

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



18TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 974

Introduced by Representative Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Agro-Industry Modernization Credit and Financing Program (AMCFP) was created by virtue of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (AFMA) of 1997 or Republic Act 8435.

The AMCFP serves as the umbrella financing program for agriculture and fisheries of the Department of Agriculture (DA). It aims to enhance credit access of the rural poor through the implementation of a comprehensive agriculture, fisheries and agrarian reform credit and financing system that would benefit farmers, fisher folk and small and medium enterprises

This House Bill seeks to promote food security, including sufficiency in our staple food shall be optimized to meet our local consumption and shall be given adequate support by the State.

This House Bill seeks to ensure the sufficient funding and proper utilization of credit for the agri-fishery sector.

Earnest approval of this bill is hereby requested.



MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D.

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES (LBP) TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE “Agro-Industry Modernization Credit and Financing Program (AMCFP)” TO IMPLEMENT CREDIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy - The Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) shall hereby provide an additional Five hundred million pesos (**₱500,000,000.00**) for the “Agro-Industry Modernization Credit and Financing Program (AMCFP)” to implement its functions.

The AMCFP is an agriculture, fisheries and agrarian reform credit and financing system designed for the use and benefit of farmers, fisher folk those engaged in food and non-food production, processing and trading, cooperatives, farmers' and fisherfolk's organization, and SMEs engaged in agriculture hereinafter as the "beneficiaries".

SECTION 2. Powers and Functions of the AMCFP - The Agro-Industry Modernization Credit and Financing Program shall include the packaging and delivery of various credit assistance programs for the following:

- a. Agriculture and fisheries production including possessing of fisheries and agri-based products and farm inputs;
- b. Acquisition of work animals, farm and fishery equipment and machinery;
- c. Acquisition of seeds, fertilizer, poultry, livestock, feeds and other similar items;
- d. Procurement of agriculture and fisheries products for storage, trading, processing and distribution;
- e. Acquisition of water pumps and installation of tube wells for irrigation;
- f. Construction , acquisition and repair of facilities for production, processing , storage, transportation, communication, marketing and such other facilities in support of agriculture and fisheries;
- g. Working capital for agriculture and fisheries graduates to enable them to engage in agriculture and fisheries related economic activities;
- h. Agribusiness activities which support soil and water conservation and ecology-enhancing activities;
- i. Privately-funded and LGU-funded irrigation systems that are designed to protect the watershed;
- j. Working capital for long-gestating projects; and
- k. Credit guarantees on uncollaterized loans to farmers and fisherfolks.

SECTION 3. Appropriation - The amount intended for the implementation of this Act shall be charged under the existing funding of the Department of Agriculture.

Thereafter such amounts necessary for the successive and continuous implementation of this Act, including the operations maintenance of reserves shall be automatically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. Repealing Clause. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. Separability Clause. If, for any reason or reasons, any portion or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,