

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9166



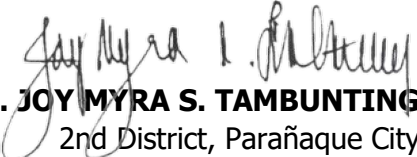
Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The year-long lockdown brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected small scale food producers like farmers and fisherfolk. Many farmers and fisherfolk communities have been unable to sell their produce or harvest due to the travel restrictions and other health protocols implemented to curb the rise in COVID-19 cases in the country. Add to this the numerous typhoons which hit the country during the last quarter of 2020. While there were various initiatives launched by private individuals and organizations to help farmers and fisherfolk to sell their produce in Metro Manila, these initiatives could only target specific communities.

In recognition of the adverse impact of the COVID-19 pandemic to the farming and fishing industries, this measure seeks to provide a monthly emergency cash subsidy amounting to one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) for a period of one year to households of small-scale farmers and municipal fisherfolk living below the poverty line and whose primary means of earning, livelihood and/or generating income have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

On behalf of the people of Parañaque City's Second District, and for the common good of the Filipino people, the approval of the said measure is earnestly sought.


REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING
2nd District, Parañaque City

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Introduced by **HON. JOY MYRA S. TAMBUNTING**

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A COVID-19 EMERGENCY CASH GRANT TO RURAL FARMERS AND MUNICIPAL FISHERFOLK LIVING BELOW THE POVERTY LINE, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “COVID-19 Emergency Cash Grant to Farmers and Fisherfolk Act.”

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. – The State recognizes the adverse impact that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to our health and economy. The State shall uplift the standard of living and quality of life of the poor and maintain the existing gains of interventions of the government for economic growth and development to the poor, marginalized sectors and low-income households of our society exposed to various risks in this pandemic.

Sec. 3. Emergency Cash Subsidy for Small-Scale Farmers and Municipal Fisherfolk. – All households of small-scale farmers and municipal fisherfolk registered before the appropriate offices of the Department of Agriculture within their respective districts or provinces, certified by the barangay concerned as such farmer or fisherfolk, who are living below the poverty line based on the threshold determined by the National Economic and Development Authority, and whose primary means of earning livelihood and/or generating income have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, shall be entitled to a cash grant of One Thousand Pesos (₱1,000.00) per month for a period of one year. Provided, That only one beneficiary shall be eligible for households with several small-scale farmers or municipal fisherfolk living under one roof.

Small-scale farmers and municipal fisherfolk who are receiving conditional cash transfer or recipients of Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) Act from the government shall not be entitled to receive the emergency cash grant mandated by this Act while they are receiving such conditional cash transfer or 4Ps.

Sec. 4. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged against the current and subsequent appropriations of the Department of Agriculture and

other departments, agencies or instrumentalities tasked to implement this Act under the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agriculture shall, in coordination with appropriate government departments and agencies and with the participation of local government units, promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Sec. 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,