



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. Jt. Res. No. 21

---

BY REPRESENTATIVES NOGRALES, LAGMAN, VILLAFUERTE, GARCIA (P.) AND  
DEFENSOR (A.)

---

JOINT RESOLUTION MAINTAINING THE EFFECTIVITY OF THE  
LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION COMPONENT OF  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF 1988,  
UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2008 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, there is a need to craft responsive amendments to the existing agrarian reform law to ensure the welfare of beneficiaries and guarantee the systematic and comprehensive provision of needed support services for the same;

WHEREAS, based on comprehensive studies of the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), the U.P. Los Baños Foundation, Inc. and the University of Asia and the Pacific Center for Food and Agribusiness, any extension of the agrarian reform law needs to be accompanied by major perfecting reforms in its substance and its implementation;

WHEREAS, the Members of the House of Representatives have expressed their collective sentiments for more time to study and generate consensus on appropriate amendments to the existing agrarian reform law;

WHEREAS, there are two (2) schools of thought on when the land acquisition and distribution component of CARL will expire, namely:

(1) On June 10, 2008, based on Section 5 of Republic Act No. 6657 which was extended by Republic Act No. 8532 (An Act Strengthening Further

the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), by Providing Augmentation Fund Therefor, Amending for the Purpose Section 63 of Republic Act No. 6657, Otherwise Known as "the CARP Law of 1988"); and

(2) Until the year 2008, as provided for in Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8532 which reads, "Section 63 of Republic Act No. 6657, otherwise known as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 63. *Funding Source.* – The amount needed to implement this Act until the year 2008 shall be funded from the Agrarian Reform Fund. x x x."

WHEREAS, there is funding for CARP, including the land acquisition and distribution component, in the Agrarian Reform Fund (ARF) in the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (Republic Act No. 9498) up to the end of 2008;

WHEREAS, there is no necessity in resolving which legal construction must prevail considering that the funding support of CARP is up to the year-end: Now, therefore, be it

1           *Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives and*  
2 *the Senate, That the effectivity of the land acquisition and distribution*  
3 *component of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, otherwise known as the*  
4 *Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, be maintained until*  
5 *December 31, 2008.*

6           *Resolved, further, That during the period July to December 2008, both*  
7 *the Senate and the House of Representatives, through their respective agrarian*  
8 *reform committees, come up with a definitive bill on extending the land*  
9 *acquisition and distribution component of Republic Act No. 6657 with*  
10 *perfecting major reforms which Congress shall adopt on or before*  
11 *December 31, 2008.*

Approved,