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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7392

Introduced by Hon. ALAN 1 B. ECLEO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the policy of the State to promote the wellbeing of farmers by providing an environment in which they can increase their income, improve their living conditions and maximize their contributions to the national economy.

In realizing this policy, Executive Order no. 116, s. 1987 further mandates the Agricultural Training Institute to be responsible for the training of all agricultural extension workers and their clientele, who are mostly farmers and other agricultural workers; ensure that training programs address the real needs of the agricultural sector; ensure that the research results are then communicated to the farmers through the appropriate training and extension activities.

As the country’s second youngest province, Dinagat Islands still finds it necessary to be trained for various strategies especially in innovative agricultural practices. With a noticeable dismal decline of 1.2 per cent in agricultural production in the first quarter of year 2020, it is about time that a growing number of more than 10,000 farmers in Dinagat Islands be given proper trainings in intensive production methods to rekindle our agricultural sector. However, being geographically challenged as a province further adds to the difficulty of having readily available hands-on training programs, especially in this time of pandemic when most of the people heavily rely on agriculture for food security.

Hence, the establishment of a provincial Agricultural Training Institute in the Municipality of Basilisa, Province of Dinagat Islands is undeniably necessary to enable the province’s poor farming households through the provision of sufficient supply and trainings in increasing food production.

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

ALAN 1 B. ECLEO
Representative, Lone District of Dinagat Islands
AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BASILISA, PROVINCE OF DINAGAT ISLANDS, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Establishment of Provincial Agricultural Training Institute in the Province of Dinagat Islands. – There shall be established and maintained, under the direct supervision of the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI), a Provincial ATI in the Municipality of Basilisa, Province of Dinagat Islands, to be known as the Provincial ATI of Dinagat Islands which shall ensure and promote the training of agricultural extension workers and their beneficiaries, shall lead in the delivery of e-extension services for agriculture, fisheries, and other related activities.

SEC. 2. Appropriations. – The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the department’s program the operationalization of the Provincial ATI of Dinagat Islands, the initial funding of which shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of the Department of Agriculture, and thereafter, the succeeding funding shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within six (6) months following the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. Separability Clause. Should any part or provision of this Act be held unconstitutional or invalid, the provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. Any other law, issuance or part thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,