



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1228

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

A RESOLUTION
STRONGLY URGING THE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO RESTORE
THE PHP4,200,000.00 PROPOSED FUND OF THE NATIONAL IRRIGATION
ADMINISTRATION (NIA) FOR THE REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF
COMMUNAL IRRIGATION SYSTEMS (CIS) IN THE COUNTRY
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

1 **WHEREAS**, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10969, otherwise known as the “*Free*
2 *Irrigation Services Act*,” declares that the State shall ensure the availability of vital support
3 services– through the construction, repair, and maintenance of essential irrigation
4 facilities– to increase the production of crops, encourage productivity, and increase the
5 incomes of farmers;

6 **WHEREAS**, in line with its mandate under Republic Act No. 3601, as amended, the
7 National Irrigation Administration (NIA) spearheads the planning, construction,
8 operation, and maintenance of irrigation systems in the country, consistent with
9 integrated water resource management principles, to improve agricultural productivity
10 and increase farmers’ income;

11 **WHEREAS**, the NIA proposed PhpP42.4 billion agency budget for Fiscal Year (FY)
12 2021 to the Department of Budget and Management (DBM);

13

1 **WHEREAS**, the DBM only approved PhpP32.09 billion, 11% lower than the
2 FY 2020 NIA budget of Php36.05 billion;

3 **WHEREAS**, the decrease in NIA’s budget allocation will adversely impact the
4 existing programs and projects for farmers and irrigators associations, including the
5 Irrigation Systems Restoration Program, specifically the repair and rehabilitation of
6 communal irrigation systems (CIS);

7 **WHEREAS**, the slashed budget will impede in the rehabilitation programs of
8 existing irrigation systems, including the substantial damage of the Rizal, Nueva Ecija
9 super diversion canal, affecting 30,000 hectares of farmlands, and resulting in decreased
10 rice production in Region III;

11 **WHEREAS**, restoring the proposed fund allocation for the repair and
12 rehabilitation of CIS is aligned with the policy frameworks of the administration of
13 President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, namely: the Philippine Development Plan (2017–2022);
14 Build, Build, Build Program; Plant, Plant, Plant Program; and the Public Investment
15 Program/ Three-Year Rolling Infrastructure Program;

16 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**,
17 that the Committee on Appropriations is strongly urged to restore the Php4,200,000.00
18 proposed fund of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA) for the repair and
19 rehabilitation of communal irrigation systems (CIS) in the country.

Adopted,



REP. ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT