

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1045

Submitted by the Committee on Agriculture and Food, Committee on Appropriations and Committee on Ways and means on **June 2, 2021**

Re: House Bill No. **9575**

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 1205, 1275, 1958, 1997, 2030, 3470, 3596, 4202, 5065, 5280, 6047, 7085, 7198, and 7199

Sponsors: Representatives Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga, Eric Go Yap, Joey Sarte Salceda, Christopher V.P. de Venecia and Angelo Marcos Barba

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Agriculture and Food, the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Ways and Means to which were referred **House Bill No. 1205**, introduced by Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, entitled:

“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMERS PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 1275, introduced by Rep. Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., entitled:

“AN ACT
ENCOURAGING YOUTH SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE A ‘TULONG KABATAAN SA AGRIKULTURA PROGRAM’ AND A ‘TULONG KABATAAN SA AGRIKULTURA TRUST FUND’, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 1958, introduced by Rep. Manuel D. Cabochan III, entitled:

“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMER’S PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 1997, introduced by Rep. Christopher V.P. de Venecia, entitled:

“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF YOUNG FARMERS”;

House Bill No. 2030, introduced by Rep. “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, entitled:

“AN ACT
ENCOURAGING YOUTH SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE A LINGKOD KABATAAN SA AGRIKULTURA PROGRAM AND A LINGKOD KABATAAN SA AGRIKULTURA

TRUST FUND, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 3470, introduced by Reps. Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez and David “Jay-Jay” C. Suarez, entitled:

“AN ACT
INSTITUTING THE YOUNG FARMERS PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR”;

House Bill No. 3596, introduced by Rep. Sharon S. Garin, entitled:

“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMERS PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 4202, introduced by Rep. Alfred Vargas, entitled:

“AN ACT
ENCOURAGING YOUTH SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR, ESTABLISHING FOR THE PURPOSE A “TULONG KABATAAN SA AGRIKULTURA PROGRAM” AND A “TULONG KABATAAN SA AGRIKULTURA TRUST FUND”, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 5065, introduced by Reps. John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Dale “Along” R. Malapitan, Eric M. Martinez and Rolando Valeriano, entitled:

“AN ACT
CREATING THE NATIONAL YOUTH AGRIPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF”;

House Bill No. 5280, introduced by Rep. Angelo Marcos Barba, entitled:

“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING YOUNG FARMERS CHALLENGE PROGRAM, CREATING THE YOUNG FARMERS CHALLENGE COUNCIL, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 6047, introduced by Rep. Alfred Vargas, entitled:

“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMERS PROGRAM, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”;

House Bill No. 7085, introduced by Rep. Alfred C. Delos Santos, entitled:

“AN ACT
PROMOTING AGRICULTURE AMONG FILIPINO YOUTH”;

House Bill No. 7198, introduced by Rep. Aleta C. Suarez, entitled:

“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE MAGNA CARTA OF YOUNG FARMERS”; and

House Bill No. 7199, introduced by Rep. Aleta C. Suarez, entitled:

“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE YOUNG FARMERS PROGRAM,
PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”

have considered the same and recommend that the attached House Bill No. 9575 entitled:

**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE YOUNG FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK
CHALLENGE PROGRAM, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE YOUNG
FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK CHALLENGE COUNCIL, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

be approved in substitution of **House Bills Numbered 1205, 1275, 1958, 1997, 2030, 3470, 3596, 4202, 5065, 5280, 6047, 7085, 7198, and 7199** with Representatives Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., Manuel DG. Cabochan III, Christopher V.P. de Venecia, “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, David “Jay-Jay” C. Suarez, Sharon S. Garin, Alfred D. Vargas, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Dale “Along” R. Malapitan, Eric M. Martinez, Rolando M. Valeriano, Angelo Marcos Barba, Alfred C. Delos Santos, Aleta C. Suarez, Eric Go Yap, Rosanna “Ria” Vergara, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Geraldine B. Roman, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, Ma. Lourdes T. Arroyo, Rico B. Geron, Carlos O. Cojuangco, Greg G. Gasataya, Sharee Ann T. Tan, Marlyn “Len” B. Alonte, Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe, Raul V. del Mar, Domingo C. Rivera, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Eduardo “Bro. Eddie” C. Villanueva, Estrellita B. Suansing, Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Gil “Kabarangay Jr.” A. Acosta, Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat, Joselito “Joel” S. Sacdalan, Isagani S. Amatong, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara, Alfelito “Alfel” M. Bascug, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Noel L. Villanueva, Henry R. Villarica, Christian S. Unabia, Rudys Caesar I G. Fariñas, Conrado M. Estrella III, Ramon V. Guico III, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Micaela S. Violago, Virgilio S. Lacson, Lorenz R. Defensor, Florencio G. Noel, Francisco “Kiko” B. Benitez, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Samantha Louise Vargas-Alfonso, Faustino “Inno” A. Dy V, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Jose “Jun” L. Ong, Jr., Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Arnie B. Fuentesbella, Ian Paul L. Dy, Manuel F. Zubiri, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Fernando T. Cabredo, Resurreccion M. Acop, Antonio “Tonypet” T. Albano, Frederick W. Siao, Michael B. Gorriceta, Gerardo P. Valmayor, Jr., Rogelio Neil P. Roque, Macnell M. Lusotan, Francisco G. Datol, Jr., Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Lorna C. Silverio, Evelina G. Escudero, Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas, Pablo John F. Garcia, Henry S. Oaminal, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Strike B. Revilla, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Paul Ruiz Daza, Michael John R. Duavit, Vincent Franco “Duke” D. Frasco, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Wilfredo “Willy” S. Caminero, Sergio C. Dagooc, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan R. Dujali, Eduardo “Eddie” R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Pablo C. Ortega, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D., John Reynald M. Tiangco, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Presley C. De Jesus, Mark O. Go, Dahlia A. Loyola, Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Jericho Jonas B. Nograles, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Bernadette Herrera-Dy, Ramon C. Nolasco, Jr., France L. Castro, Adriano E. Ebcas, Horacio P. Suansing, Jr., Lianda B. Bolilia, Weslie Gatchalian, Jumel Anthony I. Espino, Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo, Jose L. Atienza, Jr., Janice Z. Salimbangon, Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III, Raul C. Tupas, Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay, Sonny L. Lagon, Camille A. Villar, Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr., Tyrone D. Agabas, Ronnie L. Ong, Sabiniano S. Canama, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Arlene D. Brosas, Edgar M. Chatto,

Julienne “Jam” Baronda, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, Ed Christopher S. Go, Cristal L. Bagatsing, Loren Legarda, Wilton Tan Kho, Jake Vincent Villa, Ria Christina G. Fariñas, Alan 1 B. Ecleo, Lawrence Lemuel H. Fortun, Divina Grace C. Yu, Joey Sarte Salceda and Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



REP. ERIC GO YAP
Chairperson
Committee on Appropriations



REP. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA
Chairperson
Committee on Agriculture and Food



REP. JOEY SARTE SALCEDA
Chairperson
Committee on Ways and Means

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9575

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 1205, 1275, 1958, 1997, 2030, 3470,
3596, 4202, 5065, 5280, 6047, 7085, 7198, & 7199)

Introduced by Representatives Juan Miguel Macapagal-Arroyo, Luis Raymund “LRay” F. Villafuerte, Jr., Manuel DG. Cabochan III, Christopher V.P. de Venecia, “Kuya” Jose Antonio R. Sy-Alvarado, Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez, David “Jay-Jay” C. Suarez, Sharon S. Garin, Alfred D. Vargas, John Marvin “Yul Servo” C. Nieto, Edward Vera Perez Maceda, Dale “Along” R. Malapitan; Eric M. Martinez, Rolando M. Valeriano, Angelo Marcos Barba, Alfred C. Delos Santos, Aleta C. Suarez, Eric Go Yap, Rosanna “Ria” Vergara, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Geraldine B. Roman, Joy Myra S. Tambunting, Deogracias Victor “DV” B. Savellano, Ma. Lourdes T. Arroyo, Rico B. Geron, Carlos O. Cojuangco, Greg G. Gasataya, Sharee Ann T. Tan, Marlyn “Len” B. Alonte, Manuel Jose “Mannix” M. Dalipe, Raul V. del Mar, Domingo C. Rivera, Kristine Singson-Meehan, Eduardo “Bro. Eddie” C. Villanueva, Estrellita B. Suansing, Argel Joseph T. Cabatbat, Gil “Kabarangay Jr.” A. Acosta, Eufemia “Ka Femia” C. Cullamat, Joselito “Joel” S. Sacdalan, Isagani S. Amatong, Eddiebong G. Plaza, Joseph “Jojo” L. Lara, Alfelito “Alfel” M. Bascug, Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr., Noel L. Villanueva, Henry R. Villarica, Christian S. Unabia, Rudys Caesar I G. Fariñas, Conrado M. Estrella III, Ramon V. Guico III, Carl Nicolas C. Cari, Micaela S. Violago, Virgilio S. Lacson, Lorenz R. Defensor, Florencio G. Noel, Francisco “Kiko” B. Benitez, Leonardo L. Babasa, Jr., Samantha Louise Vargas-Alfonso, Faustino “Inno” A. Dy V, Faustino Michael Carlos T. Dy III, Jose “Jun” L. Ong, Jr., Maricel G. Natividad-Nagaño, Teodorico T. Haresco, Jr., Arnie B. Fuentebella, Ian Paul L. Dy, Manuel F. Zubiri, Jonathan Keith T. Flores, Fernando T. Cabredo, Resurreccion M. Acop, Antonio “Tonypet” T. Albano, Frederick W. Siao, Michael B. Gorriceta, Gerardo P. Valmayor, Jr., Rogelio Neil P. Roque, Macnell M. Lusotan, Francisco G. Datol, Jr., Amihilda J. Sangcopan, Abdullah D. Dimaporo, Lorna C. Silverio, Evelina G. Escudero, Rose Marie “Baby” J. Arenas, Pablo John F. Garcia, Henry S. Oaminal, Stella Luz A. Quimbo, Strike B. Revilla, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Ruffy B. Biazon, Peter John D. Calderon, Luis N. Campos, Jr., Junie E. Cua, Luisa Lloren Cuaresma, Paul Ruiz Daza, Michael John R. Duavit, Vincent Franco “Duke” D. Frasco, Ruwel Peter Gonzaga, Romeo S. Momo, Sr., Manuel T. Sagarbarria, Jose “Pingping” I. Tejada, Yasser Alonto Balindong, Wilfredo “Willy” S. Caminero, Sergio C. Dagooc, Cheryl P. Deloso-Montalla, Mohamad Khalid Q. Dimaporo, Alan R. Dujali, Eduardo “Eddie” R. Gullas, Godofredo N. Guya, Glona G. Labadlabad, Pablo C. Ortega, Alyssa Sheena P. Tan, Angelina “Helen” D.L. Tan, M.D., John Reynald M. Tiangco, Lucy Torres-Gomez, Kristine Alexie B. Tutor, Presley C. De Jesus, Mark O. Go, Dahlia A. Loyola, Florida “Rida” P. Robes, Irene Gay F. Saulog, Jericho Jonas B. Nograles, Jose Gay G. Padiernos, Bernadette Herrera-Dy, Ramon C. Nolasco, Jr., France L. Castro, Adriano E. Ebcas, Horacio P. Suansing, Jr., Lianda B. Bolilia, Weslie Gatchalian, Jumel Anthony I. Espino, Anthony Peter “Onyx” D. Crisologo, Jose L. Atienza, Jr., Janice Z. Salimbangon, Jose Enrique “Joet” S. Garcia III, Raul C. Tupas, Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay, Sonny L. Lagon, Camille A. Villar, Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr., Tyrone D. Agabas, Ronnie L. Ong, Sabiniano S. Canama, Sarah Jane I. Elago, Arlene D. Brosas, Edgar M. Chatto, Julienne “Jam” Baronda, Jose Christopher Y. Belmonte, Ed Christopher S. Go, Cristal L. Bagatsing, Loren Legarda, Wilton Tan Kho, Jake Vincent Villa, Ria

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE YOUNG FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK CHALLENGE PROGRAM, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE YOUNG FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK CHALLENGE COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short title.* This Act shall be known as the “*Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Act*”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to ensure that the rights of young farmers and fisherfolk are recognized, protected and promoted. Pursuant to this, the State shall engage the youth in nation building and rural development, providing for this purpose access to knowledge, information and education, access to land, new sources of financial services and capital, green jobs, access to new and niche markets, and participation in policy dialogue.

