THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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S. No. 277

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

P.D. 717, otherwise known as the Agri-Agra Law requires banks to allocate at least 25% of their loanable funds for Agricultural or Agrarian Reform credit. This was designed to relieve the perceived scarcity of credit in the countryside, especially among poor farmers. In a banking system with an estimated P250 billion in total loanable funds, at least P130 billion should have been available for countryside credit. Ironically, the records show that more than 50% of these funds end up in government securities which can substitute for Agri-Agra credit in compliance with the law. Of the actual portfolio of commercial banks, a significant proportion is channeled to the agri-business ventures of large multinational corporations, leaving a small residual for the small farmers whom the law intended as beneficiaries.

The problem with countryside credit is apparently not as much it shortage, as the inability of farmers to qualify for and hence access such credit. The high default rates associated with countryside credit make it a very unattractive proposition for commercial banks and has rendered numerous credit programs to increase agricultural productivity unsustainable. Clearly, countryside credit thus far channeled through traditional financial institutions has proven inadequate in transforming farmers to entrepreneurial producers.

This bill seeks to strengthen the cooperative bank as the institution that will help develop skills and values among the farmers, serve as a vehicle for savings mobilization, and consolidate the market power of small producers so that they can profitably participate in market exchange. In the experience of developed countries, cooperatives have been the proven method for broadening ownership and control of economic organizations, increasing the number of market participants and building bridges between human and non-human resources in productive activity. Using the Bangladesh Grameen Bank model of peer monitoring and peer group pressure mechanisms, we envision cooperative banks to be the effective retailers of credit which can in the future transform agricredits to an attractive investments outlet for commercial loans, rendering redundant the mandated allocation among commercial banks.

This bill provides the regulatory mechanisms that will place the cooperative banks under the joint and coordinated supervision of the Bangko

Sentral ng Pilipinas and the Cooperative Develoment Authority, in order to safeguard the interests of the public, while allowing leeway for the peculiar nature of cooperative banks. It also allows government owned and controlled financial institutions and other agencies of the government to contribute credit resources to countryside development, but with cooperatives as the lead institutions, countryside development is envisioned to be primarily a self-help effort.

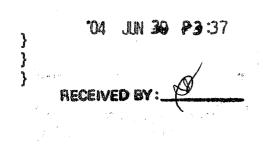
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In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

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SERGIO OSMEÑA III Senator THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session



SENATE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SENATE

S. No. 277

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

AN ACT

EXPANDING COUNTRYSIDE CREDIT THROUGH COOPERATIVE BANKS AND ENCOURAGING THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVE BANKS BY AMENDING CHAPTER XIII OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6938, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COOPERATIVE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title -- This Act shall be known as the "Cooperative

2 Bank Act of 2004."

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SECTION 2. Chapter XIII of Republic Act No. 6938, otherwise known

as the Cooperative Code of the Philippines, is hereby amended to read as

5 follows:

6 "ARTICLE 99. *Governing Law* [(1)] The provisions of this 7 Chapter shall primarily govern cooperative banks registered under this 8 Code and the other provisions of this Code shall apply to them only 9 insofar as they are not inconsistent with the provisions contained in this 10 Chapter.

"[(2) Cooperatives duly established and registered under the provisions of this Code may organize among themselves a cooperative bank which shall likewise be considered a cooperative registerable under the provisions of this Code subject to the requirements of and requisite authorization from the Central Bank.]

³ "ARTICLE 100. [*Definition, Classification and Functions*. A ⁴ cooperative bank is one organized by and the majority shares of which is ⁵ owned and controlled by cooperatives primarily to provide financial and ⁶ credit services to cooperatives. The term "cooperative bank" shall include ⁷ cooperative rural banks.

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"A cooperative bank may perform the following functions:

- (1) To carry on banking and credit services for the cooperative;
- 10 (2) To receive financial aid or loans from the Government and the 11 Central Bank of the Philippines for and in behalf of the 12 cooperative banks and primary cooperatives and their 13 federations engaged in business and to supervise the lending 14 and collection of loans
- (3) To mobilize the savings of its members for the benefit of the
 cooperative movement;
- 17 (4) To act as the balancing medium for the surplus funds of
 18 cooperatives and their federations;
- (5) To discount bills and promissory notes issued and drawn by
 cooperatives;
- 21 (6) To issue negotiable instruments to facilitate the activities of
 22 cooperative;
- (7) To issue debentures subject to the approval of and under
 conditions and guarantees to be prescribed by the
 Government;
- 26 (8) To borrow money from banks and other financial institutions 27 within the limit to be prescribed by the Central Bank; and
- 28 (9) To carry out all other functions as may be prescribed by the 29 Authority: *Provided*, That the performance of any banking

function shall be subject to prior approval by the Central Bank of the Philippines.]

3 DECLARATION OF POLICY - IN ADDITION TO THE 4 DECLARATION OF POLICIES STATED UNDER ARTICLE 2 OF THIS 5 CODE, IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO:

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(A) RECOGNIZE COOPERATIVE BANKS AS EFFECTIVE 6 VEHICLES FOR BROADENING PARTICIPATION IN ECONOMIC 7 DEVELOPMENT, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE POOR, THEREBY 8 THEIR POTENTIAL FOR PRODUCTIVITY AND HARNESSING 9 ACHIEVING ECONOMIC GROWTH WITH EFFICIENCY AND 10 SOCIAL JUSTICE; 11

(B) ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST THE GROWTH AND 12 DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATIVE BANKS IN ORDER TO MEET 13 THE REQUIREMENTS OF CAPITAL, CREDIT AND CREDIT 14 FACILITIES PRIMARILY FOR THE COOPERATIVES AND THEIR 15 MEMBERS; 16

(C) ENCOURAGE THRIFT AND SAVINGS MOBILIZATION FOR
 THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
 EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE PRIMARILY AMONG
 COOPERATIVES AND THEIR MEMBERS; AND

21 (D) REGULATE AND SUPERVISE THE ACTIVITIES OF 22 COOPERATIVE BANKS IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE SOUND, STABLE 23 AND EFFICIENT OPERATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE 24 PUBLIC INTEREST.

