



S E N A T E

S. No. 1927

PREPARED JOINTLY BY THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE,
FOOD AND AGRARIAN REFORM; FINANCE; AND WAYS AND
MEANS WITH SENATORS VILLAR, PANGILINAN,
VILLANUEVA, HONTIVEROS, MARCOS AND REVILLA JR.
AS AUTHORS THEREOF

AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE TO USE THE ANNUAL TARIFF
REVENUES IN EXCESS OF P10 BILLION, UNDER
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 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
2 “Cash Assistance for Filipino Farmers Act of 2020”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby the
4 declared policy of the State to address the plight of small

1 farmers in the country. The State recognizes the urgency of
2 intervening for our farmers in light of the current state of
3 declining *palay* prices and the crippling effects of the
4 COVID pandemic. Towards this end, the State shall
5 provide monetary assistance to the hardest hit segments of
6 our small farmers in the form of actual giving of cash to
7 farmers.

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

13 SEC. 4. *Authorization.* – The DA is hereby authorized
14 to use the monies from the annual tariff revenues in excess
15 of Ten billion pesos (P10B), as provided in Section 13 of
16 Republic Act No. 11203, for direct provision of cash
17 assistance to farmers. The Bureau of Customs (BOC) is
18 hereby mandated to directly remit to the DA the said
19 excess funds.

1 Further, any money in excess of Ten billion pesos
2 (P10B) in the annual tariff revenues in any given year in
3 the life of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund
4 (RCEF) under said Act, shall automatically be given as
5 cash assistance to farmers, unless otherwise amended by
6 law.

7 The BOC and the DA shall submit separate reports to
8 Congress at year end, through the Committee on
9 Agriculture, on the remittance of funds and the actual fund
10 disbursement for the year, respectively.

11 SEC. 5. *Funding.* – The source of funds for the annual
12 direct cash assistance to farmers shall be the excess of Ten
13 billion pesos (P10B) in the annual revenue collections
14 under Republic Act No. 11203.

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

19 SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential
20 decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction,

1 rule or regulation inconsistent or contrary to the provisions
2 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

3 SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect
4 immediately following its publication in the *Official*
5 *Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,