

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



23 FEB 16 P1:30

SENATE
S. No. 1892

RECEIVED BY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "J. Revilla", written over a horizontal line.

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT
ENHANCING CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN AGRICULTURE TO ADVERSE CLIMATE EVENTS BY INSTITUTIONALIZING THE USE OF CROP CLIMATE CALENDARS, EQUIPPING FARMERS FOR CLIMATE SENSITIVE DECISION-MAKING, AND PROVIDING ACCESS TO LOCALIZED WEATHER AND CLIMATE INFORMATION

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In a 2020 report released by the Philippine Statistics Authority, the total damages incurred due to natural extreme events and disasters amounted to PhP 463 billion from 2010 to 2019. Of which, agriculture posted the largest share with 62.7 percent or PhP 290 billion.

The recent natural disasters, in its increasing intensities, have drastically affected crops and livestock resulting in severe loss in agricultural production. Climate change exacerbates the challenges to food security. Hence, there is a critical and urgent need to employ climate-smart technologies available and accessible to the farmers through creation of an enabling institutional mechanism.

With these impending effects of climate change, the agriculture sector is constrained to modify their methods to adapt to these adverse effects such as extreme drought, typhoons, and floods. And in making these solutions, the farmers are at the core.

This measure aims to strengthen the resilience to climate change in the agriculture sector by institutionalizing use of crop climate calendars, equipping farmers

for climate sensitive decision-making and providing access to localized information on weather and climate.

In view of contributing to climate resilient agriculture, the approval of this bill is most earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR. 

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MAKING, AND PROVIDING ACCESS TO LOCALIZED WEATHER AND CLIMATE
INFORMATION

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as "*Resilient Agriculture Act of*
2 *2023.*"

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - In recognition of the importance of agriculture
4 in economic development, the State shall enhance the resiliency and adaptability of
5 the sector against the adverse effects of climate change that threaten productivity.
6 Climate resiliency shall be a priority government intervention for the agriculture sector.

7 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, the following terms shall be
8 defined as follows:

9 a. "*Crop climate calendar*" refers to a visual tool that presents the phenology and
10 cultivation practices of a crop against the timeline of the cropping season,
11 containing information on the weather and climate states that occur in the
12 locality and the risks faced by the crop per growing stage in relation to these;

1 b. "*Climate-sensitive decision*" refers to decisions that hinge on weather and
2 climate states, with final outcomes and even decision alternatives which are
3 varying depending on the prevailing weather phenomena; and

4 c. "*Localized weather and climate information*" refers to information on weather
5 and climate phenomena that are particularized down to the city or municipal
6 level.

7 Sec. 4. *Crop Climate Calendars.* - The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall
8 establish and promote the use of crop climate calendars in the country. In coordination
9 with municipal, city and provincial agriculturists, the DA shall implement a continuing
10 program for all farmers and farmer's organizations to formulate, use, and interpret
11 crop climate calendars that are tailor-fit for each specific locality. These crop climate
12 calendars shall be distributed free-of-charge to all farmers and farmer's organizations
13 and be made available online.

14 Sec. 5. *Climate-Sensitive Decision-Making.* - The DA, through the Agricultural
15 Training Institute (ATI), shall provide appropriate and relevant training and capacity-
16 building for farmers and farmer's organizations in the practice of climate sensitive
17 decision-making and its applications. The ATI shall develop clear, concise and easily
18 comprehensible materials, briefers, and similar documents on climate-sensitive
19 decision-making for distribution to individual farmers and farmers' organizations.

20 Sec. 6. *Localized Weather and Climate Information.* - The Philippine
21 Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) shall
22 provide regular and updated localized weather and climate information to city,
23 municipal and provincial agriculturist's offices and directly to the farmers themselves
24 through all available channels including but not limited to social media. This
25 information shall be written in simple English, Filipino and other regional language as
26 necessary and must be presented in a clear, concise and easily understandable form.

27 Sec. 7. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of this
28 Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations for the year following its
29 enactment into law and thereafter.

1 Sec. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)*. - Within sixty (60) days
2 from the effectivity of this Act, the DA and PAGASA, in coordination with other relevant
3 government agencies, farmers' organizations and stakeholders, shall issue the IRR to
4 implement the provisions of this Act.

5 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause*. – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
6 unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain
7 in full force and effect.

8 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause*. – All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations,
9 and other parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
10 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

11 Sec. 11. *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
12 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in
13 the Philippines.

14 *Approved,*