Article 101. [*Registration Requirements* - No entity shall be registered by the Cooperative Development Authority as a cooperative bank unless the articles of cooperation and by-laws thereof as well as its establishment and operation as a cooperative bank have been approved by the Central Bank of the Philippines and it satisfies all requirements for registration as a cooperative] DEFINITION OF TERMS THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS SHALL APPLY WITHIN THIS CHAPTER:

(A) "COOPERATIVE BANK" SHALL REFER TO A BANK 4 ORGANIZED UNDER THIS CODE. THE MAJORITY SHARES OF 5 WHICH ARE OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY COOPERATIVE 6 ORGANIZATIONS, THE PURPOSE OF WHICH IS PRIMARILY TO 7 PROVIDE FINANCIAL AND CREDIT SERVICES TO COOPERATIVES 8 AND THEIR MEMBERS. IT SHALL ALSO INCLUDE COOPERATIVE 9 RURAL BANKS; 10

(B) "BANGKO SENTRAL" SHALL REFER TO THE BANGKO 11 SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS (BSP) CREATED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT 12 NO 7653; 13

(C) "MONETARY BOARD" SHALL REFER TO THE MONETARY 14 BOARD OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS; 15

(D) "COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION" SHALL REFER TO ANY 16 COOPERATIVE, WHETHER PRIMARY, SECONDARY OR TERTIARY, 17 REGISTERED UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS CODE AND WITH 18 THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; 19

(E) "COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY" SHALL 20 REFER TO THE AGENCY OF GOVERNMENT MANDATED TO 21 REGULATE AND SUPERVISE COOPERATIVES, CREATED UNDER 22 **REPUBLIC ACT NO 6939.** 23

ARTICLE 102. [Membership - Membership in a cooperative 24 bank shall include only cooperatives and federation of cooperatives.] 25 ORGANIZATION, MEMBERSHIP AND ESTABLISHMENT OF 26 **COOPERATIVE BANKS** 27

COOPERATIVE "SECTION 1. ORGANIZATION. 28 ORGANIZATIONS DULY ESTABLISHED AND REGISTERED UNDER 29

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THIS CODE MAY ORGANIZE A COOPERATIVE BANK, WHICH 1 LIKEWISE SHALL ΒE CONSIDERED A COOPERATIVE 2 REGISTERABLE UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THIS 3 CODE SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS AND REQUISITE 4 AUTHORIZATION FROM THE BANGKO SENTRAL. 5

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6 SECTION 2. *MEMBERSHIP.* - MEMBERSHIP IN A 7 COOPERATIVE BANK MAY BE DIVIDED INTO REGULAR AND 8 ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP SHALL BE OPEN 9 ONLY TO COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE HOLDERS 10 OF COMMON SHARES OF THE BANK.

"ASSOCIATE MEMBERS ARE THOSE SUBSCRIBING AND
 HOLDING PREFERRED SHARES OF THE BANK, WHICH MAY
 INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING:

(A) NON-COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS OR ASSOCIATIONS
 (B) INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS OF THE BANK'S MEMBER PRIMARY COOPERATIVES;

17 (C) LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS; AND

(D) GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND GOVERNMENT-OWNED
 OR CONTROLLED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.

"SAMAHANG NAYONS AND MUNICIPAL KATIPUNANS NG 20 MGA SAMAHANG NAYONS (MKSNs) WHICH HELD COMMON 21 STOCKS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS PRIOR TO THE EFFECTIVITY 22 OF THIS ACT SHALL APPLY FOR CONVERSION TO FULL-FLEDGED 23 COOPERATIVES IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THEIR STATUS AS 24 REGULAR MEMBERS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS; PROVIDED, 25 THAT THEY SHALL NOTIFY THE COOPERATIVE BANK CONCERNED 26 OF THEIR INTENTION TO CONVERT WITHIN A PERIOD OF NINETY 27 (90) DAYS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT. SAMAHANG 28 NAYONS AND MKSNs ARE HEREBY GIVEN A PERIOD OF ONE (1) 29

YEAR FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT TO COMPLETE THEIR 1 CONVERSION TO COOPERATIVES. COOPERATIVE BANKS SHALL 2 EXERT REASONABLE EFFORTS TO INFORM THEIR MEMBER 3 SAMAHANG NAYONS AND MKSNs ABOUT THE REQUIREMENTS 4 SET IN THIS PARAGRAPH. UPON THE FAILURE OF SAMAHANG 5 NAYONS OR MKSNs TO FINALLY CONVERT OR TO GIVE THE 6 NOTICE OF CONVERSION WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED PERIODS, 7 THE COOPERATIVE BANK CONCERNED MAY CONVERT THE 8 COMMON STOCKS HELD BY SUCH ASSOCIATIONS TO 9 PREFERRED SHARES. 10

"SECTION 3 - ESTABLISHMENT OF COOPERATIVE BANKS -11 THE ARTICLES OF COOPERATION AND BY-LAWS OF ANY 12 COOPERATIVE BANK, OR ANY AMENDMENT THERETO, SHALL BE 13 REGISTERED ONLY WHEN ACCOMPANIED BY A CERTIFICATE OF 14 AUTHORITY ISSUED BY THE MONETARY BOARD, UNDER ITS 15 OFFICIAL SEAL. SUCH CERTIFICATE SHALL BE ISSUED IF THE 16 MONETARY BOARD IS SATISFIED FROM THE EVIDENCE 17 SUBMITTED TO IT THAT: (A) ALL THE REQUIREMENTS OF 18 EXISTING LAWS AND REGULATIONS TO ENGAGE IN BUSINESS 19 FOR WHICH THE APPLICANT IS PROPOSED TO BE REGISTERED 20 HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH; (B) PUBLIC INTEREST AND 21 ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, BOTH GENERAL AND LOCAL, JUSTIFY 22 THE AUTHORIZATION; AND (C) THE AMOUNT OF CAPITAL, THE 23 FINANCING ORGANIZATION, DIRECTION AND ADMINISTRATION, 24 AS WELL AS THE INTEGRITY AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE 25 ORGANIZERS AND ADMINISTRATORS REASONABLY ASSURE THE 26 SAFETY OF THE INTEREST WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY ENTRUST TO 27 THEM. 28

"ARTICLE 103. [Board of Directors.] ADMINISTRATION OF COOPERATIVE BANKS.

