall ensure the proper management  
25 of the Arboretum.

1           **SEC. 6.** An Oversight Committee is hereby created to oversee and monitor the development  
2 and operation of the Arboretum, to be composed of the following:

3           a) The DENR Secretary or a duly designated representative as Chairperson;

4           b) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or duly designated  
5 representative, as co-Chairperson;

6           c) The Mayor of the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte as Vice-Chairperson;

7           d) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte or the Vice-  
8 President thereof if the Mayor of Kolambugan is the President of the League, as member; and

9           e) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among three (3)  
10 recommendees of the Provincial Governor.

11           **SEC. 7.** The Arboretum may accept donations from government agencies or local and  
12 foreign private entities.

13           **SEC. 8.** The amount necessary to implement initially the provisions of this Act shall be  
14 taken from the available savings of the DENR System. Such sums as may be necessary for the  
15 continued operation of the Arboretum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

16           The local government units concerned shall set aside from any available local revenue an  
17 amount deemed appropriate as annual counterpart fund to support the operations of the Arboretum  
18 herein established.

19           **SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
20 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

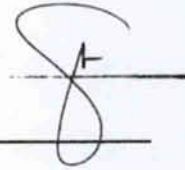
21           *Approved,*

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
First Regular Session }**

'19 DEC 17 P3:25

**SENATE  
S.B. No. 1243**

RECEIVED



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INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-LANAO DEL  
NORTE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ARBORETUM IN BARANGAY  
RAMAIN, MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In a survey conducted in 2018, the Philippines ranked third among four countries in the world as most vulnerable to climate change<sup>1</sup>. India is at the top of the list, while Pakistan and Bangladesh ranked second and fourth, respectively. Indeed, it has worsened the natural calamities that strike our country these days. Frequent flooding, soil erosion, and landslides resulted in a tremendous loss in terms of property, livelihood, and most of all – lives.

Threats posed by climate change are serious. A way to address and mitigate its harmful effects is to plant more trees. Trees serve as our first line of defense in times of disasters. However, one of the crucial factors to consider is the right species that are native to and can thrive in the intended planting site. Only by doing so, can we fully enjoy its benefits. Otherwise, all efforts shall be futile.

Consistent with the Constitutional mandate to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology<sup>2</sup>, this legislation seeks to establish an arboretum inside the campus of the Mindanao State University-Lanao del Norte Agricultural College in Barangay Ragain, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo to be known as the MSU-LNAC Arboretum. An arboretum is an area devoted to specimen planting and cultivation of woody

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/03/21/1798866/climate-change-vulnerability-philippines-ranks-3rd?wpisrc=nl\\_todayworld&wpmm=1](https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/03/21/1798866/climate-change-vulnerability-philippines-ranks-3rd?wpisrc=nl_todayworld&wpmm=1)

<sup>2</sup> Section 16, Article II, 1987 Philippine Constitution

plants which are either trees or shrubs for ecological, research, educational, and recreational purposes.

The MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall serve as an outdoor laboratory for scientific studies by the faculty, and students in dendrology, phenology, forestry, botany, environmental studies, and other related fields of study. Furthermore, it shall be a sanctuary for endemic tree species in the particular region of the Philippines.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



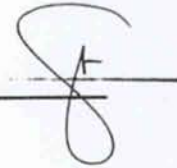
VICENTE C. SOTTO III



'19 DEC 17 P3:25

SENATE  
S.B. No. 1243

RECEIVED BY



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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-LANAO DEL NORTE**  
**AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE ARBORETUM IN BARANGAY RAMAIN,**  
**MUNICIPALITY OF SULTAN NAGA DIMAPORO AND APPROPRIATING**  
**FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1       **SECTION 1. Arboretum Establishment.** – There shall be an  
2 establishment of an arboretum with an area of 100 hectares located within the  
3 campus of the Mindanao State University-Lanao del Norte Agricultural College  
4 (MSU-LNAC) in Barangay Ramin, Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo,  
5 Province of Lanao del Norte to be known as the MSU-LNAC Arboretum.

