


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SEP 23 2011

SENATE
Jt. Res. No. 11

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Rodolfo G. Biazon

JOINT RESOLUTION

SUSPENDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9367, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE BIOFUELS ACT OF 2006, UNTIL SUCH TIME THAT THE COUNTRY IS ASSURED THAT ALL THE RESOURCES SUCH AS LANDS, TECHNOLOGY, ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES AND OTHERS NEEDED TO ENSURE THE FORMULATION OF A PROGRAM TO ATTAIN THE COUNTRY'S FOOD SUFFICIENCY, ESPECIALLY RICE SELF-SUFFICIENCY, ARE ALREADY IN PLACE

Whereas, The world, including the Philippines, is presently experiencing a crisis in the supply of rice;

Whereas, While we consume around 12 million metric tons of rice every year, the country is only able to produce around 9.78 million metric tons;

Whereas, Over the past two decades, the trend in our importation of our basic staple has been increasing;

Whereas, Due to the present rice shortage, our traditional sources of imported rice such as Thailand and Vietnam have recently announced that they are cutting their exports by as much as 30 percent;

Whereas, There is an emergence of rice producing and exporting countries behaving like members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) where they influence the price of oil either through overproduction or underproduction;

Whereas, Our country's population is increasing and this is putting more strain on the country's present as well as future food supply;

Whereas, Experts all over the world have pointed out that climate change could further affect food production world wide;

Whereas, Situations such as what we are facing right now dictate that the country needs to achieve self-sufficiency in its requirements for rice and reduce our vulnerability to global food shortages in the future;

Whereas, Republic Act No. 9367, otherwise known as the Biofuels Act of 2006 was approved on January 12, 2007 to reduce the country's dependence on imported fuels;

Whereas, The implementation of said law requires large areas of lands and such other resources for the planting of raw materials for biofuels that may compete for badly needed lands to address the country's need for rice sufficiency;

Whereas, Considering all these factors, there is therefore a need to formulate a program that would put together the necessary components such as land, technology, organizational structures, marketing mechanisms and even legislative responses to address the increased costs of inputs to production for the country to attain food sufficiency; Now Therefore, Be It

Resolved By the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress Assembled, To Suspend The Implementation Of Republic Act No. 9367, Otherwise Known As The Biofuels Act Of 2006, Until Such Time That The Country Is Assured That All The Resources Such As Lands, Technology, Organizational Structures And Others Needed To Ensure The Formulation Of A Program To Attain The Country's Food Sufficiency, Especially Rice Self-Sufficiency, Are Already In Place.

Adopted,



RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Senator