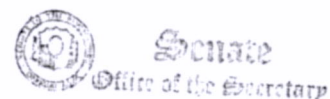


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF)
THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'18 MAR 20 P 4 :57

SENATE Bill No. 1759

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Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

**AN ACT TO STRENGTHEN THE RESILIENCY OF SMALL FARMERS AGAINST
CLIMATE CHANGE AND EXTREME WEATHER RISKS
BY ESTABLISHING THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK AND PROGRAM FOR A
FREE WEATHER INDEX-BASED CROP INSURANCE, PROVIDING THE SOURCE OF
FUNDING THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is one of the most disaster-prone and climate-change vulnerable countries in the Asian region. Its geographic location places most of the agriculture production areas in the direct path of most typhoons that originate in the Western Pacific. The country is, thus, highly exposed to various hydro-meteorological hazards, including climate-change induced super-typhoons and storm surges.

Farmers in the Philippines are the poorest among the various economic sectors, mostly due to poor productivity and antiquated farm practices. But this is gravely exacerbated by the high risks brought about by weather disturbances and calamities. For instance, according to the Philippine Food Security Information System of the Philippine Statistical Authority, floods and typhoons from the year 2000 through 2012 wreaked havoc on rice and corn farms costing farmers up to P54.8 billion or an average of P4.2 billion per year. The Department of Agriculture reckons a total of P106.9 billion in weather damages for all crops for the ten year period from 2000-2010. According to the Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC), corn farmers alone have suffered cumulative losses of P7 billion