

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3448



Introduced by Representatives Rico B. Geron and Nicanor M. Briones

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 2 of Republic Act No. 6938 expressly states that it is the declared policy of the state to foster the creation and growth of cooperatives as a practical vehicle for promoting self-reliance and harnessing people power towards the attainment of economic development and social justice. Thus, the state ensures to promote and protect the cooperatives' right to sustenance and viability.

The primary objective of a cooperative is to provide goods and services and to attain increased income, savings and investments for the benefit of its members. The right of cooperatives to own and hold public or private agricultural land plays an important mechanism in the realization of the cooperatives' objectives to generate funds, provide housing for members, establish agricultural and industrial enterprises and create public markets. With this, the right of the cooperatives to acquire and own land should not be hampered and be subjected to stringent limitations provided for under existing laws.

This bill promotes the viability and growth of cooperatives as instruments for social justice and economic development by granting the cooperatives the right to own, purchase, receive, take or retain, any public or agricultural land, not exceeding fifty (50) hectares.

To ensure that the noble objectives of this bill shall be faithfully attained, and to prevent the creation of unscrupulous cooperatives, the right granted under this bill shall be applied only to cooperatives existing and formed prior to the affectivity of R.A. 6938.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



RICO B. GERON



NICANOR M. BRIONES

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. 3448

Introduced by Representatives Rico B. Geron and Nicanor M. Briones

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RIGHT OF COOPERATIVES TO DEVELOP INTO VIABLE AND RESPONSIVE ECONOMIC ENTREPRISES, AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 6938 BY ADDING SECTION 9-B ON COOPERATIVE POWERS AND CAPACITIES

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

SECTION 1. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 6938, or the Cooperative Code of the Philippines, is hereby amended with the addition of the following Article, to read as follows:

"SECTION 9-B: Cooperative Right to Own Land. - Every cooperative shall have the right to own, purchase, receive, take or retain, any public or agricultural land, the size of which shall not exceed fifty (50) hectares. *Provided*, that this right may be exercised only by cooperatives organized, established and registered prior to the effectivity of this Act."

Section 2. Repealing Clause.—All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 3. Effectivity.—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.