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"SECTION 1. BANK MANAGEMENT. IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN 3 THE QUALITY OF BANK MANAGEMENT AND ACCORD BETTER 4 PROTECTION TO DEPOSITORS AND THE PUBLIC IN GENERAL, 5 THE MONETARY BOARD MAY PASS UPON AND REVIEW THE 6 QUALIFICATIONS OF PERSONS WHO ARE ELECTED OR 7 APPOINTED BANK DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, AND DISQUALIFY 8 THOSE UNFIT. THE MONETARY BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE THE 9 QUALIFICATIONS OF BANK DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS FOR 10 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, GIVING DUE RECOGNITION TO THE 11 COOPERATIVE NATURE AND CHARACTER UNIQUE OF 12 COOPERATIVE BANKS. 13

"SECTION 2. *Board of Directors* - The number, composition, and
 voting rights of the Board of Directors shall be defined in the articles of
 cooperation and by-laws of the cooperative bank, notwithstanding
 provisions of this Code to the contrary.

18 "EX-OFFICIO MEMBERSHIP IN THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 19 OF A COOPERATIVE BANK SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL
 20 OF THE BANK'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

"ARTICLE 104. [*Loans* - Cooperatives may obtain loans from a
 cooperative bank. Loans granted by a cooperative bank shall be
 reported to the Central Bank of the Philippines] *POWERS, FUNCTIONS AND ALLIED UNDERTAKINGS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS.*

25 "SECTION 1. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS -- COOPERATIVE
 26 BANKS SHALL PRIMARILY PROVIDE FINANCIAL, BANKING AND
 27 CREDIT SERVICES TO COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS AND THEIR
 28 MEMBERS.

"IN ADDITION TO THE POWERS GRANTED BY THIS CODE AND OTHER EXISTING LAWS, ANY COOPERATIVE BANK MAY:

(A) ACCEPT SAVINGS AND TIME DEPOSITS;

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4 (B) MOBILIZE SAVINGS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE 5 COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT;

6 (C) RECEIVE FINANCIAL AID OR LOANS FROM THE 7 GOVERNMENT AND THE BANGKO SENTRAL FOR AND IN BEHALF 8 PRIMARILY OF THE COOPERATIVE BANKS AND COOPERATIVE 9 ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED IN BUSINESS AND SUPERVISE THE 10 LENDING AND COLLECTION OF LOANS;

(D) ACT AS A BALANCING MEDIUM FOR THE SURPLUS
 FUNDS OF COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS;

(E) ISSUE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS TO FACILITATE THE
 ACTIVITIES OF COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS;

(F) ISSUE DEBENTURES SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF
 AND UNDER CONDITIONS AND GUARANTEES TO BE PRESCRIBED
 BY THE GOVERNMENT;

(G) BORROW MONEY FROM BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL
 INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE LIMIT TO BE PRESCRIBED BY THE
 BANGKO SENTRAL;

(H) OPEN CURRENT AND CHECKING ACCOUNTS: 21 PROVIDED, THAT THE COOPERATIVE BANK HAS NET ASSETS OF 22 AT LEAST FIVE MILLION PESOS (P5,000,000), SUBJECT TO SUCH 23 GUIDELINES AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE MONETARY 24 BOARD; AND SHALL BE ALLOWED TO DIRECTLY CLEAR ITS 25 DEMAND DEPOSIT OPERATIONS WITH THE BANGKO SENTRAL 26 AND/OR THE PHILIPPINE CLEARING HOUSE CORPORATION; 27

28 (I) ACT AS CORRESPONDENT FOR OTHER FINANCIAL
 29 INSTITUTIONS;

1 (J) ACT AS COLLECTION AGENT FOR GOVERNMENT 2 ENTITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE BUREAU OF 3 INTERNAL REVENUE, THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM AND THE 4 BUREAU OF CUSTOMS;

5 (K) ACT AS OFFICIAL DEPOSITORY OF NATIONAL AGENCIES, 6 AND OF MUNICIPAL, CITY OR PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT UNITS 7 IN THE MUNICIPALITY, CITY OR PROVINCE WHERE THE 8 COOPERATIVE BANK IS LOCATED, SUBJECT TO SUCH 9 GUIDELINES AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE MONETARY 10 BOARD;

(L) DISCOUNT AND REDISCOUNT PAPER WITH PRIVATE OR
 GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS;

(M) ISSUE MORTGAGE AND CHATTEL MORTGAGE
 CERTIFICATES, BUY AND SELL THEM FOR ITS OWN ACCOUNT OR
 FOR THE ACCOUNT OF OTHERS, OR ACCEPT OR RECEIVE THEM
 IN PAYMENT FOR OR AMORTIZATION OF ITS LOAN;

(N) PURCHASE, HOLD AND CONVEY REAL ESTATE UNDER
 THE SAME CONDITIONS AS THOSE GOVERNING COMMERCIAL
 BANKS AS SPECIFIED UNDER SECTION 25 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO
 337, AS AMENDED;

21 (O) ENGAGE IN QUASI-BANKING AND MONEY MARKET 22 OPERATIONS;

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(P) OPEN LETTERS OF CREDIT AND BANK DRAFTS;

24 (Q) EXTEND CREDIT FACILITIES TO PRIVATE AND 25 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES; *PROVIDED*, THAT IN THE CASE OF 26 A BORROWER WHO IS A PERMANENT EMPLOYEE OR WAGE 27 EARNER, THE TREASURER, CASHIER OR PAYMASTER OF THE 28 OFFICE EMPLOYING HIM IS AUTHORIZED, NOTWITHSTANDING 29 THE PROVISIONS OF ANY EXISTING LAW, RULES OR REGULATIONS TO THE CONTRARY, TO MAKE DEDUCTIONS FROM HIS SALARY, WAGE OR INCOME PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF HIS LOAN, TO REMIT DEDUCTIONS TO THE COOPERATIVE BANK CONCERNED, AND COLLECT SUCH REASONABLE FEES FOR HIS SERVICES;

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6 (R) EXTEND CREDIT AGAINST THE SECURITY OF JEWELRY,
7 PRECIOUS STONES AND ARTICLES OF SIMILAR NATURE,
8 SUBJECT TO SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS AS THE
9 MONETARY BOARD MAY PRESCRIBE;

(S) OFFER OTHER BANKING SERVICES AS PROVIDED
 UNDER SUBSECTIONS (H), (J), (K), (M), AND (O) OF THIS
 SECTION ONLY UPON PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE MONETARY
 BOARD.

