NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



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SEN 458

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PROVISION OF CROP INSURANCE FOR THE FISHERIES LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY SECTORS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 1 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1467, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "REVISED CHARTER OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION ACT OF 1995"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Four sub-sectors make up the entire agricultural sector – crops, livestock, poultry, and fisheries. In the Philippines, agriculture makes up 25% to 30% of the labor force and contributes to about 10% to the gross national product. The fisheries sector alone produced 4.415 million metric tons of fish in 2019, valued at around P281,652 billion, but decreased by -0.3%, according to preliminary statistics released by the Philippine Statistics Authority¹. On the other hand, projected poultry production for 2022 is from 25,000 MT to 1.025 million MT, after rebuilding efforts due to the African Swine Fever outbreak in the country². But as early as the second quarter of 2021, the sector already recorded a 2.5% growth rate³.

All of the sectors identified above are vulnerable to climate change and severe weather-based calamities. In 2002, Typhoon Gloria wreaked havoc upon fish ponds in four provinces, costing around \$4.4 million. The province of Pampanga was affected the worst, with almost 2,500 hectares of ponds damaged. An estimated

https://www.fas.usda.gov/data/philippines-livestock-and-poultry-update-2

¹ Tantuco, V. (22 September 2021). *IN NUMBERS: The Philippines' fisheries sector*. Retrieved from https://www.rappler.com/environment/philippines-fisheries-sector-statistics/

² USDA (15 December 2021). *Philippines: Livestock and Poultry Update*. Retrieved from

³ Department of Agriculture. (27 August 2021). *Philippine Poultry and Livestock Virtual Summit*. Retrieved from https://www.da.gov.ph/gallery/philippine-poultry-and-livestock-virtual-summit-aug-27-2021/#:~:text=Poultry%20production%20accounts%20for%2013,logged%20a%202.5%25%20growth%20rate.

7,000 fisherfolk were affected, and around 2,000 to 3,000 tons of fish were lost. In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan caused Php 1.82 billion of damage to the fisheries sector in Region 8 alone. In 2018, Typhoon Ompong caused Php 5.5 million of damage to the livestock and poultry sectors. In 2021, Typhoon Odette wiped out 13.3 billion worth of agricultural goods or a total of 273,062 metric tons covering 462,766 hectares of agricultural land, according to the Department of Agriculture. The fisheries sector sustained damage of P3.97 billion; rice P2.1 billion; high-value crops P2 billion; coconut P1.6 billion; and sugarcane P1.15 billion.

This measure seeks to protect the fisheries, livestock, and poultry sector from the immediate impact of natural disasters by amending the coverage of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, to include as part of the corporate insurance coverage livestock, poultry and related equipment, as well unharvested fisheries stock, and inland fishponds, fish cages, fish pens, and fishing boats. This proposal harmonizes the issuances of the PCIC, as well as those covered under R.A. No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998".

In light of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is eagerly sought.

GRACE POE

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SENATE S. No. 958

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Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE PROVISION OF CROP INSURANCE FOR THE FISHERIES LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY SECTORS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 1 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1467, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "REVISED CHARTER OF THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION ACT OF 1995"

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

Section 1. Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1467, as amended, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 1. Creation of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation. - There is hereby created a body corporate to be known as the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC and herein called the Corporation) which shall be attached to the Department of Agriculture for budgetary purposes. The Corporation shall insure qualified farmers AND FISHERFOLK against losses arising from natural calamities, plant diseases, and pest infestations. [Initially] [t]The Corporation shall provide insurance coverage for palay [crops] and [later on to] other crops, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY, AND UNHARVESTED FISHERIES STOCK, without prejudice to the inclusion of other non-crop agricultural assets, such as but not limited to machineries, equipment, transport facilities, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY PENS AND CAGES, INLAND FISHPONDS, FISH CAGES, FISHPENS, FISHING BOATS, and other related infrastructures, as the Board of Directors of the Corporation may determine. Such crop insurance shall cover, in every case, the cost of production inputs, the value of the farmer's AND/OR FISHERFOLK'S own labor and those of the members of his household, including the value of the labor of hired workers, and a portion of the expected as the Board of Directors, in its discretion,

- decide to insure. Such insurance protection, however, shall exclude losses arising from avoidable risks emanating from or due to the negligence, malfeasance or fraud committed by the insured or any member of his immediate farm household or employee or the failure of the insured to follow proven farm practices.
 - Sec. 2. *Appropriations.* Such funds as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual appropriations of the PCIC under the Budgetary Support to Government Corporations.
 - Sec. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* The PCIC shall issue the implementing rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days of its effectivity.
 - Sec. 4. *Separability Clause*. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
 - Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
 - Sec. 6. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication or in the Official Gazette or in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,