Congress of the Philippines First Regular Session

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to the agricultural sector.

SENATE

S. No. 1157

Introduced by Senators Macapagal, Alvarez, Roco, Shahani, Romulo, Herrera, Webb and the Members of the Committee on Agriculture and Food

AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1467, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CHARTER OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION (PCIC), IN ORDER TO MAKE THE CROP INSURANCE SYSTEM MORE STABLE AND MORE BENEFICIAL TO THE FARMERS COVERED THEREBY AND FOR THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

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

SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Revised Charter of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation Act of 1995."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to develop and support an adequate agricultural insurance program as a mechanism for managing the risks inherent in agriculture and stabilizing the financial fluctuations suffered by agricultural producers in case of loss on crops, including the agricultural facilities and related infrastructures with the end in view of encouraging lending institutions to extend credit

tended.

Considering that a major sector of our farming economy is composed of marginalized subsistence farmers, who by definition shall be farmers who depend primarily on farming for their subsistence and till their own land with the help of members of their household (hereinafter referred to as 'subsistence farmers'), it is likewise declared a policy of the State to extend to said farmers such subsidies as may be called for in order to bring the benefits of this program within their reach.

In pursuit of this policy, and in order to maximize the benefits under this program, the State shall encourage the formation, development and promotion of people's organization and/or associations such as cooperatives as provided for by Section 23, Article II, Sections 15 and 16, Article XII, and Sections 15 and 16, Article XIII, of the 1987 Constitution, as service channels through which such benefits shall preferably be ex-

SEC. 3. Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 1. Creation of the Philippine Crop Insurance
Corporation. - There is hereby created a body corporate to be
known as the "Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation"
(PCIC and herein called the Corporation) which shall BE
UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE INSURANCE
COMMISSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING
LAWS AND SHALL BE ATTACHED TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR BUDGETARY
PURPOSES. THE BUDGET OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP

1 INSURANCE CORPORATION SHALL BE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS 2 THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE 3 ACT. CORPORATION SHALL INSURE **QUALIFIED** 4 5 FARMERS AGAINST LOSSES ARISING FROM NATURAL CALAMITIES, PLANT DISEASES, AND 6 PEST INFESTATIONS. INITIALLY, THE PHILIPPINE 7 CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION SHALL PROVIDE 8 INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PALAY CROPS, 9 WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE INCLUSION OF 10 OTHER CROPS, INCLUDING AGRICULTURAL 11 FACILITIES, IMPLEMENTS, AND OTHER RELATED 12 13 INFRASTRUCTURES. AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORA-14 TION MAY DETERMINE. SUCH INSURANCE SHALL 15 COVER, IN EVERY CASE, THE COST OF PRODUCTION 16 INPUTS, THE VALUE OF THE FARMERS ON LABOR 17 AND THOSE OF THE MEMBERS OF HIS HOUSE-18 HOLD, INCLUDING THE VALUE OF THE LABOR 19 OF HIRED WORKERS, AND A PORTION OF THE 20 EXPECTED YIELD AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, IN 2.1 22 ITS DISCRETION, DECIDE TO INSURE. [provide 23 insurance protection to farmers against losses arising from 24 natural disaster as well as plant diseases and pest infestation, 25 initially to palay crops and later on the other crops] Such

1	insurance protection, however, shall exclude losses arising
2	from avoidable risks emanating from or due to THE
3	NEGLIGENCE [neglect], malfeasance or fraud
4	COMMITTED by the insured or any member of his immediate
5	farm household or employee or the failure of the insured to
6	follow proven farm practices and that the indemnity for such
7	losses shall not exceed at all times the cost borne by the
8	insured farmer in the production of the crop.
9	SEC. 4. Section 5 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended, is
10	hereby further amended to read as follows:
11	"SEC. 5. Rate of Premium and Its Sharing The rate
12	of premium, as well as the allocated sharing thereof by the
13	farmers, the lending institutions, the Government of the
14	Republic of the Philippines (herein called the Government)
15	and other parties, shall be determined by the Board of
16	Directors of the Corporation: PROVIDED, THAT THE
17	SHARE OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE PREMIUM
18	COST, IN THE FORM OF PREMIUM SUBSIDY, SHALL
19	BE LIMITED TO SUBSISTENCE FARMERS: PROVIDED,
20	HOWEVER, THAT EACH OF THESE SUBSISTENCE
21	FARMERS IS CULTIVATING NOT MORE THAN SEVEN
22	(7) HECTARES BY THEMSELVES OR WITH THE HELP
23	OF THE LABOR OF THE MEMBERS OF THEIR
24	HOUSEHOLD OR HIRED LABOR, THE PREMIUM RATE
25	AND SHARING TO BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD

1	OF DIRECTORS subject to approval by the President of the
2	Philippines: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT THE PREMIUM
.3	SHARE OF THE SUBSISTENCE FARMER SHALL BE
4	REASONABLY AFFORDABLE BY HIM: PROVIDED,
5	FURTHERMORE, THAT THE GOVERNMENT SHALL
6	SHARE IN THE PREMIUM COST ONLY IN INSURANCE
7	COVERAGE AGAINST UNFORESEEN AND
8	UNAVOIDABLE RISKS SUCH AS, BUT NOT LIMITED
.9	TO, TYPHOONS, DROUGHTS, OUTBREAKS OF PESTS
10	AND DISEASES: PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT PREMIUM
11	SUBSIDY AND/OR INSURANCE BENEFITS SHALL,
12	UPON THE ACCUMULATION OF SURPLUS FUNDS, BE
13	. LINCREASED TO SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE
14	DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, TAKING INTO
15	CONSIDERATION THAT THE CORPORATION HAS
16	BEEN ESTABLISHED NOT ONLY FOR PROFIT BUT
17	MAINLY TO HELP THE INSURED IN THEIR DIREST
18	HOURS OF NEED."
19	SEC. 5. A new sub-section, numbered 6.3 shall be added to Section
20	6 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended, to read:
21	"6.3 UNAPPROPRIATED AND/OR UNRELEASED
22	GOVERNMENT PREMIUM SUBSIDY FOR POLICIES
23	WRITTEN FOR THE PERIOD FROM MAY 1, 1981 UP TO
24	THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT COMPUTED ON THE
25	BASIS OF PREMIUM RATES AND SHARING

1	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE
2	PHILIPPINES AS AUTHORIZED BY LAW SHALL BE
3	PROGRAMMED FOR PAYMENT BY THE
4	GOVERNMENT WITHIN A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS
5	FROM THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, AND THE
6	YEARLY SUMS SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE
7	BUDGETARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR SUBMISSION TO
8	CONGRESS, STARTING THE FISCAL YEAR
9	FOLLOWING APPROVAL HEREOF, IN ADDITION TO
10	THE PREMIUM SUBSIDY REQUIREMENT FOR THE
11	YEAR INVOLVED."
12	SEC. 6. Subsections 8.1 and 8.3 of Presidential Decree No. 1467,
13	as amended, are hereby further amended to read as follows:
14	"8.1. The authorized capital stock of the Corporation is
15	[Seven hundred fifty million pesos (P750,000,000.00)] TWO
16	BILLION PESOS (P2,000,000,000.00) divided into [Five
17	million (5,000,000)] FIFTEEN MILLION (15,000,000)
18	common shares with a par value of One hundred pesos
19	(P100.00) each share, which shall be fully subscribed by the
20	Government; and [Two million five hundred thousand
21	(2,500,000.00)] FIVE MILLION (5,000,000) PREFERRED
22	[common] shares with a par value of One hundred pesos
23	(P100.00) per share, which shall have the features as provided
24	in Section 8.4 hereof and shall be issued in accordance with
25	the provisions of Section 8.5 hereof."

1	"8.3 The [remaining] ADDITIONAL common capital
2	stock of [Two hundred fifty million pesos (P250,000,000.00)]
3	ONE BILLION PESOS (P1,000,000,000.00) shall be fully
4	subscribed by the Government and the necessary funds shall
5	be appropriated BY CONGRESS UNLESS OTHERWISE
6	PROVIDED BY EXISTING LAWS: PROVIDED,
7	HOWEVER, THAT ANY OR ALL OF THESE SHARES OF
8	STOCK MAY BE SUBSCRIBED BY PRIVATE PERSONS
9	WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE ON
10	PRIVATIZATION. [programmed, and paid by the proper
11	office, entity or agency of the government as the financial
12	$needs\ of\ the\ Corporation\ shall\ require\ and\ until \ the\ authorized$
13	capital stock is fully paid up.]
14	"8.4 THE ADDITIONAL COMMON CAPITAL
15	STOCK SHALL NOT BE USED, IN ANY CASE, TO
16	EXPAND THE PRESENT MANPOWER OF THE
17	CORPORATION.''
18	SEC. 7. A new section is hereby inserted between Sections 8 and
19	9 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended, designated as Section 8-
20	A, which read as follows:
21	"Sec. 8-A. IN ORDER TO SPREAD THE RISK OF
22	THE CORPORATION, THE PHILIPPINE CROP
23	INSURANCE IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO SEEK
24	REINSURANCE PROTECTION WHENEVER IT MAY
25	BE AVAILABLE.''

