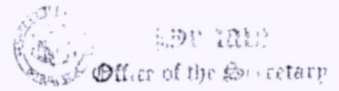


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



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**SENATE**

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**COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 11**

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance on OCT - 1 2019.

Re: Senate Joint Resolution No. 8 (Prepared by the Committees)

Recommending its approval in substitution of SJR Nos. 4 and 5, taking into consideration PSR No. 150

Sponsor: Senator Villar

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**MR. PRESIDENT:**

The Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform; Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development; and Finance to which was referred Senate Joint Resolution No. 4, introduced by Senator Marcos, entitled:

**"JOINT RESOLUTION  
URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND  
DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND), DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTR), AND THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), IN COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA), TO DIRECTLY BUY BACK PALAY OF THE LOCAL FARMERS FOR THE RICE SUBSIDY PROGRAM"

Senate Joint Resolution 5, introduced by Sen. Villar, entitled:

**"JOINT RESOLUTION**

**AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE RICE SUBSIDY AS PROVIDED UNDER THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM (4PS) IN THE GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT (GAA) FOR THE PURCHASE OF PALAY FROM FARMERS, MANDATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD) TO BUY PALAY FROM THE LOCAL FARMERS AND DISTRIBUTE RICE SUBSIDY IN THE FORM OF ACTUAL RICE INSTEAD OF CASH ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES"**

taking into consideration P.S. Resolution No. 150, introduced by Sen. Zubiri, entitled:

**"RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH TO MANDATE THE CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PURCHASE RICE DIRECTLY FROM FILIPINO FARMERS FOR THEIR AID AND RELIEF PROGRAMS IN TIMES OF CALAMITIES"**

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached Senate Joint Resolution, SJR No. 8, prepared by the Committees, entitled.

**"JOINT RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND  
DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT (DILG), DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND),  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (DOTr), DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), AND THE LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT UNITS, IN COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL FOOD  
AUTHORITY (NFA) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA), TO  
DIRECTLY PURCHASE PALAY FROM THE LOCAL FARMERS FOR THE  
RICE SUBSIDY PROGRAM"**

be approved in substitution of S.J. Resolution No. 4 and S.J. Resolution No. 5, taking into consideration PSR No. 150, with Senators Imee R. Marcos, Cynthia A. Villar, Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri, Francis N. Pangilinan, Leila M. De Lima, and Sonny Angara as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons

**LEILA M. DE LIMA**

*Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development*



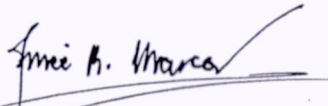
**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

*Committee on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform;  
Vice Chair, Committee on Finance*

**SONNY ANGARA**

*Committee on Finance*

Vice-Chairpersons



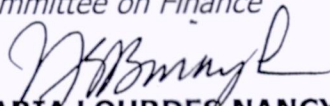
**IMEE R. MARCOS**

*Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development;  
Committee on Finance*



**PIA S. CAYETANO**

*Committee on Finance*

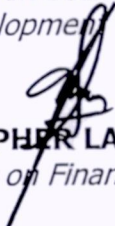


**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

*Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development*

**PANFILO M. LACSON**

*Committee on Finance*



**CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE T. GO**

*Committee on Finance*




**JOEL VILLANUEVA**

*Committee on Finance*

**WIN GATCHALIAN**

*Committee on Finance*



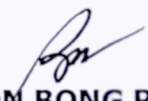
**RICHARD J. GORDON**

*Committee on Finance*

**RISA HONTIVEROS**

*Committee on Finance*

Members



**RAMON BONG REVILLA, Jr.**


*Committees on Social Justice, Welfare  
and Rural Development; Finance*

**GRACE POE**

*Committee on Agriculture, Food  
and Agrarian Reform; Finance*

**AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III**

*Committee on Finance*




**RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA**

*Committees on Agriculture,  
Food and Agrarian Reform;  
Finance; Social Justice, Welfare  
and Rural Development*


**MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID**

*Committees on Agriculture, Food and  
Agrarian Reform; Finance*

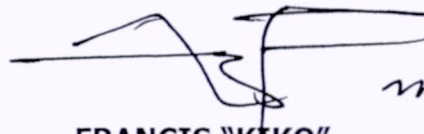


**EMMANUEL "MANNY" D.  
PACQUIAO**

*Committees on Agriculture,  
Food and Agrarian Reform;  
Finance*



**FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO**  
*Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform; Finance*



**FRANCIS "KIKO" PANGILINAN**  
*Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform; Finance*

*will interpellate  
Ames d*

Ex-Officio Members:

**RALPH G. RECTO**  
President Pro-Tempore



**FRANKLIN M. DRILON**  
Minority Leader



**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**  
Majority Leader

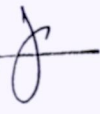
**HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III**  
*President  
Senate of the Philippines  
Pasay City*

SENATE  
Senate Joint Resolution No. 8

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(In substitution of Senate Joint Resolution Nos. 4 and 5, taking into  
consideration P.S. Resolution No. 150)

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Prepared Jointly by the Committees on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform;  
Finance; and Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development with Senators Imee R.  
Marcos, Cynthia A. Villar, Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri, Francis N. Pangilinan, Leila M.  
De Lima, and Sonny Angara as authors thereof.