"NOTHING IN THIS SECTION SHALL BE CONSTRUED AS 14 PRECLUDING A COOPERATIVE BANK FROM PERFORMING WITH 15 PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE MONETARY BOARD, COMMERCIAL 16 BANKING SERVICES OR FROM OPERATING UNDER AN EXPANDED 17 BANKING AUTHORITY OR FROM EXERCISING, WHENEVER 18 APPLICABLE AND NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF 19 THIS ACT AND BANGKO SENTRAL REGULATIONS, SUCH OTHER 20 POWERS INCIDENT TO A CORPORTATION. 21

"SECTION 2. INVESTMENTS IN ALLIED UNDERTAKINGS -22 SUBJECT TO SUCH GUIDELINES AS MAY BE ESTABLISHED BY THE 23 MONETARY BOARD, COOPERATIVE BANKS MAY INVEST IN 24 EQUITIES OF ALLLIED UNDERTAKINGS AS HEREINAFTER 25 ENUMERATED, PROVIDED THAT (A) THE TOTAL INVESTMENT IN 26 EQUITIES SHALL NOT EXCEED TWENTY FIVE PER CENTUM (25%) 27 OF THE NET WORTH OF THE COOPERATIVE BANK; (B) THE 28 EQUITY INVESTMENT IN ANY SINGLE ENTERPRISE SHALL BE 29

LIMITED TO FIFTEEN PER CENTUM (15%) OF THE NET WORTH OF 1 THE COOPERATIVE BANK: AND (C) THE EQUITY INVESTMENT IN 2 OTHER BANKS SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME PROVISIONS 3 GOVERNING SIMILAR INVESTMENTS OF COMMERCIAL BANKS AND 4 SHALL BE DEDUCTED FROM THE INVESTING BANK'S NET WORTH 5 FOR THE PURPOSE OF COMPUTING THE PRESCRIBED RATIO AS 6 PROVIDED IN SECTION 2 ARTICLE 106 HEREOF; PROVIDED 7 FURTHER, THAT EQUITY INVESTMENTS SHALL NOT BE 8 PERMITTED IN NON-RELATED ACTIVITIES. WHERE THE ALLIED 9 ACTIVITY IS A WHOLLY OR MAJORITY-OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF 10 THE COOPERATIVE BANK, THE BANGKO SENTRAL MAY SUBJECT 11 IT TO EXAMINATION. 12

"INVESTMENT IN ALLIED UNDERTAKINGS SHALL INCLUDE
 ENGAGING IN THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

15 (A) BANKING AND FINANCING;

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16 (B) WAREHOUSING AND OTHER POST-HARVEST ACTIVITIES;

17 (C) FERTILIZER AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL AND
 18 PESTICIDE DISTRIBUTION;

19 (D) FARM EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION;

20 (E) TRUCKING AND TRANSPORTATION OF AGRICULTURAL
 21 PRODUCTS;

(F) MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS;

23 (G) LEASING; AND

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24 (H) OTHER UNDERTAKINGS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY
 25 THE MONETARY BOARD.

26 "SECTION 3. LIMITATIONS ON LENDING AUTHORITY - 27 COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS, THEIR MEMBERS, AND THE
 28 BANK'S DEPOSITORS MAY OBTAIN LOANS FROM A COOPERATIVE

BANK, SUBJECT TO SUCH LIMITATIONS AS MAY BE PROVIDED FOR BY THE BANGKO SENTRAL.

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"EXCEPT AS THE MONETARY BOARD MAY OTHERWISE 3 PRESCRIBE, THE DIRECT INDEBTEDNESS TO COOPERATIVE 4 BANKS OF ANY PERSON OR ASSOCIATION, EXCEPT 5 COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS, FOR MONEY BORROWED, 6 EXCLUDING: (A) LOANS SECURED BY OBLIGATIONS OF THE 7 BANGKO SENTRAL; (B) LOANS FULLY GUARANTEED BY THE 8 GOVERNMENT AS TO THE PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND 9 INTEREST: (C) LOANS TO THE EXTENT COVERED BY THE HOLD-10 OUT ON, OR ASSIGNMENT OF DEPOSITS MAINTAINED IN THE 11 PHILIPPINES; (D) LOANS TO COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATIONS OR 12 THEIR MEMBERS FROM FUNDS PASSED THROUGH THE 13 COOPERATIVE BANK AS A CONDUIT IN ANY PRIVATE OR 14 GOVERNMENT LENDING PROGRAM; AND (E) OTHER LOANS OR 15 CREDITS AS THE MONETARY BOARD MAY, FROM TIME TO TIME, 16 SPECIFY AS NON-RISK ASSETS, SHALL AT NO TIME EXCEED 17 FIFTEEN PER CENTUM (15%) OF THE UNIMPAIRED CAPITAL AND 18 SURPLUS OF THE COOPERATIVE BANK. 19

"NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF THE PRECEDING 20 PARAGRAPH AND SUBJECT TO SUCH REGULATIONS THAT THE 21 MONETARY BOARD MAY PRESCRIBE, THE TOTAL INDEBTEDNESS 22 OF ANY BORROWER TO THE COOPERATIVE BANK MAY AMOUNT 23 TO A FURTHER FIFTEEN PER CENTUM (15%) OF THE 24 UNIMPAIRED CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OF SUCH BANK; PROVIDED 25 THAT THE ADDITIONAL INDEBTEDNESS IS FOR THE PURPOSE 26 OF FINANCING A SUBDIVIDION OR HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, 27 MEDIUM-INCOME OR LOW-INCOME BORROWERS, OR 28 AGRICULTURE, ON A FULLY SECURED BASIS. 29

"THE MONETARY BOARD MAY REGULATE THE AMOUNT OF 1 CREDIT ACCOMMODATIONS THAT MAY BE EXTENDED, DIRECTLY 2 OR INDIRECTLY, BY COOPERATIVE BANKS TO THEIR DIRECTORS. 3 OFFICERS OR SHAREHOLDERS. HOWEVER, THE OUTSTANDING 4 CREDIT ACCOMMODATIONS WHICH A COOPERATIVE BANK MAY 5 EXTEND TO EACH OF ITS DIRECTORS, OFFICERS OR 6 SHAREHOLDERS, EXCEPT MEMBER COOPERATIVE-7 SHAREHOLDERS, SHALL ΒE LIMITED ТО AN AMOUNT 8 EQUIVALENT TO THE RESPECTIVE OUTSTANDING DEPOSITS 9 AND BOOK VALUE OF THEIR PAID-IN CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION IN 10 THE BANK. 11

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12 "THE MONETARY BOARD MAY PRESCRIBE APPROPRIATE
 13 CEILINGS AND CONDITIONS ON BORROWINGS OF A
 14 COOPERATIVE ORGANIZATION FROM A COOPERATIVE BANK.

15 "ARTICLE 105. SUPERVISION OF COOPERATIVE BANKS.

"SECTION 1. Supervision - The cooperative banks registered 16 under this Code shall be under the supervision of the [Central Bank] 17 BANGKO SENTRAL, THROUGH THE MONETARY BOARD, upon 18 COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT consultation with the [agency] 19 AUTHORITY and the NATIONAL FEDERATIONS AND UNIONS OF 20 COOPERATIVES, shall formulate ORDERS, INSTRUCTIONS, RULES 21 AND REGULATIONS AND guidelines regarding the operations and 22 banking transactions of cooperative banks. [These] SUCH ORDERS, 23 INSTRUCTIONS RULES AND REGULATION AND guidelines shall give 24 due recognition to the unique cooperative nature and character of 25 cooperative banks. To this end, cooperative banks may be exempted 26 BANGKO SENTRAL rules and regulations, from [Central Bank] 27 applicable to other types of banks, which would impede the cooperative 28

[rural] bank from performing legitimate financial and banking services to its members.

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"SECTION 2. POWER OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL OVER 3 COOPERATIVE BANKS -- THE BANGKO SENTRAL SHALL HAVE 4 THE POWER TO ENFORCE THE LAWS, ORDERS, INSTRUCTIONS, 5 RULES AND REGULATIONS PROMULGATED BY THE MONETARY 6 BOARD APPLICABLE TO COOPERATIVE BANKS; TO REQUIRE 7 COOPERATIVE BANKS, THEIR DIRECTORS, OFFICERS AND 8 AGENTS TO CONDUCT AND MANAGE THE AFFAIRS OF THE 9 COOPERATIVE BANK IN A LAWFUL AND ORDERLY MANNER; AND, 10 UPON PROOF THAT THE COOPERATIVE BANK OR ITS BOARD OF 11 DIRECTORS OR OFFICERS ARE CONDUCTING AND MANAGING 12 THE AFFAIRS OF THE BANK IN A MANNER CONTRARY TO LAWS, 13 RULES AND ORDERS, INSTRUCTIONS, REGULATIONS 14 PROMULGATED BY THE MONETARY BOARD OR IN A MANNER 15 SUBSTANTIALLY PREJUDICIAL TO THE INTEREST OF THE 16 GOVERNMENT, DEPOSITORS, CREDITORS OR THE GENERAL 17 PUBLIC, TO APPOINT A CONSERVATOR PURSUANT TO SECTION 18 29 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7653 WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE 19 PROSECUTION OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH 20 VIOLATIONS UNDER THE PROVIDIONS OF SECTIONS 36 AND 37 21 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO 7653. 22

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"THE DIRECTOR AND EXAMINERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF 23 THE BANGKO SENTRAL CHARGED WITH THE SUPERVISION OF 24 COOPERATIVE BANKS ARE HEREBY TO AUTHORIZED 25 ADMINISTER OATHS TO ANY DIRECTOR, OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE 26 OF ANY COOPERATIVE BANK OR TO ANY VOLUNTARY WITNESS, 27 AND TO COMPEL THE PRESENTATION OF ALL BOOKS, 28 DOCUMENTS, PAPERS OR RECORDS NECESSARY TO ASCERTAIN 29

THE FACTS RELATIVE TO THE TRUE CONDITION OF ANY COOPERATIVE BANK OR TO ANY LOAN EXTENDED.

"ARTICLE 106. CAPITALIZATION AND CAPITAL REQUIREMENTS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS --

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"SECTION 1. Capitalization. -- (1) A national cooperative bank 5 shall have a minimum authorized share capital of two hundred million 6 pesos (P200,000,000) in relation to Article 14 (5). 7 The authorized share capital shall be divided into such number of shares with a 8 minimum par value of one thousand pesos (P1,000) per share. For the 9 purpose primarily of determining the permanency of equity, the types of 10 shares a cooperative bank may issue, including the terms thereof and [1] the rights appurtenant thereto, shall be subject to such rules and 12 regulations as the [Central Bank] BANGKO SENTRAL may prescribe. 13

"(2) A local cooperative bank shall have a minimum authorized
 share capital of twenty million pesos (P20,000,000) divided into such
 number of shares with a minimum par value of one hundred pesos
 (P100) per share.

