

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 229

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RECEIVED

30 JUN 2016

DATE: _____

TIME: 7:00 PM

BY: [Signature]

REGISTRATION UNIT
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE

Introduced by Representative Eric D. Singson

EXPLANATORY NOTE

On average, about 20 tropical cyclones enter Philippine waters each year, with eight or nine making landfall. And over the past decade, these tropical storms have struck the nation more often and more severely. Every year, damage to agriculture also rises. In 2013 typhoon Yolanda alone caused damage at an estimated 31 billion pesos. Not only

The Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC) is the implementing agency of the government's agricultural insurance program which provides protection against damage to or loss of non-crop agricultural assets due to perils insured against. With the sum of money paid, the farmers are able to immediately replant as soon as weather and soil condition permits. Thus, crop insurance ensures both food security and farmer income. It mitigates agricultural risks and addresses the consequences of natural disasters to make losses more bearable, especially to marginalized farmers.

However, despite the existence of the PCIC, only a small number of farmers avail of crop insurance because of the premium that they are required to pay. Although half of the premium is subsidized by the government, the remaining 50% is still a burden to many of our farmers.

This bill seeks to give the qualified beneficiaries of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program a full crop insurance coverage.

Thus, approval of this Bill is earnestly requested.



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HOUSE BILL NO. 229

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AN ACT
AUTHORIZING THE GRANT OF A FULL CROP INSURANCE COVERAGE
TO QUALIFIED BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN
REFORM PROGRAM AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTION 14 OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9700, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM EXTENSION WITH
REFORMS"

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

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

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

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

"(a) xxx;

"xxx;

"(f) xxx; AND

"(G) FULL CROP INSURANCE COVERAGE TO FARMER BENEFICIARIES. COMPENSABLE LOSSES INCLUDE NATURAL CALAMITIES SUCH AS TYPHOON, FLOOD, DROUGHT, EARTHQUAKE AND VOLCANIC ERUPTION, PLANT DISEASES AND PEST INFESTATIONS. THE TERM OF INSURANCE IS FROM PLANTING UP TO EXPECTED DATE OF HARVEST.

"xxx."

SECTION 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Presidential Agrarian Reform Council and the Department of Agrarian Reform shall provide the necessary implementing rules and regulations within thirty (30) days upon the approval of this Act. Such rules and regulations shall take effect after they have been made and shall be published in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. - All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 4. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation or the Official Gazette.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "Garcia", written in a cursive script.