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT**  
**(DSWD), DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
**(DILG), DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE (DND), DEPARTMENT OF**  
**TRANSPORTATION (DOTr), DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND**  
**NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR), AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, IN**  
**COORDINATION WITH THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND THE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA), TO DIRECTLY PURCHASE PALAY**  
**FROM THE LOCAL FARMERS FOR THE RICE SUBSIDY PROGRAM**

1           **WHEREAS**, the government continues to pursue its vision of food security  
2 for all Filipinos by allotting P 137.1 billion for agriculture and agrarian reform to  
3 enhance agricultural productivity, support poor farmers and fisher folk, and  
4 strengthen the climate resilience communities, among others;

5  
6           **WHEREAS**, on February 2019, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11203 entitled, "*An*  
7 *Act Liberalizing the Importation, Exportation and Trading of Rice, Lifting for the*  
8 *Purpose the Quantitative Import Restriction on Rice, and For Other Purposes*" was  
9 enacted to help support the local rice industry specifically by creating a "Rice  
10 Competitiveness Enhancement Fund" to be allocated and disbursed, as follows: (a)  
11 Rice Farm Machineries and Equipment, (b) Rice Seed Development, Propagation,  
12 and Promotion, (c) Expanded Rice Credit Assistance, and Rice Extension Services;

1           **WHEREAS**, despite the efforts made by the government to protect the local  
2 rice industry, large stocks of imported rice have depressed the buying price of local  
3 *palay* to levels way below the cost production;

4  
5           **WHEREAS**, the National Food Authority (NFA) reported that they have  
6 209,525.15 MT of imported rice in their custody, as of August 22, 2019, and  
7 procured locally 360,657 bags of *palay* at 50 kilos per bag or 209,525.15 MT.  
8 Currently, the warehouse of NFA is already full. The problem of oversupply is  
9 expected to exacerbate during the period from September to October which is the  
10 peak *palay* harvest season;

11  
12           **WHEREAS**, latest government statistics for the average *palay* prices plunged  
13 to P16.28 per kilogram from P23.10 per kilogram for the same period last year which  
14 is the lowest *palay* price in seven years;

15  
16           **WHEREAS**, to provide immediate support and assistance to the local rice  
17 industry, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte has ordered the NFA to expend their budget  
18 of P 7 billion for procuring *palay* or unhusked rice from local farmers;

19  
20           **WHEREAS**, the 2019 General Appropriations Act (GAA) provides a total  
21 allocation of P 33.9 billion for rice subsidies, the largest of which is given to the  
22 beneficiaries of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) under  
23 the "*Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps)*," that can herewith be utilized in  
24 coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the NFA, to buy *palay*  
25 directly from local farmers. The program has a total target of 4.1 million  
26 beneficiaries;

27  
28           **WHEREAS**, the program grants the beneficiaries rice subsidy in the form of  
29 financial assistance in the amount of P600.00 per month, equivalent to 20 kilos of  
30 rice. This is in addition to the cash assistance to the same beneficiaries of P300.00  
31 per month or P3,600.00 per year under the 4Ps program. During the DSWD  
32 subcommittee hearing under the Committee on Finance, DSWD testified that a



1 balance currently of at least 6.97 billion remained undisbursed under the rice  
2 subsidy program;

3

4 **WHEREAS**, the remaining allocations of P 2.89 billion are allotted to the rice  
5 subsidy programs for military uniformed personnel such as the provision of twenty  
6 (20) kilos of rice per month, in the form of financial assistance, to the uniformed  
7 personnel of the Philippine Army, Philippine Air Force, Philippine Navy, Philippine  
8 Coast Guard, Philippine National Police, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology,  
9 Bureau of Fire Protection, and the National Mapping and Resource Information  
10 Authority (NAMRIA);

11

12 **WHEREAS**, under Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11203, the NFA is tasked to  
13 buy *palay* from local farmers "*all-year-round*" for the maintenance of a rice buffer  
14 stock and can be assigned to undertake direct local buying on behalf of the  
15 departments;

16

17 **WHEREAS**, local government units (LGUs) have the perennial need for rice  
18 to supply the requirement of their hospitals, jail, and other local institutions, feeding  
19 programs and calamity-program interventions, and they also have the funds to do  
20 such purchasing of rice;

21

22 **WHEREAS**, the distribution of rice subsidy shall be in accordance with the  
23 procedure, guidelines, and distribution system to be determined by the concerned  
24 departments and agencies; Now therefore be it

25

26 **RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,**  
27 **VOTING SEPARATELY, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to direct the Department  
28 of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of the Interior and Local  
29 Government (DILG), Department of National Defense (DND), Department of  
30 Transportation (DOTr), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR),  
31 and the Local Government Units, in coordination with the National Food Authority

- 1 (NFA) and the Department of Agriculture (DA), to directly purchase *palay* from the
- 2 local farmers for the Rice Subsidy Program.

*Adopted,*