

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 3919

Introduced by: HON. LORETO LEO S. OCAMPOS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The State recognizes the vital role of rice farmers and rice farming in the national economy.

The unpredictability of nature has made agriculture a high-risk venture. A lot of Filipinos are dependent on agricultural production as a source of livelihood.

Small-scale farmers face hardships as each typhoon assaults their farms. They are defenseless in the face of adversity. The impact of natural disasters and calamities has left farmers vulnerable and destitute. Lost revenues have forced them to start from scratch.

This bill seeks to alleviate the harsh consequences brought about by extreme weather conditions by providing farm input subsidy to small-scale rice farmers. By doing so, rice farming is thereby promoted. Corollary, farmers will be able to get back on their feet easily, become productive, yield high quality rice and ensure constant food supply.



LORETO LEO S. OCAMPOS

Representative

2nd District, Misamis Occidental

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Introduced by: **HON. LORETO LEO S. OCAMPOS**

AN ACT PROVIDING FARM INPUT SUBSIDY TO RICE FARMERS IN IRRIGATED LANDS

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

SECTION 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Farm Input Subsidy to Rice Farmers in Irrigated Lands Act.”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It shall be the policy of the State to provide rice farmers in irrigated lands farm input subsidy to help them shoulder the cost of agricultural production and to promote rice farming. The State recognizes the vital role of rice farmers and rice farming in the national economy.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. –

- a. **Rice farmers** – refer to farmers who plant or produce rice;
- b. **Farm inputs** – are such elements as seeds, fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides which are inputted to the process of rice production;
- c. **Irrigated lands** – lands artificially watered from canals and ditches and other similar methods.

SECTION 4. Coverage. – Small-scale rice farmers and those rice farmers with annual income below the rural poverty threshold as determined by periodic census and by the Department of Agriculture.

SECTION 5. Price Subsidy. – The seeds and other farm inputs shall be subsidized at fifty percent of their purchase price by the National Government thru the Department of Agriculture.

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

SECTION 6. Appropriations. – The National Government shall set aside a portion of its budget to facilitate and implement the provisions of this act.

SECTION 7. Implementing Agency. – The Department of Agriculture shall be the implementing agencies for this Act. The above agencies shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations for this Act.

SECTION 8. 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 9. 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 10. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,
