

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3917

Introduced by: HON. LORETO LEO S. OCAMPOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The coconut industry is a dominant sector in Philippine agriculture. Coconut farms are widely distributed nationwide. It contributes more than 1 percent of the Gross National Product.

Over the years, coconut farming has been difficult and has not been very lucrative. The price of coconuts has fluctuated erratically, moving at extreme points, often very high and very low. When the price of coconuts plunges, the coconut farmers lose or go out of business. Hence, there is a need to protect them and lessen their financial burdens.

This bill seeks to provide a threshold price of coconuts so that when the price plunges, the National Government will assume its role and alleviate the coconut farmers' predicament.



LORETO LEO S. OCAMPOS

Representative

2nd District, Misamis Occidental

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AN ACT GRANTING SUBSIDY TO COCONUT FARMERS

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

SECTION 1. Title. – This Act shall be called the Coconut Farmers Subsidy of 2010.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It shall be the policy of the State to provide price subsidy to coconut farmers when the price level of coconuts go below the threshold. The State recognizes the vital role of coconut farmers and coconut farming in the national economy.

SECTION 3. Coverage. – Small-scale coconut farmers and those coconut farmers with annual income below the rural poverty threshold as determined by periodic census and by the Philippine Coconut Authority.

SECTION 4. Annual Evaluation of the List of Small Scale Farmers. – The list of small-scale coconut farmers and those coconut farmers with annual income below the rural poverty threshold shall be evaluated every year through a procedure prescribed by the Philippine Coconut Authority.

SECTION 5. Threshold Level. – The threshold level for the price of coconuts shall be determined by the Philippine Coconut Authority and subject to yearly evaluation.

SECTION 6. Price Subsidy. – When the price of coconuts go below the threshold level, National Government thru the Philippine Coconut Authority shall assume the difference between the prevailing market price and the threshold price.

The Authority shall ensure that only qualified small-scale rice coconut farmers and coconut farmers with annual income below the rural poverty threshold will be entitled to the benefits of this act.

SECTION 7. Operating Fund. – The National Government shall include set aside a portion of its budget to facilitate and implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 8. Implementing Agency. – The Philippine Coconut Authority shall be the implementing agencies for this Act. The above agency shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations for this Act.

SECTION 9. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 10. Repealing Clause. – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 11. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,