"(3) THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES (LBP) SHALL 18 SUBSCRIBE TO AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENTUM (20%) OF THE 19 PREFERRED SHARES OF A COOPERATIVE BANK. OTHER 20 GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED FINANCIAL 21 INSTITUTIONS AS WELL AS PRIVATE COMMERCIAL BANKS MAY 22 TO THE PREFERRED SHARES OF A ALSO SUBSCRIBE 23 COOPERATIVE BANK. HOWEVER, SUCH SUBSCRIPTIONS OF THE 24 LBP, OTHER GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND CONTROLLED FINANCIAL 25 INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE COMMERCIAL BANKS SHALL BE 26 SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE BANK'S BOARD OF 27 DIRECTORS. SUCH CAPITAL INFUSION SHALL BE CONSIDERED 28 AS PARTIAL COMPLIANCE BY THE GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND 29

CONTROLLED FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND COMMERCIAL BANKS CONCERNED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 717, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AGRI-AGRA LAW. THE SHARES HELD BY GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND PRIVATE COMMERCIAL BANKS SHALL BE PAID OFF AT PAR AND RETIRED IN WHOLE OR IN PART WHEN THE COOPERATIVE BANK HAS ACQUIRED ENOUGH CAPITAL STRENGTH TO PERMIT RETIREMENT OF SUCH SHARES.

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"(4) THE AGRICULTURAL CREDIT POLICY COUNCIL (ACPC) 9 THROUGH ITS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE COOPERATIVE 10 DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA), THROUGH ITS BOARD OF 11 ADMINISTRATORS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT-OWNED OR 12 CONTROLLED NON-FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS WITH LOANING AND 13 DEVELOPMENT FUNCTIONS AND PROGRAMS, THROUGH THEIR 14 APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES, MAY UTILIZE FUNDS SUCH AS THE 15 COMPREHENSIVE AGRICULTURAL LOAN FUND (CALF) THE 16 COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT LOAN FUND (CDLF), THE 17 COOPERATIVE MARKETING PROJECT FUND (CMPF) AND OTHER 18 FUNDS EXISTING OR HEREINAFTER CREATED UNDER THEIR 19 RESPECTIVE ADMINISTRATIONS TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE 20 PREFERRED SHARES OF A COOPERATIVE BANK THROUGH THE 21 CONVERSION OF THE LIABILITIES OF THE BANK DUE TO THESE 22 INSTITUTIONS INTO PREFERRED SHARES AND/OR FRESH 23 CAPITAL INFUSION SUBJECT TO MUTUAL AGREEMENT OF THE 24 PARTIES; PROVIDED THAT SUCH PREFERRED SHARES HELD BY 25 SUCH NON-FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS SHALL BE RETIRED IN 26 WHOLE OR IN PART AT BOOK VALUE WHEN THE COOPERATIVE 27 BANK HAS ACQUIRED ENOUGH CAPITAL STRENGTH TO PERMIT 28 THE RETIREMENT OF SUCH SHARES; PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT 29

1 THE ACPC, THE CDA AND THE OTHER GOVERNMENT-OWNED 2 AND CONTROLLED NON-FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS MAY UTILIZE 3 EARNINGS DERIVED FROM SUCH BASIC SOURCE FUNDS SUCH 4 AS CALF, CDLF, CMPF AND OTHER FUNDS CREATED UNDER 5 THEIR ADMINISTRATION FOR INSTITUTION-BUILDING, CREDIT 6 AND CREDIT-RELATED PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.

"SECTION 2. COMBINED CAPITAL ACCOUNTS – THE
COMBINED CAPITAL ACCOUNTS OF EACH COOPERATIVE BANK
SHALL NOT BE LESS THAN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO TEN
PERCENTUM (10%) OF ITS RISK ASSETS, WHICH IS DEFINED AS
ITS TOTAL ASSETS MINUS THE FOLLOWING ASSETS:

12 (A) CASH ON HAND;

13 (B) AMOUNTS FROM THE BANGKO SENTRAL;

(C) EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF
 THE PHILIPPINES, AND OF THE BANGKO SENTRAL, AND ANY
 OTHER EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS OR OBLIGATIONS THE
 SERVICING AND REPAYMENT OF WHICH ARE FULLY
 GUARANTEED BY THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES;

(D) LOANS TO THE EXTENT COVERED BY HOLD-OUT ON, OR
 ASSIGNMENT OF DEPOSITS MAINTAINED IN, THE LENDING BANK
 AND HELD IN THE PHILIPPINES; AND

(E) OTHER NON-RISK ITEMS AS THE MONETARY BOARD
 MAY FROM TIME TO TIME, AUTHORIZE TO BE DEDUCTED FROM
 TOTAL ASSETS.

25 "THE MONETARY BOARD SHALL PRESCRIBE THE MANNER
 26 OF DETERMINING THE TOTAL ASSETS OF COOPERATIVE BANKS
 27 FOR PURPOSES FO THIS SECTION.

28 "WHENEVER THE CAPITAL ACCOUNTS OF A COOPERATIVE
 29 BANK ARE DEFICIENT WITH RESPECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF

THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, THE MONETARY BOARD, AFTER 1 CONSIDERING THE REPORT OF THE APPROPRIATE SUPERVISING 2 DEPARTMENT ON THE STATE OF SOLVENCY OF THE 3 INSTITUTION, SHALL LIMIT OR PROHIBIT THE DISTRIBUTION OF 4 NET PROFITS AND SHALL REQUIRE THAT PART OR ALL OF THE 5 NET PROFITS BE USED TO INCREASE THE CAPITAL ACCOUNTS 6 OF THE INSTITUTION UNTIL THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT HAS 7 BEEN MET. THE MONETARY BOARD MAY, AFTER CONSIDERING 8 THE AFORESAID REPORT OF THE APPROPRIATE SUPERVISING 9 AND IF THE AMOUNT OF THE DEFICIENCY DEPARTMENT 10 JUSTIFIES IT, RESTRICT OR PROHIBIT THE MAKING OF NEW 11 INVESTMENT OF ANY SORT BY THE BANK, WITH THE EXCEPTION 12 OF PURCHASES OF EVIDENCES OF INDEBTEDNESS INCLUDED 13 UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION UNTIL THE MINIMUM 14 REQUIRED CAPITAL RATIO HAS BEEN RESTORED. 15

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16 "WHEN IN THE PROCESS OF A BANK MERGER OR
17 CONSOLIDATION, THE MERGED OR CONSTITUENT BANK MAY
18 NOT BE ABLE TO COMPLY FULLY WITH THE NET WORTH TO RISK
19 ASSET RATIO HEREIN PRESCRIBED, THE MONETARY BOARD
20 MAY, AT ITS DISCRETION TEMPORARILY RELIEVE THE BANK
21 FROM FULL COMPLIANCE WITH THIS REQUIREMENT UNDER SUCH
22 CONDITIONS IT MAY PRESCRIBE.

