Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 21

Introduced by MAGSASAKA Party-List Representative ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE REVIEW AND AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, BY THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE EFFECT OF REPUBLIC ACT 11203, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE RICE TARIFFICATION LAW ON RICE PRODUCERS, FARMERS AND OTHER FARMWORKERS IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 7735, entitled, "An Act Replacing the Quantitative Import Restrictions on Rice with Tariffs and Creating the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund," was introduced in the House of Representatives on May 21, 2018 by various authors;

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 7735, with counterpart Senate Bill No. 1998, was approved on third reading in the House of Representatives last August 14, 2018;

WHEREAS, the President of the Republic of the Philippines signed into law, Republic Act No. 11203, otherwise known as "An Act Liberalizing the Importation, Exportation and Trading of Rice, Lifting for the Purpose the Quantitative Import Restriction on Rice, and for Other Purposes," on February 14, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 11203 was promulgated on March 5, 2019, enabling the full implementation of the law;
WHEREAS, the aim of R.A. 11203 is to reduce the price of rice for consumers, making this staple food affordable for more Filipinos especially those on and below the poverty line;

WHEREAS, farmgate prices of fresh palay have dropped dramatically from P17.00 in 2018 to P12.40 this year, and dry palay from P23.00 in 2018 to P16.40 this year, a reduction of 37% and 29% in price, respectively;

WHEREAS, national retail prices of well-milled rice only decreased from P44.12 in 2018 to 43.10 this year, and regular-milled rice from P40.37 in 2018 to P38.72 this year, a reduction of only 2% and 4% respectively;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the appropriate committee of the House of Representatives conducts a review and investigation, in aid of legislation, of the implementation of R.A. 11203 and its effects on our rice producers, farmers, and other farm workers.

Adopted,

ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT
MAGSASAKA Party-List