SEC. 3. *Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Program.* There is hereby established a Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Program, hereinafter referred to as the Program, that shall support and empower the young farmers and fisherfolk to be active partners in food security and agricultural development and modernization. The Program shall encourage the youth to pursue a career or engage in activities related to agriculture, ensure young farmers and fisherfolk participation in policy formulation and program implementation relative to the agriculture sector, and provide institutional support for agri-business and agri-entrepreneurship initiatives of the youth to fully realize their role as agents and partners for development.

SEC. 4. *Beneficiaries of the Program.* The Program is intended to support young farmers and fisherfolk between fifteen (15) to forty (40) years of age, who are engaged in farming and fisheries activities, and are included in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA). The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall update its existing database to reflect these indicators.

SEC. 5. *Creation of a Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Council.* There is hereby created the Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, to properly oversee the implementation of the Program.

The Council shall be composed of the following:

- a. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) or a duly authorized representative who is at least an Undersecretary, who shall be the Chair;
- b. Representative of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) who shall likewise be an Undersecretary;
- c. Representative of the Department of Education (DepEd) who shall likewise be an Undersecretary;
- d. Representative of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST);
- e. Representative of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED);
- f. Representative of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR);

- g. Representative of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA);
- h. Representative of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- i. Representative of a national organization of young farmers' cooperative or association, provided that the representative shall be between fifteen (15) to forty (40) years of age;
- j. Representative of a national organization of fisherfolk's cooperative or association, provided that the representative shall be between fifteen (15) to forty (40) years of age;
- k. Representative of a farmers' women organization or cooperative, provided that the representative shall be between fifteen (15) to forty (40) years of age;
- l. Representative of a national organization for agritourism; and
- m. Representative of a national organization for food, restaurant, and business sectors.

The Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries shall serve as its Secretariat.

SEC. 6. Powers and Functions of the Council. The Council shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. Formulate the Program, in consultation with research institutions such as the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD), University of the Philippines - Los Baños (UPLB) and other relevant state universities and colleges (SUCs);
- b. Identify and streamline access to relevant capacity-building and livelihood programs across the different departments and agencies of government, including on-the-job trainings, job fairs, employment in farm tourism and agro-industrial zones, and other employment-bridging initiatives;
- c. Identify and streamline access to possible sources of credit across the different departments, agencies, and instrumentalities, including access to start-up capital;
- d. Monitor initiatives in emerging best practices in agriculture such as smart farming, farm tourism in compliance with RA 10816, or the "Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016," agroponics, aquaponics, hydroponics, and organic and boutique vegetables;
- e. Improve and facilitate access to marketing services such as through product packaging, promotions including branding and advertising, networking events, provision of subsidies to enable participation in trade fairs and exhibits, and linkage with media;
- f. Coordinate with local government units (LGUs) in providing subsidized rental rates for public retail areas and public markets to farmers and fisherfolk;
- g. Serve as a conduit between stakeholders and national and international leaders including Congress and the private sector in formulating policies directly addressing the concerns of young farmers and fisherfolk;
- h. Propose subjects related to agriculture and agribusiness such as gardening, backyard farming, urban farming, reforestation, agricultural appreciation, agricultural entrepreneurship, smart farming, farm tourism, and coastal management in all pertinent levels of the DepEd's K-12 system with the end goal of increasing enrollment in the technical-vocational track in Senior High School in courses related to agriculture, CHED, including the National Service Training Program (NSTP) and TESDA;
- i. Ensure scholarships and subsidized tuition fees for young farmers and fisherfolk in SUCs;

- j. Provide on-the-job training programs for young farmers and fisherfolk in areas such as “green jobs”, reforestation, coastal management, fisheries, and other rural-based jobs, through the DOLE’s Special Program for Employment of Students (SPES) and other livelihood and training programs;
- k. Explore and facilitate the extension of short-term leases for public land to young farmers and fisherfolk, providing free or subsidized land for cultivation and for aquaculture, and developing other packages such as, lease-to-buy schemes that would allow young farmers and fisherfolk to use available or unutilized agricultural land or fishing ground for the purposes of said Program;
- l. Expedite the leasing, distribution, and award of agrarian reform land to qualified beneficiaries;
- m. Facilitate the use of excess land holdings of SUCs and PEIs for agricultural training and developmental processes;
- n. Foster the formation of new ideas and technologies by assisting agricultural enterprises of qualified young farmers and fisherfolk entrepreneurs, pursuant to Republic Act No. 11337, otherwise known as the “Innovative Start-up Act of 2018”;
- o. Initiate social partnerships and rural development initiatives in partnership with the private sector;
- p. Optimize existing loan guarantee funds administered by various government entities to increase the credit worthiness of young farmers and fisherfolk experiencing difficulty in obtaining loans from banks due to lack of acceptable collaterals, credit knowledge and credit track record; and
- q. Accept donations, contributions, grants, bequests or gifts, in cash or in kind, from various sources, domestic or foreign, for purposes relevant to the functions of the Council. Said donations shall be deemed automatically appropriated for purposes specified by the donor or in the absence thereof, for the programs and projects as may be approved by the Council subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations: *Provided, That*, cash donations shall not be used to fund the personal services requirements of the Council.

