


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



23 MAY -3 A11 :44

SENATE
S. No. 2117

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

AN ACT
GRANTING FULL AGRICULTURAL 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. 9700 strengthened the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) by extending the acquisition and distribution of all agricultural lands, instituting necessary reforms. Filipino farmers who feed the nation, inevitably face adverse effects of circumstances that are beyond their control such as natural calamities, the infestation of plant diseases and pests, or even death and injury while farming, which also leads to loss of money and resources. While crop insurance is available through the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, farmers often cannot afford the insurance premium required to be paid under the program.

The purpose of this bill is to provide assistance to agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARB) in the event of natural calamities to make their losses more bearable, to help them recover from adverse effects, and to mitigate the effects of natural calamities by providing full crop insurance coverage to qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries. By providing full crop insurance coverage, we are unburdening agrarian reform beneficiaries from insurance premium payment,

aiding them in times of calamities and allowing them to immediately recover, thereby protecting food security in the country.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bong T. Go', written over the printed name.

SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO



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

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

3

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

11

12 "(a) x x x ;

13

14 "(e) x x x; **[and]**

15

1 “(f) x x x

2
3 “The Bagong Kilusang Kabuhayan sa Kaunlaran (BKKK) Secretariat shall be
4 transferred and attached to the LBP, for its supervision including all its
5 applicable and existing funds, personnel, properties, equipment and
6 records. [.]; **AND**

7
8 **“(G) FULL AGRICULTURAL INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR**
9 **COMPENSABLE LOSSES TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN REFORM**
10 **BENEFICIARIES, WHO ARE ACTUALLY TILLING THE LAND.**

11
12 **THE DAR SHALL PROVIDE THE PROCEDURES FOR SUCH**
13 **REGISTRATION AND CERTIFICATION OF ACTUAL BENEFICIARIES**
14 **AND FARMING INVESTMENTS AND PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN BY**
15 **SUCH. FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, “QUALIFIED AGRARIAN**
16 **REFORM BENEFICIARIES” SHALL BE AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3 (b)**
17 **OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10000, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “AGRI-**
18 **AGRA REFORM CREDIT ACT OF 2009”.**

19
20 **COMPENSABLE LOSSES INCLUDE THOSE RESULTING FROM:**

21
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
27 **ii. PLANT DISEASES CAUSED BY PATHOGENS, BACTERIA,**
28 **FUNGI, VIRUSES, VIRUS-LIKE PATHOGENS, AND OTHER**
29 **SIMILAR FOREIGN BODIES**

30
31 **iii. PEST INFESTATIONS CAUSED BY NEMATODES, INSECTS,**
32 **MITES AND SPIDERS, MILLIPEDES AND CENTIPEDES,**

1 SYMPHYLANS, SLUGS AND SNAILS, SOW BUGS AND
2 PILLBUGS, PARASITIC HIGHER PLANTS, AND OTHER
3 PARASITES; AND

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

8
9 "THE FOLLOWING CROPS AND OTHER FARMING AND FISHERY
10 PRODUCE ARE COVERED:

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

16
17 ii. CROPS OR STOCKS IN FISHERIES FARMS;

18
19 iii. LIVESTOCK; AND

20
21 iv. NON-CROP AGRICULTURAL ASSETS USED IN ACTUAL
22 FARMING AND REPORTED TO AND CERTIFIED BY THE DAR.

23
24 "Misuse or diversion of the financial and support services herein provided
25 shall result in sanctions against the beneficiary guilty thereof, including the
26 forfeiture of the land transferred to him/her or lesser sanctions as may be
27 provided by the PARC, without prejudice to criminal prosecution.

28
29 "THE SECRETARY OF THE DA AND THE SECRETARY OF THE DAR
30 SHALL IMMEDIATELY INCLUDE IN THEIR DEPARTMENTS'
31 PROGRAMS THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THIS INSURANCE
32 COVERAGE, THE INITIAL FUNDING FOR WHICH SHALL BE

1 CHARGED AGAINST THE CURRENT APPROPRIATIONS OF THE
2 PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION (PCIC) FOR THE
3 REGISTERED BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE RSBSA. THEREAFTER,
4 PROJECTIONS OF THE ANNUAL PREMIUM REQUIREMENT SHALL BE
5 SUBMITTED BY THE PCIC AND THE DAR TO THE PRESIDENT WHO
6 SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT
7 THE NECESSARY BUDGET FOR THE INSURANCE COVERAGE
8 MANDATED IN THIS ACT: PROVIDED, THAT IN CASE OF
9 INSUFFICIENCY OF THE INITIAL FUND TO COVER ALL QUALIFIED
10 ARBS AND LEASEHOLDERS, COVERAGE SHALL BE PRIORITIZED IN
11 THE FOLLOWING MANNER: FIFTY PERCENT (50%) TO THOSE
12 NEWLY INSTALLED AND QUALIFIED ARBS WITH ISSUED
13 CERTIFICATE OF LANDOWNERSHIP AWARDS (CLOAs) OR
14 LEASEHOLD INSTRUMENTS, IN DESCENDING CHRONOLOGICAL
15 ORDER; AND THE REMAINING FIFTY PERCENT (50%) TO THOSE
16 EARLIEST INSTALLED AND QUALIFIED ARBS WITH ISSUED
17 EMANCIPATION PATENTS OR CLOAS OR LEASEHOLD
18 INSTRUMENTS, IN ASCENDING CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER
19 *PROVIDED FURTHER*, THAT ADDITIONAL QUALIFIED ARBS AND
20 LEASE HOLDERS SHALL BE COVERED YEARLY BASED ON ANNUAL
21 PROJECTIONS AND IN THE SAME MANNER AS PROVIDED, UNTIL
22 SUCH TIME THAT ALL QUALIFIED ARBS AND LEASEHOLDERS ARE
23 COVERED UNDER THIS ACT.

24
25 "FURTHER, A CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE
26 FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE OF AGRARIAN REFORM
27 BENEFICIARIES (COFCICARB) IS HEREBY CREATED. IT SHALL BE
28 COMPOSED OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON
29 AGRARIAN REFORM OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
30 THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FOOD
31 AND AGRARIAN REFORM OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES,
32 THREE (3) MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND

1 **THREE (3) MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO BE**
2 **DESIGNATED RESPECTIVELY BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF**
3 **REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE**
4 **PHILIPPINES."**

5
6 **SEC. 2.** Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
7 DAR, shall, in coordination with the Land Bank of the Philippines submit to the
8 Department of Agriculture (DA), the complete list of qualified ARBs and
9 leaseholders to be included in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture
10 (RSBSA), their respective locations, and size of land holdings.

11
12 **SEC. 3.** Within thirty (30) days from the approval of this Act, the DAR, shall, in
13 coordination with the DA, PCIC, and Department of Budget and Management,
14 issue the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

15
16 **SEC. 4.** All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and
17 regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with this Act are
18 hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

19
20 **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
21 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,