



SENATE
Senate Bill No. 1927

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(In Substitution of Senate Joint Resolution No. 12)

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Prepared Jointly by the Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform,
Finance; and Ways and Means with Senator Cynthia A. Villar as author thereof

AN ACT
**AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO USE THE ANNUAL
TARIFF REVENUES IN EXCESS OF P10 BILLION, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT
11203 OR "AN ACT LIBERALIZING THE IMPORTATION, EXPORTATION
AND TRADING OF RICE, LIFTING FOR THE PURPOSE THE QUANTITATIVE
IMPORT RESTRICTION ON RICE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," FOR
DIRECT CASH ASSISTANCE TO FARMERS OWNING ONE (1) HECTARE OR
LESS OF RICE LAND UNTIL 2024**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "Cash Assistance for
2 Filipino Farmers Act of 2020".

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby the declared policy of the
4 State to address the plight of small farmers in the country. The State recognizes the
5 urgency of intervening for our farmers in light of the current state of declining palay
6 prices and the crippling effects of the COVID pandemic. Towards this end, the State
7 shall provide monetary assistance to the hardest hit segments of our small farmers
8 in the form of actual giving of cash to farmers.

9 **SEC. 3. Coverage.** – This Act shall apply only to farmers owning one (1)
10 hectare or less of rice land. The Department of Agriculture shall establish actual
11 beneficiaries of this Act on the basis of its Registry System for Basic Sectors in
12 Agriculture (RSBSA) for rice.

1 **SEC. 4. Authorization.** - The Department of Agriculture is hereby
2 authorized to use the monies from the annual tariff revenues in excess of P10B, as
3 provided in Section 13 of Republic Act 11203, for direct provision of cash assistance
4 to farmers. The Bureau of Customs is hereby mandated to directly remit to the
5 Department of Agriculture the said excess funds.

6 Further, any money in excess of P10B in the annual tariff revenues in any
7 given year in the life of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) under
8 said Act, shall automatically be given as cash assistance to farmers, unless otherwise
9 amended by law.

10 The Bureau of Customs and the Department of Agriculture shall submit
11 separate reports to Congress at year end, through the Committee on Agriculture, on
12 the remittance of funds and the actual fund disbursement for the year, respectively.

13 **SEC. 5. Funding.** – The source of funds for the annual direct cash assistance
14 to farmers shall be the excess of P10 billion in the annual revenue collections under
15 Republic Act 11203.

16 **SEC. 6. Separability Clause.** – In case any provision or any part thereof is
17 declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared and affected shall
18 remain in force and effect.

19 **SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
20 executive order, letter of instruction, rule or regulation inconsistent or contrary to
21 the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

22 **SEC. 8. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect immediately following its
23 publication in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

24 Approved,