6       For purposes of this Act, **arboretum** shall refer to a reserved area which  
7 is essentially for a well-grown and representative collection of trees or shrubs  
8 species planted and maintained for the purpose of reference, scientific studies  
9 and as a convenient source of seed and herbarium materials.

10       **SECTION 2. Objectives.** – The MSU-LNAC Arboretum shall have the  
11 following objectives:

- 12       a) To provide an outdoor laboratory for faculty and students of nearby  
13       schools that will aid in the study of dendrology, phenology, forestry,  
14       botany, and other related fields of environmental science;  
15       b) To preserve and conserve the genetic resources of trees and shrubs, and  
16       reuse as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

- 1 c) To propagate the best species of woody plants and introduce new species
- 2 that can thrive in the locality;
- 3 d) To provide a healthy and conducive space for recreation, appreciation of
- 4 nature, and enhance the environmental consciousness of the community;
- 5 e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small
- 6 mammals, and other wildlife in the area.

7 **SECTION 3. *Layout and Design.*** – The layout and design shall be in  
8 consideration of the objectives of this Act and the following:

- 9 a) The trees should be planted in rows following the contour of the land
- 10 area;
- 11 b) At least five replicates of each species should be planted to ensure the
- 12 conservation and preservation of the species;
- 13 c) Each tree species should be numbered, labelled and tagged with scientific
- 14 name, common or local name, date and place of collection. In case of
- 15 mortality, the species should be replanted with the appropriate species as
- 16 indicated in the plan.

17 **SECTION 4. *Planting.*** – To ensure the growth of the species to be  
18 planted:

- 19 a) The species to be planted should be of high quality materials, and the
- 20 selection of which should be determined at least twelve (12) months prior
- 21 to planting in consultation with the nearest office of the DENR;
- 22 b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting, to include
- 23 brushing/slashing, staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or cultivation;
- 24 c) Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

25 **SECTION 5. *Management and Supervision.*** – The Arboretum shall be  
26 under the overall management and supervision of the Department of  
27 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The DENR Secretary shall appoint  
28 a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together with a staff who should be a  
29 representative from the natives in the area, shall ensure the proper  
30 management of the Arboretum.

1           **SECTION 6. Oversight Committee.** – There shall be a committee that  
2 will oversee and monitor the development and operation of the arboretum, and  
3 it shall be composed of the following:

4           1) The DENR Secretary or his duly designated representative as  
5 Chairperson;

6           2) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or his  
7 duly designated representative as co-Chairperson;

8           3) The Mayor of the Municipality of Sultan Naga Dimaporo as Vice-  
9 Chairperson;

10          4) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte  
11 or the Vice-President thereof if the Mayor of Sultan Naga Dimaporo is the  
12 President of the League as member;

13          5) The Chancellor or Head of the MSU-LNAC as member; and

14          6) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among  
15 three (3) nominees as recommended by the Provincial Governor.

16           **SECTION 7. Donations.** – The Arboretum may accept donations from  
17 government agencies or units and from private entities, both local and  
18 foreign.

19           **SECTION 8. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to implement  
20 initially the provisions of this Act shall be taken from the available savings of  
21 the DENR. Such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation of  
22 the arboretum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

23           **SECTION 9. Separability Clause.** – In case any provision of this Act is  
24 declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall have no effect in the  
25 validity or constitutionality of the remaining provisions hereof.

26           **SECTION 10. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, rules and regulations  
27 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended  
28 accordingly.

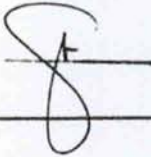
1           **SECTION 11. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
2 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
3 circulation.

*Approved,*

'19 DEC 17 P3:26

SENATE  
S.B. No. 1244

RECEIVED BY



INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM WITHIN THE VICINITY OF THE MIGHTY**  
**CAVE PARK LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGOLOAN, LANA DEL**  
**NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY CAVE PARK ARBORETUM**  
**AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In a survey conducted in 2018, the Philippines ranked third among four countries in the world as most vulnerable to climate change<sup>1</sup>. India is at the top of the list, while Pakistan and Bangladesh ranked second and fourth, respectively. Indeed, it has worsened the natural calamities that strike our country these days. Frequent flooding, soil erosion, and landslides resulted in a tremendous loss in terms of property, livelihood, and most of all – lives.

