

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Constitution Hills, Quezon City  
  
**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session



**HOUSE BILL NO. 6706**

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Introduced by Hon. Salvador B. Belaro, Jr.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Researches are useless if they don't have funding to realize them.

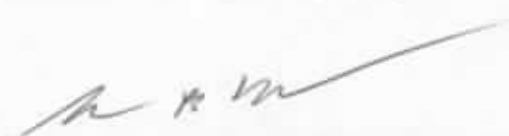
That such is the case is the tragedy of the research outputs of most of our educational institutions.

This bill seeks to end such tragedy by putting up a research fund for researches of outstanding value to local, regional and national development.

This bill would also empower the academe by giving them the means to translate to reality their academic pursuits and put an end to many of them ending up as ivory tower exercises.

Lastly, this bill will strengthen academe and industry linkage, a much needed ingredient in accelerating the knowledge-based economy which is the hallmark of this century.

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

  
**CONG. SALVADOR B. BELARO, JR.**  
Representative  
1-Ang Edukasyon Party List

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**AN ACT**  
**CREATING A RESEARCH FUND PROVIDING FOR ITS**  
**ADMINISTRATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. *Title.*** — This Act shall be known as the “Research Fund Act of 2017”.

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** — The State recognizes the indispensable and essential role of science and technology in the globalized world. Thus, the State shall give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, and their utilization; and to science and technology education, training, and services.

**SECTION 3. *Appropriations.*** — A research fund with an initial amount of One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000.00) is hereby established. Thereafter, the same shall be replenished in subsequent years, the allocation of which would be reflected in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. *Criteria for Disbursement of Fund.* — Any faculty member or student of a higher educational institution may avail of this fund to realize a completed research, the implementation of which would serve the interest of the country, his city, his province, his region or his community in accordance with the national development or of that of his city, province, region or community and/or which has significance in term of our country's coping with the effects of regional integration efforts and globalization.

SECTION 5. *Research Fund Council and Composition.* — There shall be a Research Fund Council (RFC) to be created in all the seventeen (17) regions of the country, with the following objectives:

- a. To organize the monthly or yearly regional research application among the higher educational institutions;
- b. To design and implement the categories and criteria to be used for the awarding of research grants and aids;
- c. To identify and approve of researches of faculty members and students as endorsed by their respective higher educational institutions;
- d. To audit and report the use of research funds, subject to the scrutiny of the members of the council and other stakeholders;

Moreover, the Research Fund Council (RFC) Board of Trustees shall have the following composition:

- a. Regional Director of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as the Chairman;
- b. Regional Director of the Commission on Higher Education as Vice-Chairman;
- c. Executive Director of the Research Fund Council;
- d. Regional Director of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA); and
- e. Representative from the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST)

SECTION 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.* — The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) are herein tasked to jointly formulate the implementing rules and regulation of this Act.

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* — This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved.