

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



23 MAR 14 P4:42

SENATE

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S. No. 2008

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

**AN ACT
GRANTING FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN
REFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM
PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS
AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9700, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF 1988"**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act no. 6657 or the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988 was enacted in 1988 with the goal of equitably redistributing private and public agricultural lands, as provided in Proclamation No. 131 and Executive Order No. 220, to landless and small farmers and farmworkers. As of March 2022, a total of 2,916,621 agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) have been provided with emancipation patents (EPs) and certificates of land ownership awards (CLOAs).

According to the World Risk Index 2022, the Philippines ranked first in great risk from earthquakes, typhoons, floods, drought and conflict, among 193 countries all over the world.¹ Undoubtedly, our country is one of the most disaster prone countries in the world because of its geographic location. And every time we are experiencing natural calamities such as typhoon, flood, drought, and other destructive natural phenomena, the agricultural sector suffers and food production is at stake. More so, our farmers and fisherfolks are left helpless and drowning in huge debt and leaving them empty handed.

¹ <https://opinion.inquirer.net/158015/no-1-in-world-risk-index-2022>

Thus, the bill intends to give additional support services to qualified ARBs by providing them full insurance coverage in case of losses of crops, fisheries, farming implements, livestock and other non-crop agricultural assets brought about by natural calamities, plant diseases and pest infestations. Moreover, compensable loss shall also include loss of life or injury to qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries. This will be a tremendous help to our farmers and fisherfolks

Hence, the consideration and passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO', with a stylized flourish at the end.

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 37 of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, is hereby further
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 37. Support Services for the Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries. – The
4 State shall adopt the integrated policy of support services delivery to
5 agrarian reform beneficiaries. To this end, the DAR, the Department of
6 Finance, and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas shall institute reforms to
7 liberalize access to credit by agrarian reform beneficiaries. The Presidential
8 Agrarian Reform Council (PARC) shall ensure that support services for
9 agrarian reform beneficiaries are provided, such as;

10 "(a) xxx;

11 "(e) xxx; **[and]**

12 "(f) xxx

13 "The Bagong Kilusang Kabuhayan sa Kaunlaran (BKKK) Secretariat
14 shall be transferred and attached to the LBP, for its supervision including all
15 its applicable and existing funds, personnel, properties, equipment and
16 records. [.]; **AND**

1 **“(G) FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR COMPENSABLE**
2 **LOSSES TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES,**
3 **WHO ARE ACTUALLY TILLING THE LAND AND HAVE MADE**
4 **INVESTMENTS IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING:**

- 5 **i. GROWING CROPS OR STOCKS IN FISHERIES FARMS;**
- 6 **ii. PRODUCTION INPUTS;**
- 7 **iii. OTHER FARMING IMPLEMENTS;**
- 8 **iv. OTHER NON-CROP AGRICULTURAL ASSETS NECESSARY**
9 **IN THE ACTUAL CULTIVATION, HARVESTING, STORAGE**
10 **AND HOUSING OF SUCH CROPS OR STOCKS IN**
11 **FISHERIES FARMS; OR**
- 12 **v. LIVESTOCK AS CERTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF**
13 **AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR)**

14 **THE DAR SHALL PROVIDE THE PROCEDURES FOR SUCH**
15 **REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION OF ACTUAL BENEFICIARIES**
16 **AND FARMING INVESTMENTS AND PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY**
17 **SUCH. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, “QUALIFIED AGRARIAN**
18 **REFORM BENEFICIARIES” SHALL BE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3(b)**
19 **OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10000, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “AGRI-**
20 **AGRA REFORM CREDIT ACT OF 2009”.**

21 **COMPENSABLE LOSSES INCLUDE THOSE RESULTING FROM:**

- 22 **i. NATURAL CALAMITIES SUCH AS TYPHOON, FLOOD,**
23 **DROUGHT, EARTHQUAKE, VOLCANIC ERUPTION, FROST,**
24 **AND OTHER DESTRUCTIVE NATURAL PHENOMENA SUCH**
25 **AS HEAT AND HOT WIND;**
- 26 **ii. PLANT DISEASES CAUSED BY PATHOGENS, BACTERIA.**
27 **FUNGI, VIRUSES, VIRUS-LIKE PATHOGENS, AND OTHER**
28 **SIMILAR FOREIGN BODIES;**
- 29 **iii. PEST INFESTATIONS CAUSED BY NEMATODES, INSECTS,**
30 **MITES AND SPIDERS, MILLIPEDES AND CENTIPEDES,**
31 **SYMPHYLANS, SLUGS AND SNAILS, SOW BUGS AND**

1 **PILLBUGS, PARASITIC HIGHER PLANTS, AND OTHER**
2 **PARASITES; AND**

3 **iv. LOSS OF LIFE OR INJURY TO THE QUALIFIED AGRARIAN**
4 **REFORM BENEFICIARY DUE TO ACCIDENT OR ANY OF**
5 **THE AFOREMENTIONED CAUSES.**

6 **"THE FOLLOWING CROPS AND OTHER FARMING AND**
7 **FISHERY PRODUCE ARE COVERED:**

8 **i. PALAY, CORN, SUGARCANE, HIGH-VALUE CROPS AS**
9 **DEFINED IN SECTION 4(b) of REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7900,**
10 **OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'HIGH-VALUE CROPS**
11 **DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1995', COCONUT, TOBACCO;**

12 **ii. CROPS OR STOCKS IN FISHERIES FARMS;**

13 **iii. LIVESTOCK; AND**

14 **iv. NON-CROP AGRICULTURAL ASSETS USED IN ACTUAL**
15 **FARMING AND REPORTED TO AND CERTIFIED BY THE**
16 **DAR.**

17 "Misuse or diversion of the financial and support services herein
18 provided shall result in sanctions against the beneficiary guilty thereof,
19 including the forfeiture of the land transferred to him/her or lesser sanctions
20 as may be provided by the PARC, without prejudice to criminal prosecution.

21 **"THE SECRETARY OF THE DA AND THE SECRETARY OF THE**
22 **DAR SHALL IMMEDIATELY INCLUDE IN THEIR DEPARTMENTS'**
23 **PROGRAMS THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THIS INSURANCE**
24 **COVERAGE, THE INITIAL FUNDING FOR WHICH SHALL BE**
25 **CHARGED AGAINST THE CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS OF THE**
26 **PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION (PCIC) FOR THE**
27 **REGISTERED BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE RSBSA. THEREAFTER,**
28 **PROJECTIONS OF THE ANNUAL PREMIUM REQUIREMENT SHALL**
29 **BE SUBMITTED BY THE PCIC AND THE DAR TO THE PRESIDENT**
30 **WHO SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL**
31 **APPROPRIATIONS ACT THE NECESSARY BUDGET FOR THE**
32 **INSURANCE COVERAGE MANDATED IN THIS ACT: PROVIDED,**

1 **THAT IN CASE OF INSUFFICIENCY OF THE INITIAL FUND TO**
2 **COVER ALL QUALIFIED ARBS AND LEASEHOLDERS, COVERAGE**
3 **SHALL BE PRIORITIZED IN THE FOLLOWING MANNER: FIFTY**
4 **PERCENT (50%) TO THOSE NEWLY INSTALLED AND QUALIFIED**
5 **ARBS WITH ISSUED CERTIFICATE OF LANDOWNERSHIP AWARDS**
6 **(CLOAs) OR LEASEHOLD INSTRUMENTS, IN DESCENDING**
7 **CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER; AND THE REMAINING FIFTY PERCENT**
8 **(50%) TO THOSE EARLIEST INSTALLED AND QUALIFIED ARBS**
9 **WITH ISSUED EMANCIPATION PATENTS / CLOAs OR LEASEHOLD**
10 **INSTRUMENTS, IN ASCENDING CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER;**
11 ***PROVIDED FURTHER,* THAT ADDITIONAL QUALIFIED ARBS AND**
12 **LEASEHOLDERS SHALL BE COVERED YEARLY BASED ON ANNUAL**
13 **PROJECTIONS, AND IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROVIDED, UNTIL**
14 **SUCH TIME THAT ALL QUALIFIED ARBS ANDLEASEHOLDERS ARE**
15 **COVERED UNDER THIS ACT.**

16 **“FURTHER, A CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**
17 **FOR THE FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE OF AGRARIAN REFORM**
18 **BENEFICIARIES (COFCICARB) IS HEREBY CREATED. IT SHALL BE**
19 **COMPOSED OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON**
20 **AGRARIAN REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND**
21 **THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FOOD**
22 **AND AGRARIAN REFORM OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES,**
23 **THREE (3) MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND**
24 **THREE (3) MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO BE**
25 **DESIGNATED RESPECTIVELY BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF**
26 **REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE**
27 **PHILIPPINES.”**

28 Sec. 2. Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DAR, shall, in
29 coordination with the Land Bank of the Philippines submit to the Department of
30 Agriculture (DA), the complete list of qualified ARBs and leaseholders to be included
31 in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA), their respective
32 locations, and size of landholdings.

1 Sec. 3. Within thirty (30) days from the approval of this Act, the DAR, shall, in
2 coordination with the DA. PCIC, and Department of Budget and Management, issue
3 the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act

4 Sec. 4. **Repealing Clause.** - All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders,
5 issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and
6 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

7 Sec. 5. **Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
8 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

9

10 *Approved,*