Threats posed by climate change are serious. A way to address and mitigate its harmful effects is to plant more trees. Trees serve as our first line of defense in times of disasters. However, one of the crucial factors to consider is the right species that are native to and can thrive in the intended planting site. Only by doing so, can we fully enjoy its benefits. Otherwise, all efforts shall be futile.

Consistent with the Constitutional mandate to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology<sup>2</sup>, this legislation seeks to establish an arboretum within the vicinity of the Mighty Cave Park located in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte. An arboretum is an area devoted to specimen planting and cultivation of woody plants which are either trees or shrubs for ecological, research, educational, and recreational purposes.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/03/21/1798866/climate-change-vulnerability-philippines-ranks-3rd?wpisrc=nl\\_todayworld&wpmm=1](https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/03/21/1798866/climate-change-vulnerability-philippines-ranks-3rd?wpisrc=nl_todayworld&wpmm=1)

<sup>2</sup> Section 16, Article II, 1987 Philippine Constitution

The Mighty Cave Park Arboretum shall serve as an outdoor laboratory for scientific studies by the faculty, and students in dendrology, phenology, forestry, botany, environmental studies, and other related fields of study. Furthermore, it shall be a sanctuary for endemic tree species in the particular region of the Philippines.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**VICENTE C. SOTTO III**



'19 DEC 17 P3:26

**SENATE**  
**S.B. No. 1244**

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INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III**

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM WITHIN THE VICINITY OF THE MIGHTY**  
**CAVE PARK LOCATED IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF TAGOLOAN, LANA DEL**  
**NORTE, TO BE KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY CAVE PARK ARBORETUM AND**  
**APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

1       **SECTION 1. Arboretum Establishment.** – There shall be an  
2 establishment of an arboretum with an area of 200 hectares located within the  
3 vicinity of the Mighty Cave Park located in the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao  
4 del Norte, to be known as the Mighty Cave Park Arboretum.

5       For purposes of this Act, **arboretum** refers to a reserved area which is  
6 essentially for a well-grown and representative collection of trees or shrubs  
7 species planted and maintained for the purpose of reference, scientific studies  
8 and as a convenient source of seed and herbarium materials.

9       **SECTION 2. Objectives.** – The Mighty Cave Park Arboretum shall have  
10 the following objectives:

- 11       a) To provide an outdoor laboratory for faculty and students of nearby  
12       schools that will aid in the study of dendrology, phenology, forestry,  
13       botany, and other related fields of environmental science;
- 14       b) To preserve and conserve the genetic resources of trees and shrubs, and  
15       use as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

- 1 c) To propagate the best species of woody plants and introduce new species
- 2 that can thrive in the locality;
- 3 d) To provide a healthy and conducive space for recreation, appreciation of
- 4 nature, and enhance the environmental consciousness of the community;
- 5 e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small
- 6 mammals, and other wildlife in the area.

7 **SECTION 3. *Layout and Design.*** – The layout and design shall be in  
8 consideration of the objectives of this Act and the following:

- 9 a) The trees should be planted in rows following the contour of the land
- 10 area;
- 11 b) At least five replicates of each species should be planted to ensure the
- 12 conservation and preservation of the species;
- 13 c) Each tree species should be numbered, labelled and tagged with
- 14 scientific name, common or local name, and the date and place of collection. In
- 15 case of mortality, the species should be replanted with the appropriate species
- 16 as indicated in the plan.

17 **SECTION 4. *Planting.*** – To ensure the growth of the species to be  
18 planted:

- 19 a) The species to be planted should be of high quality materials, and the
- 20 selection of which should be made at least twelve (12) months prior to
- 21 planting, in consultation with the nearest office of the Department of
- 22 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- 23 b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting, to include
- 24 brushing/slashing, staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or
- 25 cultivation;
- 26 c) Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

27 **SECTION 5. *Management and Supervision.*** – The Arboretum shall be  
28 under the overall management and supervision of the Department of  
29 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR). The DENR Secretary shall appoint  
30 a Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together with a staff who should be a



1 representative from the natives in the area, shall ensure the proper  
2 management of the Arboretum.

