

[REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4148, June 20, 1964]

AN ACT CREATING THE OFFICE OF AGRICULTURAL MARKETING NEWS SERVICE UNDER THE BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS, PROVIDING FOR THE FUNCTIONS AND AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS THEREFOR.

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of policy* &mdash It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State:

1. To establish an agricultural market news service as a means of promoting orderly marketing, stabilizing prices and minimizing spoilage and waste of perishable agricultural products;
2. To provide systematically the informational means and basis for the development of a strong bargaining power among farmers as against those to whom they sell their produce, directly or indirectly, as well as against those from whom they buy the things they need and can not produce;
3. To diffuse economic education among the farmers, enabling them to improve as much as possible in their favor to the point to equality the terms of trade between agriculture on the one hand and the non-agricultural industries on the other;
4. To reduce as much as possible monopolistic practices in trade in connection with agricultural products which have always been prejudicial to the producer and the consumer as well; and
5. To make the activities of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics directly and intimately related to the promotion of agricultural well-being.

SEC. 2. *Powers and functions of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.* &mdash For the effective implementation of the policy enunciated in Section one hereof, the Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, is hereby authorized and empowered to organize, within six months after the approval of this Act, the Office of Agricultural Marketing News Service, which shall be directly under the control and general supervision of the Director of said bureau: *Provided, however,* That the said office shall be headed by a ranking economist of recognized competence and experience in the field of agricultural economics, with formal training and/or experience in agricultural marketing, and shall have a salary range of fifty-five of the WAPCO salary scale for purposes of position classification: *Provided, further,* That the Secretary of Agriculture and Natural Resources, upon the recommendation of the Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, shall promulgate such rules and regulations as will effectively implement the provisions of this Act: *Provided, finally,* That the said office shall be delegated the full authority to implement the following aims, powers, duties and functions: