

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2287



Introduced by **Honorable PEDRO M. PANCHO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our agricultural technicians make observation for crop harvest in the morning that the farmers have to wait to fill one jeep with their cargo before delivery can be made. Consequently, the vegetables lose their green freshness and nutritional value to the heat of the sun. For so many decades, the government has not taken any move to solve the increasing problem in marketing that will generate employment and income for the families in the field of cultivation.

In any province, there are idle and unproductive lands that can be tapped as a good source of income because they are being short of marketing strategies in their town. The farmers have lost interest and enthusiasm to till the soil for lack of a stable and profitable market. The campaign of the president for a sustained good production has been geared much towards the foreign farmers instead of the Filipinos as beneficiaries.

The government focused its budget for cultivation but no fund was set aside for the establishment of trading centers. Large-scale production is useless if there are no designated places to market the produce of the farmers. The financial assistance invested and provided for by other

agencies is worthless in the absence of trading centers to store and keep the crops.

The strategy is to first plan for distribution before manufacturing the items. The company or corporation must first look for the marketable volume of their products before they engaged in large-scale production. They must study the most saleable items to produce and must have a more attraction quality than the other similar products.

The government spends billions of pesos to assist financing industries but until now the area of unproductive land remains the same. The farmers lose the drive to produce more because there are no trading centers that will assure them a good return on their products. The "bagsakan" site must be well developed to attract buyers from different places; there must be small parks and waiting sheds where the buyers can rest while waiting for the arrival of the vegetables and other crops coming from the different towns. There must be a good presentation of the crops to increase the quality of the items that can be marketed to supermarkets and public markets.

In Baliuag, Bulacan, an existing facility with the same purpose along the national road, with vegetable, fish and live hog market including a slaughterhouse, has remain non-operational for several years now. Even the Department of Agriculture has offered million pesos for its area development. The former municipal mayor ignored its operation and economic benefit in favor of their intention to build a coliseum in the same site. It is a great relief for us, that the new administration is very willing to support and operate this noble project of Farmers' Trading Center to uplift the lives of the tillers of the soil.

Trading centers will certainly help our agricultural production as there will be definite destinations provided for its marketing. It will mean better life for people in the remote areas.

Accordingly, approval of the attached bill is earnestly requested.


PEDRO M. PANCHÓ
Congressman
2nd District of Bulacan

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“AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE IMMEDIATE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A FARMERS’ TRADING CENTER OF LOCAL PRODUCTS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF BALIUAG, PROVINCE OF BULACAN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR.”

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

SECTION 1. The immediate construction, operation and maintenance of a Farmers' Trading Center of Local Products in the municipality of Baliuag, province of Bulacan is hereby authorized.

SEC. 2. The sum necessary for proper implementation of this act shall be charged against the budget of the Department of Agriculture. Thereafter, it shall be included in the regular General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED,