

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

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SENATE

S. No. 242

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

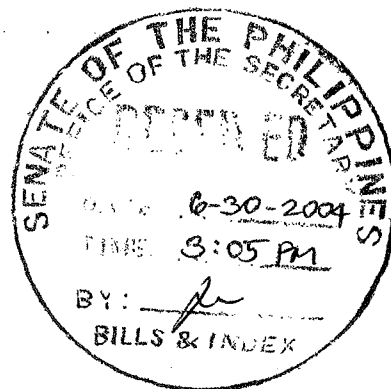
The cultivation of high value crops is key to the modernization of the country's agricultural sector. However, our extremely fragmented farm sector leaves farmers with no access to technology and capital and financial resources that would enable them to engage more profitably in the production of high value crops.

This bill promotes the attainment of economies of scale by encouraging the adoption of cooperatives systems in the consolidation of small landholdings and participation of the corporate sector in the production of high value crops.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly urged.

S. Osmeña III
SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

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AN ACT
TO AMEND R.A. 7900 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE HIGH-VALUE CROPS
DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1995 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **Section 1.** Sections 3, 5 and 7 of R.A. 7900 otherwise known as the High
2 Value Crops Development Act of 1995 and for other purposes are hereby
3 amended to read as follows:

4 **Sec. 2. Scope of Application.** – This Act shall cover BUT SHALL NOT
5 BE LIMITED TO upland dwellers as well as lowland tenants, indigenous and
6 cultural communities. Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP)
7 beneficiaries, upland farm-owners, farmers, farmer's
8 organizations/associations/cooperatives, community associations and farm-
9 workers and to the extent therein provided, the departments, offices, agencies,
10 subdivisions, branches or instrumentalities in the areas identified by the
11 Department of Agriculture as key commercial crop production areas.

12 **Sec. 3. Site Identification.** – The Department of Agrarian Reform and the
13 Department of Agriculture, in coordination with the Department of Environment
14 and Natural Resources: and the municipal concerned. ALONG WITH PRIVATE
15 SECTOR INITIATIVE OR VOLUNTEER, shall identify the broad areas suitable
16 for high-value crops production, within six (6) months after effectivity of this Act.

1 Provided: That such site identification shall be reviewed at appropriate intervals
2 to ensure consistency with agrarian reform program and the national land use
3 policy.

4 **Sec. 4. Farm Model.** – For the program. [farmers may adopt] PORTIONS
5 OF LARGE LANDHOLDINGS MAY BE MADE AVAILABLE TO FARMERS FOR
6 THE ADOPTION OF the cooperative system in putting up economically-sized
7 farms for high-value crop farming. Farming members shall collectively manage
8 individual farms which includes contracting process and means of production,
9 planning and coordinating crop varieties; and raising breed, hectarage.
10 Distribution and some production measures with reference to the market it shall
11 serve. Said farm models may be replicated by farmers' organizations all over the
12 country.

13 **Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.** – All laws or parts thereof, decrees, orders,
14 rules and regulations inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby
15 repealed or modified accordingly: Provided, however, That nothing in this Act
16 shall be construed or applied amending R.A. 6657 and other laws on Agrarian
17 Reform.

18 **Sec. 6. Separability Clause.** – If any of the provisions of this Act is
19 declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full
20 force and effect.

21 **Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
22 after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,