

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4155, June 20, 1964 ]**

**AN ACT TO PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN THE VIRGINIA TOBACCO INDUSTRY .**

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* — It is declared to be the national policy, with respect to the local Virginia tobacco industry, to encourage the production of local Virginia tobacco of the qualities needed and in quantities marketable in both domestic and foreign markets, to establish this industry on an efficient and economic basis, and to create a climate conducive to local cigarette manufacture of the qualities desired by the consuming public, blending imported and native Virginia leaf tobacco to improve the quality of locally manufactured cigarettes.

SEC. 2. *Objectives.* — To attain this national policy the following objectives are hereby adopted:

1. Financing;
2. Marketing;
3. The disposal of stocks of the Agricultural Credit Administration (ACA) and the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration (PVTA) at the best obtainable prices and conditions in order that a reinvigorated Virginia tobacco industry may be established on a sound basis; and
4. Improving the quality of locally manufactured cigarettes through blending of imported and native Virginia leaf tobacco; such importation and corresponding exportation at a ratio of one kilo of imported to four kilos of exported Virginia tobacco, purchased by the importer-exporter from the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration.

SEC. 3. *Creation of the Virginia Tobacco Research and Grading Institute.* — There shall be created under the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration a Virginia Tobacco Research and Grading Institute.

The Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration shall for this purpose:

1. Establish a training institute for researchers and graders; and
2. Promulgate rules and regulations covering the nature and duration of training of the said researchers and graders.

Only those trainees who meet the standards prescribed by the Philippine Virginia Tobacco Administration shall, at the end of their training period, receive certificates attesting to their qualification for assignment.

All such certificates shall be valid for a period of three years after which, graders and researchers of proven competence and good moral standing shall return to the