3         **SECTION 6. Oversight Committee.** – An Oversight Committee is hereby  
4 created to oversee and monitor the development and operation of the arboretum  
5 composed of the following:

6             1) The DENR Secretary or his duly designated representative as  
7 Chairperson;

8             2) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or his duly  
9 designated representative as co-Chairperson;

10            3) The Mayor of the Municipality of Tagoloan, Lanao del Norte as Vice-  
11 Chairperson;

12            4) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte or  
13 the Vice-President thereof if the Mayor of Tagoloan is the President of the  
14 League, as member; and

15            5) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among  
16 three (3) nominees as recommended by the Provincial Governor.

17         **SECTION 7. Donations.** – The Arboretum may accept donations from  
18 government agencies or units and from private entities, both local and foreign.

19         **SECTION 8. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to implement  
20 initially the provisions of this Act shall be taken from the available savings of  
21 the DENR System. Such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation  
22 of the arboretum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

23         **SECTION 9. Separability Clause.** – In case any provision of this Act  
24 is declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall have no effect  
25 in the validity or constitutionality of the remaining provisions hereof.

26         **SECTION 10. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, rules and  
27 regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed  
28 or amended accordingly.

1           **SECTION 11. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)  
2 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
3 circulation.

*Approved,*



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }  
First Regular Session }**

'19 DEC 17 P3:27

**SENATE  
S.B. No. 1245**

RECEIVED

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INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM WITHIN THE PREMISES OF THE  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE  
(CENRO) IN BARANGAY POBLACION, MUNICIPALITY OF KOLAMBUGAN,  
LANAO DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS THE KOLAMBUGAN  
ARBORETUM  
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

In a survey conducted in 2018, the Philippines ranked third among four countries in the world as most vulnerable to climate change<sup>1</sup>. India is at the top of the list, while Pakistan and Bangladesh ranked second and fourth, respectively. Indeed, it has worsened the natural calamities that strike our country these days. Frequent flooding, soil erosion, and landslides resulted in a tremendous loss in terms of property, livelihood, and most of all – lives.

Threats posed by climate change are serious. A way to address and mitigate its harmful effects is to plant more trees. Trees serve as our first line of defense in times of disasters. However, one of the crucial factors to consider is the right species that are native to and can thrive in the intended planting site. Only by doing so, can we fully enjoy its benefits. Otherwise, all efforts shall be futile.

Consistent with the Constitutional mandate to protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology<sup>2</sup>, this legislation seeks to establish an arboretum within the premises of the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Barangay Poblacion, Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte to be known as the Kolambugan Arboretum. An arboretum is an area devoted to specimen planting and cultivation of woody

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/03/21/1798866/climate-change-vulnerability-philippines-ranks-3rd?wpisrc=nl\\_todayworld&wpmm=1](https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2018/03/21/1798866/climate-change-vulnerability-philippines-ranks-3rd?wpisrc=nl_todayworld&wpmm=1)

<sup>2</sup> Section 16, Article II, 1987 Philippine Constitution

plants which are either trees or shrubs for ecological, research, educational, and recreational purposes.

The Kolambugan Arboretum shall serve as an outdoor laboratory for scientific studies by the faculty, and students in dendrology, phenology, forestry, botany, environmental studies, and other related fields of study. Furthermore, it shall be a sanctuary for endemic tree species in the particular region of the Philippines.

Thus, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**VICENTE C. SOTTO III**

'19 DEC 17 P3:27

**SENATE**  
**S.B. No. 1245**



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INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III**

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**AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING AN ARBORETUM IN THE PREMISES OF THE COMMUNITY  
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE IN THE  
MUNICIPALITY OF KOLAMBUGAN, LANA DEL NORTE TO BE KNOWN AS  
THE KOLAMBUGAN ARBORETUM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS  
THEREFOR**

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

1       **SECTION 1. Arboretum Establishment.** – There shall be an  
2 establishment of an arboretum within the premises of the Community  
3 Environment and Natural Resources Office in the Municipality of Kolambugan,  
4 Lanao del Norte to be known as the Kolambugan Arboretum.

5       For purposes of this Act, **arboretum** refers to a reserved area which is  
6 essentially for a well-grown and representative collection of trees or shrubs  
7 species planted and maintained for the purpose of reference, scientific studies  
8 and as a convenient source of seed and herbarium materials.

9       **SECTION. 2. Objectives.** – The Kolambugan Arboretum shall have the  
10 following objectives:

- 11       a) To provide an outdoor laboratory for faculty and students of nearby  
12 schools that will aid in the study of dendrology, phenology, forestry,  
13 botany, and other related fields of environmental science  
14       b) To preserve and conserve the genetic resources of trees and shrubs, and  
15 reuse as a model for environmentally sound landscape management;

- 1 c) To propagate the best species of woody plants and introduce new species
- 2 that can thrive in the locality;
- 3 d) To provide a healthy and conducive space for recreation, appreciation of
- 4 nature, and enhance the environmental consciousness of the community;
- 5 e) To serve as a habitat for a variety of amphibians, reptiles, birds, small
- 6 mammals, and other wildlife in the area.

7 **SECTION 3. *Layout and Design.*** The layout and design of the  
8 arboretum should satisfy its objectives and should conform to the following:

- 9 a) The trees should be planted in rows following the contour of the land
- 10 area;
- 11 b) At least five replicates of each species should be planted to ensure the
- 12 conservation and preservation of the species;
- 13 c) Each tree species should be numbered, labelled and tagged with scientific
- 14 name, common or local name, date and place of collection. In case of
- 15 mortality, the species should be replanted with the appropriate species.

16 **SECTION 4. *Planting.*** To ensure the growth of the species to be planted:

- 17 a) The species to be planted should be of high quality materials. They should
- 18 be properly determined at least (12) months prior to planting in
- 19 consultation with the nearest office of the DENR;
- 20 b) Proper site preparation should be done prior to planting. This includes
- 21 brushing/slashing, staking, digging of hole, plowing and/or cultivation.
- 22 Grasses and other competing vegetation within at least one meter radius
- 23 around each spot must be cleared;
- 24 c) Planting should be done at the onset of the rainy season.

25  
26 **SECTION 5. *Management and Supervision.*** – The Arboretum shall be  
27 under the overall management and supervision of the Department of  
28 Environment of Natural Resources (DENR). The DENR Secretary shall appoint a  
29 Superintendent of the Arboretum who, together with a staff who should be a  
30 representative from the natives in the area, shall ensure the proper  
31 management of the Arboretum.

1           **SECTION 6. Oversight Committee.** – An Oversight Committee is hereby  
2 created to oversee and monitor the development and operation of the arboretum  
3 composed of the following:

4           1) The DENR Secretary or his duly designated representative as  
5 Chairperson;

6           2) The Provincial Governor of the Province of Lanao del Norte or his  
7 representative as co-Chairperson;

8           3) The Mayor of the Municipality of Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte, as  
9 Vice-Chairperson;

10          4) The President of the League of Municipal Mayors of Lanao del Norte or  
11 the Vice-President thereof if the Mayor of Kolambugan is the President of the  
12 League, as member;

13          5) One (1) member to be appointed by the DENR Secretary from among  
14 three (3) nominees as recommended by the Provincial Governor.

15           **SECTION 7. Donations.** The Arboretum may accept donations from  
16 government agencies or units and from private entities, both local and foreign.  
17

18           **SECTION 8. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary to implement  
19 initially the provisions of this Act shall be taken from the available savings of  
20 the DENR. Such sums as may be necessary for the continued operation of the  
21 arboretum shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

22           **SECTION 9. Separability Clause.** – In case any provision of this Act  
23 is declared invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration shall have no effect  
24 in the validity or constitutionality of the remaining provisions hereof.

25           **SECTION 10. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, rules and  
26 regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed  
27 or amended accordingly.

1           **SECTION 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
2 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general  
3 circulation.

4  
5           *Approved,*