SEC. 6-A. Tax Exemption on Donations. All grants, bequests, endowments, donations and contributions made to and used actually, directly and exclusively by the Council shall be exempt from donor’s tax and the same shall be considered as allowable deduction from gross income for purposes of computing the taxable income of the donor, in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended.

SEC. 7. Waiver of Government Fees and Charges. Subject to the exceptions provided in Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11261, otherwise known as the “First-Time Jobseekers Assistance Act”, all government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled corporations, LGUs, and government hospitals shall not collect fees or charges from young farmers and fisherfolks who are first-time jobseekers: *Provided, That* such fee or charge is in connection with the application for and the granting of licenses, proofs of identification, clearances, certificates or other documents usually required in the course of employment locally or abroad: *Provided further*, That the benefit provided shall only be availed of once.

SEC. 8. *Annual Report.* The Council shall submit to the President and to both Houses of Congress, not later than the 30th of March of every year following the effectivity of this Act, a report giving a detailed account on the effective implementation of this Act, and recommended legislation where applicable and necessary.

SEC. 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DA and DAR shall, in coordination with the DOST, DOLE, DENR, DepEd, CHED, Land Bank of the Philippines, and National Youth Commission, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 10. *Appropriations.* The funds necessary to carry out the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's budget of the Department of Agriculture. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, administrative orders, and rules and regulations inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Committee Affairs Department

FACT SHEET

HOUSE BILL NO. 9575

*(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 1205, 1275, 1958, 1997, 2030, 3470, 3596, 4202,
5065, 5280, 6047, 7085, 7198 and 7199)*

AN ACT

**ESTABLISHING THE YOUNG FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK
CHALLENGE PROGRAM, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE
YOUNG FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK CHALLENGE COUNCIL
AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

Introduced by: REPRESENTATIVES JUAN MIGUEL MACAPAGAL-ARROYO, LUIS RAYMUND “LRAY” F. VILLAFUERTE, JR., MANUEL DG. CABOCHAN III, CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE VENECIA, “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO, ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ, DAVID “JAY-JAY” C. SUAREZ, SHARON S. GARIN, ALFRED D. VARGAS, JOHN MARVIN “YUL SERVO” C. NIETO, EDWARD VERA PEREZ MACEDA, DALE “ALONG” R. MALAPITAN; ERIC M. MARTINEZ, ROLANDO M. VALERIANO, ANGELO MARCOS BARBA, ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS, AND ALETA C. SUAREZ

Committee Referrals: COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Chairpersons: REP. WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA
REP. ERIC GO YAP
REP. JOEY SARTE SALCEDA

OBJECTIVE:

To promote and harness the potential of young farming entrepreneurs fostering growth and development especially in the rural areas.

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Establishes the Young Farmers and Fisherfolk Challenge Program that shall support and empower young farmers and fisherfolk to be active partners in food security and agricultural development and modernization.
- Encourages the youth to pursue a career or engage in activities related to agriculture, participate in policy formulation, and in the implementation of programs relative to the agriculture sector.
- Provides institutional support for agri-business and agri-entrepreneurship initiatives of the youth to fully realize their roles as agents and partners for development.
- Defines young farmers and fisherfolk as those between fifteen (15) to forty (40) years of age, are engaged in farming and fisheries activities, and are included in the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA).

- Waives government fees and charges to young farmers and fisherfolk who are first time jobseekers in connection with the application for and the granting of licenses, proofs of identification, clearances, certificates or other documents usually required in the course of employment locally or abroad.

Related laws:

RA 10816, "Farm Tourism Development Act of 2016"

RA 11261, "First Time Jobseekers Assistance Act"

RA 11337, "Innovative Start-up Act of 2018"