

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6662



Introduced by : **Honorable Erico B. Aumentado**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide subsidy for Filipino farmers in support of the Aquino administration's food security program. The goal is to attain rice and corn self sufficiency for the Philippines and become an exporter of the commodities.

It may be recalled that under the Marcos presidency, the Philippines – with then Executive Sec. Rafael Salas and Agriculture Sec. Bong Tangco as the spearheads – succeeded to become rice and corn self sufficient and exporter to neighboring countries. The government succeeded because of its Masagana 99 for rice and Masagana 55 for corn, and subsidy given to the farmers.

The subsidy herein envisioned shall consist of hybrid rice and corn seeds, fertilizer, insecticides, crop insurance, and post harvest facilities. This way, the Filipino rice and corn farmers can compete globally, and in the process, ensure the success of the Aquino administration's food security program.

Moreover, the subsidy to the rice and corn farmers is a paradigm shift from the present trend of importing rice and corn from producers abroad thereby indirectly subsidizing foreign farmers instead of Filipinos engaged in the same rice and corn production. Further, subsidizing and strengthening the Filipino farmers can increase rapidly the economic multiplier effects of the program, and thus, make the agriculture sector a major player of increasing the gross domestic product (GDP) of the country, and open more windows of opportunity for the Philippines to attain the coveted investment grade by Standard and Poor, Fitch Rating Service and Moody's Investors Service.

Therefore, approval of this bill is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Chamber.


ERICO B. AUMENTADO
Congressman, 2nd District of Bohol

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR SUBSIDY TO FILIPINO FARMERS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Introduced by : **Honorable Erico B. Aumentado**

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

SECTION 1: The Filipino farmers are hereby given subsidy by the national government consisting of hybrid rice and corn seeds, fertilizer, insecticides, crop insurance, and post harvest facilities.

SECTION 2: The amount needed for the purpose shall be charged against the current budget of the Department of Agriculture, and subsequently thereafter, to the regular annual appropriations to ensure continuity and effectiveness of the program for the country to attain rice self sufficiency and become a rice and corn exporter.

SECTION 3: The Department of Agriculture shall promulgate the necessary guidelines for this farmers subsidy as a major instrument of the government's food security program within 60 days from approval of this legislation.

SECTION 4: All laws, orders and decrees inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5: This act shall take effect immediately upon its approval by the President of the Republic;

APPROVED.