"ARTICLE 107. [*Distribution of net surplus --* The provisions of
this Code on the allocation of net surplus shall apply.] *PROHIBITED ACTS --* WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ANY PROSECUTION UNDER ANY
LAW WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN VIOLATED, A FINE OF NOT MORE
THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000) OF IMPRISONMENT OF
NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) MONTHS BUT NOT MORE THAN TEN (10)

THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING, RENEWING, OR INCREASING A LOAN OR EXTENDING THE PERIOD THEREOF; OR

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4) ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD THE COOPERATIVE BANK IN THE EVENT OF COURT ACTION TO RECOVER THE LOAN; OR

5 5) OFFER ANY OFFICER, EMPLOYEE OR AGENT OF THE 6 COOPERATIVE BANK A GIFT, FEE, COMMISSION OR OTHER 7 FORMS OF COMPENSATION IN ORDER TO INFLUENCE SUCH 8 BANK PERSONNEL INTO APPROVING A LOAN APPLICATION; OR

9 6) DISPOSE OR ENCUMBER THE PROPERTY OFFERED AS
 10 SECURITY FOR A LOAN; AND

(C) ANY EXAMINER, OR OTHER OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE OF
THE BANGKO SENTRAL OR OF ANY DEPARTMENT, BUREAU,
OFFICE, BRANCH OR AGENCY OF THE GOVERNMENT WHO IS
ASSIGNED TO EXAMINE, SUPERVISE, ASSIST OR RENDER
TECHNICAL SERVICE TO COOPERATIVE BANKS AND WHO SHALL
CONNIVE OR AID IN THE COMMISSION OF THE ACTS PROHIBITED
IN THIS ARTICLE.

"ANY METROPOLITAN, MUNICIPAL OR MUNICIPAL CIRCUIT 18 TRIAL COURT JUDGE OR REGISTER OF DEEDS WHO SHALL 19 DEMAND OR ACCEPT, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, ANY GIFT, 20 FEE, COMMISSION, OR ANY OTHER FORM OF COMPENSATION IN 21 CONNECTION WITH THE SERVICE OR SHALL ARBITRARILLY AND 22 WITHOUT REASONABLE CASE DELAY THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT 23 OR ADMINISTRATION OF AN OATH OR THE REGISTRATION OF 24 DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE PERFORMED BY SAID JUDGE OR 25 SAID REGISTER OF DEEDS SHALL BE PUNISHED WITH A FINE OF 26 NOT MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND PESOS (P1,000) OR BY 27 IMPRISONMENT OF NOT MORE THAN ONE (1) YEAR, OR BOTH, 28 AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT. 29

"ANY BANK NOT ORGANIZED AND REGISTERED UNDER THIS 1 CODE AND ANY PERSON. ASSOCIATION OR CORPORATION 2 DOING THE BUSINESS OF BANKING, NOT AUTHORIZED UNDER 3 THIS CODE OR EXISTING LAWS, WHICH SHALL USE THE WORDS 4 "COOPERATIVE BANK" AS PART OF ITS NAME OR TITLE AS SUCH 5 BANK OR SUCH PERSON. ASSOCIATION OR CORPORATION. 6 SHALL BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE 7 HUNDRED PESOS (P100) BUT IN NO CASE TO EXCEED THIRTY 8 THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000) FOR EACH DAY DURING WHICH THE 9 SAID WORDS ARE SO USED. 10

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Article 108. *Privileges [. -] AND INCENTIVES OF COOPERATIVE BANKS* - [Cooperative Banks shall have the following privileges subject to the approval of the Central Bank and compliance with applicable banking laws, rules and regulations.

(1) The cooperative banks registered under this Code shall be
 given the same privilege granted to rural banks, private development
 banks, commercial banks and all other banks to rediscount notes with
 the Central Bank, the Land Bank of the Philippines and other
 government banks without affecting in any way the provisions of this
 Code; and

(2) To act as depository of government funds. For this purpose,
 all government departments, agencies and units of the national and local
 government, including government-owned and controlled corporations
 are hereby authorized to deposit their funds in any cooperative bank.]

"SECTION 1. RESERVE REQUIREMENT DIFFERENTIAL - THE 25 RESERVE REQUIREMENT IMPOSED ON ANY COOPERATIVE BANK 26 BY THE MONETARY BOARD SHALL ENJOY EQUITABLE 27 PREFERENTIAL TERMS OVER THOSE IMPOSED ON ANY OTHER 28 TYPE OR CLASS OF BANK, INCLUDING RURAL BANKS AND 29

THRIFT BANKS; *PROVIDED* THAT THE MONETARY BOARD MAY CHANGE SUCH RESERVE DIFFERENTIALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF STIMULATING ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE COUNTRYSIDE, THEREBY PROMOTING NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

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5 SECTION 2. *LIBERALIZED BRANCHING RULES* --6 COOPERATIVE BANKS SHALL HAVE UNRESTRICTED BRANCHING 7 RIGHTS FREE FROM ANY STIPULATION, ASSESSMENT OR 8 SURCHARGES REQUIRED IN SETTING UP A BRANCH, BUT IN 9 COORDINATION WITH THE BANGKO SENTRAL WHICH SHALL 10 ASSESS THAT THERE ARE QUALIFIED PERSONNEL, CONTROLS 11 AND PROCEDURES TO OPERATE SUCH BRANCH OR BRANCHES.