SEC. 8. Sub-sections 9.1 and 9.4 of Section 9 of Presidential Decree 1 No. 1467, as amended, are hereby further amended to read as follows: 2 "SEC. 9.1 The power of the Corporation shall be vested 3 in and exercised by a Board of Directors composed of 4 SEVEN (7) MEMBERS WITH THE SECRETARY OF 5 AGRICULTURE AS CHAIRMAN, THE PRESIDENT OF 6 THE CORPORATION AS VICE CHAIRMAN, AND 7 FIVE (5) OTHER MEMBERS TO BE SELECTED FROM 8 THE COOPERATIVE AND FARMER'S ORGANIZATION, 9 THE PRIVATE INSURANCE SECTOR, AND THE 10 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SECTOR. OF THE 11 FIVE (5) MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED, TWO (2) 12 SHALL BE APPOINTED FOR ONE (1) YEAR, TWO (2) 13 FOR TWO (2) YEARS AND ONE (1) FOR THREE (3) 14 YEARS. THERE SHOULD BE AN ADVISORY COUNCIL 15 COMPOSED OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS CONSISTING OF 16 THE FOLLOWING: THE SECRETARY OF FINANCE, 17 THE SECRETARY OF AGRARIAN REFORM, THE 18 SECRETARY OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT, THE 19 PRESIDENT OF THE LAND BANK, AND THE 20 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE AGRICULTURAL 21 CREDIT AND POLICY COUNCIL. [nine (9) members and 22 made up of the following: The Secretary of Finance, the 23 Secretary of Agriculture, the President of the Land Bank of the 24 Philippines, the Secretary of Agrarian Reform, the Secretary 25

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24 25 of Labor, the Secretary of National Defense, the Budget Commission and the President of the Corporation, and in addition, a nominee of the Secretary of Finance, preferably representing the private insurance industry. The Chairman of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the President from among the members of the Board of Directors; and that] The President of the Corporation shall be *ex-officio* Vice Chairman who, as such shall assist the Chairman and act in his stead in case of absence or incapacity. In case of absence or incapacity of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, the Board of Directors shall designate a temporary Chairman from among its members."

"9.4 The Chairman and the members of the Board shall each receive a per diem of [Three hundred pesos (P300.00)] ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P1,500.00) for each MEETING [session] of the Board PERSONALLY attended, but in no case to exceed [Three thousand pesos (P3,000.00)] SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P7,500.00) a month: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE CASE OF THE PRIVATE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES. THE BOARD IS AUTHORIZED TO DETERMINE REASONABLE TRAVELING AND, IF NECESSARY, SUBSISTENCE EXPENSES IN GOING TO AND RETURNING FROM SAID BOARD MEETINGS TO BE DISBURSED TO THEM IN ADDITION TO THEIR

1	PER DIEM."
2	SEC. 9. A new Section is hereby inserted between Sections 11 and
3	12 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended, designated as Section 11-
4	A, which shall read as follows:
5	"SEC. 11-A SETTLEMENT OF CLAIMS
6	"11-A.1 CLAIMS FOR INDEMNITY AGAINST THE
7	CORPORATION SHALL BE SETTLED BY THE
8	CORPORATION'S REGIONAL MANAGER CONCERNED
9	OR THE APPROPRIATE OFFICER TO WHOM HE MAY
10	DELEGATE THE FUNCTION. HOWEVER, IF IN THE
11	OPINION OF THE REGIONAL MANAGER THE CLAIM
12	IS NOVEL, DIFFICULT OR CONTROVERSIAL, THE
13	MATTER MAY BE ELEVATED BY THE REGIONAL
14	MANAGER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
15	CORPORATION FOR DECISION.
16	"11-A.2 THE CLAIMANT AGGRIEVED BY THE
17	DECISION OF THE REGIONAL MANAGER MAY
18	WITHIN THIRTY (30) DAYS FROM RECEIPT OF THE
19	DECISION REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
20	THEREOF, AND IF NOT SATISFIED THEREWITH, MAY
21	ELEVATE THE MATTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
22	CORPORATION.
23	"11-A.3 CLAIMS FOR INDEMNITY SHALL BE
24	SETTLED WITHIN FORTY-FIVE (45) CALENDAR DAYS
25	FROM THE DATE OF RECEIPT BY THE PHILIPPINE

ł	CROP INSURANCE OFFICE OF PROPERLY
2	DOCUMENTED PROOF OF LOSS.
3	"11-B. NO CLAIM BENEFITS ANY INSURED
4	FARMER WHO HAS NOT FILED ANY CLAIM DURING
5	THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THREE (3) CROP
6	SEASONS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO A NO-CLAIM
7	BENEFIT OF AT LEAST TEN PERCENT (10%) OF HIS
8	PREMIUM SHARE PAID FOR SAID CROP SEASONS TO
9	BE DEPOSITED IN A TRUST FUND AND TO BE
10	MANAGED BY THE PCIC. SUCH TRUST FUND MAY BE
11	USED TO FINANCE PREMIUM REBATE, PREMIUM
12	CREDIT APPLICABLE TO THE IMMEDIATE CROP
13	SEASONS, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF
14	DIRECTORS OF PCIC.
15	SEC. 9-A. Section 15 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended,
16	is hereby further amended to read as follows:
17	"SECTION 15. Utilization of Profits The profits of
18	theCorporationshallbedeterminedonthecalendaryearbasis
19	and the manner of its distribution shall be determined by the
20	LAW. [Board of Directors]
21	SEC. 9-B. All provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1467
22	inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed.
23	SEC. 10. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24	complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
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