


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

7 NOV 12 P3:11

SENATE
S. No. 1857

RECEIVED BY: 


Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 6657, also known as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law, Section 3 (c) defines agricultural land as "land devoted to agricultural activity and not classified as mineral, forest, residential, commercial or industrial land."

The comprehensive agrarian reform program is easily circumvented due to the very narrow definition of agricultural land which specifies that the land must be "devoted to agricultural activity." Also, lands already covered by the program are easily reclassified and converted into non-productive even if irrigated or potentially irrigable.

This bill broadens the definition of agricultural land by including those lands which were previously devoted to agricultural activities but which were left idle by their owners and lands which are irrigated and potentially irrigable as defined by Administrative Order No. 20 of the President, series of 1992.*

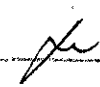

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was originally re-filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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7 NOV 12 1976

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1 AN ACT

2 AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, ALSO KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE
3 AGRARIAN REFORM LAW, BROADENING THE DEFINITION OF AGRICULTURAL
4 LAND BY INCLUDING THOSE LANDS WHICH WERE PREVIOUSLY DEVOTED TO
5 AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES BUT WHICH WERE LEFT IDLE BY THEIR OWNERS
6 AND LANDS WHICH ARE IRRIGATED AND POTENTIALLY IRRIGABLE

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

9 SECTION 1. Section 3 (c) of Republic Act No. 6657 is hereby amended to read as
10 follows:

11 "Section 3. Definitions. For the purpose of this Act, unless the context
12 indicates otherwise:

13 (c) Agricultural Land refers to land devoted to agricultural activity as
14 defined in this Act and not classified as mineral, forest, residential, commercial or
15 industrial land, AND ALL THOSE PREVIOUSLY USED FOR
16 AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN RECLASSIFIED
17 INTO OTHER USES PROVIDED, THEY ARE IRRIGATED OR
18 POTENTIALLY IRRIGABLE LANDS WITH FIRM FUNDING
19 COMMITMENTS FOR REHABILITATION.

20 SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
21 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent
22 with, the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

1 SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

3 Approved,