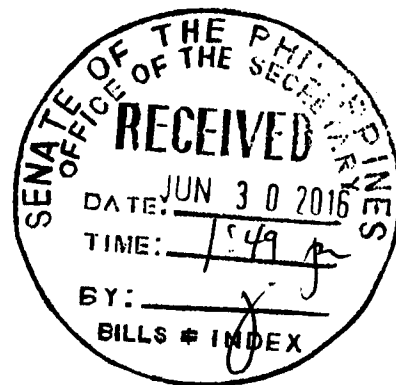


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

S. B. No. 28



Introduced by **SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN II**

AN ACT
MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP) BY JUNE 30, 2017 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW", AS AMENDED

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our 1987 Constitution mandates that "The State shall, by law, undertake an agrarian reform program founded on the right of farmers and regular farmworkers, who are landless, to own directly or collectively the lands they till or, in the case of other farmworkers, to receive a just share of the fruits thereof. To this end, the State shall encourage and undertake the just distribution of all agricultural lands, subject to such priorities and reasonable retention limits as the Congress may prescribe, taking into account ecological, developmental, or equity considerations, and subject to the payment of just compensation. In determining retention limits, the State shall respect the rights of small landowners. The State shall further provide incentives for voluntary land-sharing."

Furthermore, under Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9700, it is provided that "any case and/or proceeding involving the implementation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, which may remain pending on June 30, 2014, shall be allowed to proceed to its finality and be executed even beyond such date." The issuance of a Notice of Coverage starts the proceedings in the implementation of the provisions of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform law.

According to the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), the remaining balance for Land Acquisition and Distribution (LAD) stood at 1.2 Million hectares when RA 9700 was passed in 2009. As of 31 December 2015, 625,432 hectares of land covered by the CARP have yet to be distributed. In March 2015, the DAR stated that 36,000 to 50,000 hectares of carvable lands have not been subjected to Notices of Coverage (NOCs).

Pursuant to the Constitution, this important piece of legislation mandates the issuance of NOCs over all remaining agricultural lands, and the provision of budgetary mechanisms for the completion of the LAD process including support services.

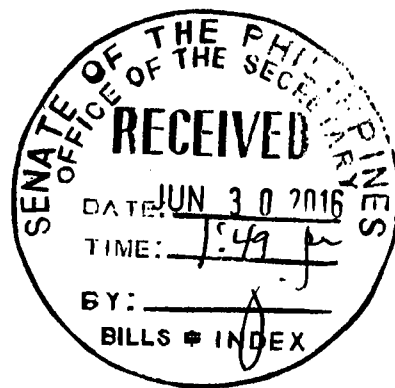
In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


GREGORIO B. HONASAN II

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

SENATE

S. B. No. 28



Introduced by SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN II

AN ACT
MANDATING THE COMPLETION OF THE LAND ACQUISITION AND DISTRIBUTION (LAD) COMPONENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP) BY JUNE 30, 2017 PURSUANT TO REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW", AS AMENDED

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

1 SECTION 1. The land acquisition and distribution component of the Comprehensive
2 Agrarian Reform Program shall be completed by June 30, 2017.

3 SEC. 2. Section 30 of Republic Act No. 9700 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 **"Section 30. ISSUANCE OF NOTICES OF COVERAGE,**
5 **ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTARY OFFER TO SELL AND Resolution**
6 **of CaseS AND/OR PROCEEDINGS. THE DAR SHALL CONTINUE**
7 **TO ISSUE NOTICES OF COVERAGE AND ACCEPT VOLUNTARY**
8 **OFFERS TO SELL BY LANDOWNERS OF AGRICULTURAL LANDS**
9 **COVERED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED, UNTIL**
10 **JUNE 30, 2017. SUCH ISSUANCE OF NOTICE OF COVERAGE OR**
11 **ACCEPTANCE OF VOLUNTARY OFFER TO SELL STARTS THE**
12 **PROCEEDINGS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS**
13 **OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED.**

14 Any case and/or proceeding, **AS INITIATED BY THE ISSUANCE**
15 **OF A NOTICE OF COVERAGE OR ACCEPTANCE OF A**
16 **VOLUNTARY OFFER TO SELL**, involving the implementation of the
17 provisions of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, which may remain pending

1 on June 30, (2014) 2017 shall be allowed to proceed to its finality and be
2 executed even beyond such date.”

3 SEC. 3. The funding source provided under Section 21 of Republic Act No.
4 9700 shall further be utilized from the effectivity of this Act until the complete
5 acquisition and distribution of all agricultural lands covered by the Comprehensive
6 Agrarian Reform Program (CARP); *Provided*, That after the completion of the land
7 acquisition and distribution component of the CARP, the yearly appropriation shall be
8 allocated fully to support services, agrarian justice delivery and operational
9 requirements of the DAR and the other CARP implementing agencies.

10 SEC. 4. The term of the Congressional Oversight Committee on Agrarian
11 Reform (COCAR) shall end six (6) months after June 30, 2017.

12 SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. - All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules
13 and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or
14 amended accordingly.

15 SEC. 6. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any section or provision of
16 this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not
17 affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

18 SEC. 7. Effectivity Clause. - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
19 upon publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

20 *Approved,*