


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

SENATE
S.B. No. 1685



INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO FEB -8 A10 :32

AN ACT
RECEIVED BY: 
GRANTING FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN
REFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM
PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECCTION 14 OF THE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 9700, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN
REFORM PROGRAM EXTENSION WITH REFORMS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

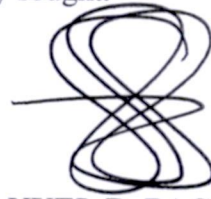
The Constitution provides that "the goals of the national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged."

One of the major challenges in pursuit of the said goals is the extreme weather events which strike the country. According to the Center for Research on Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED), over the last decade, the Philippines has consistently ranked among the top five most disaster-hit countries. These disasters pose a great burden on the livelihood of Filipinos, particularly in the field of Agriculture, and most specifically to our poor farmers in the areas most vulnerable to natural calamities. The effects not only hurt the food production but as well as the whole agricultural economy.

The government responds to this challenge through instituting crop insurance, as governed by the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC). The Corporation primarily mitigates agricultural risks and addresses the havoc caused by calamities on crops. Yet, the participation of agricultural workers in the insurance program remains low. One of the major reasons for this low participation of farmers is their inability to pay for the premium required in the said program. Even though the government subsidizes half of the premium, the remaining 50% is still a burden to most of our poor farmers

This bill seeks to patch this problem by giving the qualified beneficiaries of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) a full crop insurance coverage, thereby sustaining the State's policy to promote the welfare of every Filipino farmer.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a horizontal line extending to the left.

EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

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

SENATE

S.B. No. 1685



18 FEB -8 A10:32

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

RECEIVED BY: _____

AN ACT
GRANTING FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE TO ALL QUALIFIED
AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN
REFORM PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECCTION 14 OF THE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9700, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "COMPREHENSIVE
AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM EXTENSION WITH REFORMS

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 9700, otherwise known as the "Comprehensive
2 Agrarian Reform Program Extension with Reforms," is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 14. Section 37 of Republic Act No. 6657, as amended, is hereby further amended
4 to read as follows:

5 "SEC. 37. *Support Services for the Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries.* – The State shall
6 adopt the integrated policy of support services delivery to agrarian reform beneficiaries. To this
7 end, the DAR, the Department of Finance, and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) shall
8 institute reforms to liberalize access to credit by agrarian reform beneficiaries. The PARC shall
9 ensure that support services for agrarian reform beneficiaries are provided, such as:

10 "(a) xxx;

11 "xxx;

12 "(e) xxx; [and]

13 "(f) xxx; **AND**

14 "(G) **FULL INSURANCE COVERAGE TO ALL QUALIFIED AGRARIAN**
15 **REFORM BENEFICIARIES AS DEFINED IN SECTION 3(b) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO.**
16 **10000, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'AGRI-AGRA REFORM CREDIT ACT OF**

1 2009,' WHO ARE ACTUALLY TILLING THE LAND AND CAPITALIZING ON
2 CROPS AS CERTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR).

3 "COMPENSABLE LOSSES INCLUDE THOSE RESULTING FROM NATURAL
4 CALAMITIES SUCH AS TYPHOON, FLOOD, DROUGHT, EARTHQUAKE,
5 VOLCANIC ERUPTION, FROST, AND OTHER DESTRUCTIVE NATURAL
6 PHENOMENA SUCH AS HEAT AND HOT WIND; PLANT DISEASES CAUSED BY
7 PATHOGENS, BACTERIA, FUNGI, VIRUSES, VIRUS-LIKE PATHOGENS, AND
8 OTHER SIMILAR FOREIGN BODIES, PEST INFESTATIONS CAUSED BY
9 NEMATODES, INSECTS, MITES AND SPIDERS, MILLIPEDES AND CENTIPEDES,
10 SYMPHYLANS, SLUGS AND SNAILS SNOW BUGS AND PILLBUGS, PARASITIC
11 HIGHER PLANTS, AND OTHER PARASITES, AND LOSS OF LIFE AND/OR INJURY
12 TO THE QUALIFIED AGRARIAN REFORM BENEFICIARY DUE TO ACCIDENT OR
13 ANY OF THE AFOREMENTIONED CAUSES.

14 "THE FOLLOWING CROPS ARE COVERED BY THIS SECTION: PALAY,
15 CORN, SUGARCANE, HIGH-VALUE CROPS AS DEFINED IN SECTION 4(b) OF
16 REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7900, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE 'HIGH-VALUE CROPS
17 DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1995,' COCONUT, AND TOBACCO; AQUACULTURE;
18 LIVESTOCK; AND NON-CROP AGRICULTURAL ASSETS.

19 "xxx."

20 **SEC. 2.** *List of Qualified Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries and Leaseholders.* – The DAR, in
21 coordination with the Land Bank of the Philippines, shall submit to the Department of
22 Agriculture (DA) within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the complete list of
23 qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries and leaseholders to be included in the Registry System for
24 Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA), their respective locations and size of landholdings.

25 **SEC. 3.** *Appropriations.* – The Secretary of the DAR shall immediately include in the
26 Department's programs the needed operational requirement of this Act. The initial funding for
27 the DAR's identified agrarian reform beneficiaries shall be in the amount of one billion pesos
28 (P1,000,000,000.00) from the funds allocated to the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation
29 (PCIC) for the RSBSA, as provided by the General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, projections
30 of the annual premium requirement shall be submitted by the DA-PCIC and the DAR to the
31 President, and shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act: *Provided*, That due to
32 the insufficiency of the initial fund to cover all qualified ARBs and leaseholders, priority for
33 coverage shall be allocated in the following manner: fifty percent (50%) to those newly installed
34 and qualified ARBs with issued CLOAs or leasehold instruments, in descending chronological
35 order; and the remaining fifty percent (50%) to those earliest installed and qualified ARBs with
36 issued EPs/CLOAs or leasehold instruments, in ascending chronological order: *Provided further*,
37 That additional qualified ARBs and leaseholders shall be covered yearly based on annual

1 projections, and in the same manner as provided, until such time that all qualified ARBs and
2 leaseholders are covered under this Act.

3 **SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within thirty (30) days from the approval of this
4 Act, the DAR, in coordination with the DA, PCIC and Department of Budget and Management
5 shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective implementation of
6 this Act.

7 **SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision, section or part of this Act shall be declared
8 unconstitutional or invalid, such judgment shall not effect, invalidate or impair any other
9 provisions, sections or parts hereof.

10 **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and
11 regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent wit this Act are hereby
12 repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

13 **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the
14 *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

15
16
17
18

Approved,