"SECTION 3. PUBLICATION OF STATEMENT OF CONDITION -12 - SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF THE MONETARY BOARD, A 13 COOPERATIVE BANK MAY PUBLISH ITS STATEMENT OF 14 CONDITION IN A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION, OR A 15 LOCAL NEWSPAPER COVERING ITS AREA OF OPERATIONS. OR 16 POST IT IN THE MOST CONSPICUOUS AREA OF ITS PREMISES, 17 THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING, THE MUNICIPAL MARKET, THE 18 BARANGAY HALL, OR THE BARANGAY PUBLIC MARKET, IF 19 THERE BE ANY, WHERE THE COOPERATIVE BANK IS LOCATED. 20

"SECTION 4. EXEMPTION FROM PUBLICATION 21 REQUIREMENT -- THE FORECLOSURE OR MORTGAGES 22 COVERING LOANS GRANTED BY A COOPERATIVE BANK AND 23 EXECUTIONS OF JUDGMENTS THEREON INVOLVING REAL 24 PROPERTIES AND LEVIED UPON BY A SHERIFF SHALL BE 25 EXEMPT FROM PUBLICATION REQUIREMENTS WHERE THE TOTAL 26 AMOUNT OF THE LOAN, EXCLUDING INTEREST DUE AND UNPAID. 27 DOES NOT EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000) 28 OR SUCH AMOUNT AS THE MONETARY BOARD MAY PRESCRIBE. 29

AS MAY BE WARRANTED BY THE PREVAILING ECONOMIC I AND BY THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF CONDITIONS 2 COOPERATIVE BANKS. IT SHALL BE SUFFICIENT PUBLICATION IN 3 SUCH CASES IF THE NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE AND EXECUTION 4 OF JUDGEMENT ARE POSTED IN CONSPICUOUS AREAS OF THE 5 COOPERATIVE BANK'S PREMISES. THE MUNICIPAL HALL, THE 6 MUNICIPAL PUBLIC MARKET. THE BARANGAY HALL OR THE 7 BARANGAY PUBLIC MARKET, IF THERE BE ANY, WHERE THE 8 LAND MORTGAGED IS SITUATED, WITHIN A PERIOD OF SIXTY 9 (60) DAYS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE PUBLIC AUCTION OR 10 THE EXECUTION OF JUDGEMENT. PROOF OF PUBLICATION AS 11 REQUIRED HEREIN SHALL BE ACCOMPLISHED BY AN AFFIDAVIT 12 OF THE SHERIFF OR OFFICER CONDUCTING THE FORECLOSURE 13 SALE OR EXECUTION OF JUDGMENT, AND SHALL BE ATTACHED 14 TO THE RECORD OF THE CASE. 15

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"A COOPERATIVE BANK SHALL BE ALLOWED TO
 FORECLOSE LANDS MORTGAGED TO IT; *PROVIDED* THAT SAID
 LANDS SHALL BE COVERED UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS
 AMENDED.

"SECTION 5. PRIVILEGES -- IN ADDITION TO THE 20 PRIVILEGES GENERALLY GRANTED TO COOPERATIVES UNDER 21 THIS CODE, A COOPERATIVE BANK SHALL ALSO BE EXEMPTED 22 FROM THE PAYMENT OF ALL TAXES, LICENSES, FEES AND 23 CHARGES OF WHATEVER TYPE, NATURE AND DESCRIPTION, 24 WHETHER NATIONAL OR LOCAL, FOR A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS 25 FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THESE AMENDMENTS TO THE 26 COOPERATIVE CODE OR FROM THE DATE OF REGISTRATION OF 27 A COOPERATIVE BANK WITH THE COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT 28 AUTHORITY, WHICHEVER COMES LATER. 29

"ARTICLE 109. Assistance to Cooperative Banks

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"SECTION 1. GENEREAL - IN ACCORDANCE WITH 2 EXISTING POLICIES, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, GOVERNMENT-3 OWNED OR CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL 4 INSTITUTIONS SHALL PROVIDE ASSISTANCE WHETHER 5 TECHINICAL OR FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE, TO COOPERATIVE 6 BANKS TO PERMIT THEM TO GROW, DEVELOP AND PERFORM 7 THEIR ROLE IN COUNTRYSIDE DEVELOPMENT AND TOWARDS A 8 SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. 9

GOVERNMENT FUNDING - WHENEVER "SECTION 2. 10 NECESSARY AND NOTWITHSTANDING PROVISIONS OF THIS CODE 11 TO THE CONTRARY, THE BANGKO SENTRAL MAY, UPON 12 CONSULTATION WITH THE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS AND UNIONS 13 OF COOPERATIVES AND THE CDA, AUTHORIZE THE LAND BANK 14 THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF THE OF THE PHILIPPINES. 15 PHILIPPINES, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND 16 **INSTRUMENTALITIES** TO INFUSE FRESH CAPITAL INTO 17 COOPERATIVE BANKS, AND TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR 18 COOPERATIVE BANKS AT MINIMAL INTEREST RATES. SUBJECT 19 TO SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS THAT THE BANGKO 20 SENTRAL MAY PROMULGATE FROM TIME TO TIME. 21

22 "Section 3. [Assistance to cooperative Banks] DISTRESSED 23 COOPERATIVE BANKS -- Whenever a cooperative bank organized 24 under this Code is distressed or may need assistance in the 25 rehabilitation of its financial condition or to avoid bankruptcy, the 26 Monetary Board of the [Central Bank of the Philippines] BANGKO 27 SENTRAL shall designate an official of the [Central Bank] BANGKO 28 SENTRAL or a person of recognized competence in banking or finance as [receiver or] conservator of the said bank pursuant to the provisions of Section 29 of Republic Act No. 7553, as amended."

3 SECTION 2. Any provision of law inconsistent with the provisions of
4 this Act is hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

5 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to 6 any person or circumstances is held invalid, the other provisions of this Act 7 and the application of such provisions to other persons and circumstances shall 8 not be affected thereby.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
 10 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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