

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



House Bill No. **5757**

Introduced by **HONORABLE ELISA T. KHO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

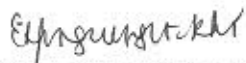
This bill proposes to promote, strengthen and develop Cattle Ranching in the Philippines.

Cattle Ranching is a vibrant sector and a major contributor of our nation's economy, yet barriers to entry make ranching one of the hardest to pursue. Limited access to land and markets, hyperinflation in land prices, high input costs, and tax policy disadvantages, and lack of training discourage many ranchers and would-be ranchers from entering cattle ranching. This is a major challenge for us as we endeavor to promote, strengthen and develop cattle ranching in our country.

This bill will invest in the next generation of cattle ranchers by:

- Enabling access to land, credit, and technical assistance for ranchers;
- Assisting new ranchers to launch and strengthen new ranches and value-added businesses.
- Helping ranchers to become good land stewards.
- Providing training, education, extension and research that ranchers need to be successful.
- Providing incentive packages for inputs to ranches.

Considering the importance of this bill, immediate passage is earnestly sought.


HON. ELISA T. KHO
2nd District, Masbate

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AN ACT
PROMOTING, DEVELOPING AND STRENGTHENING CATTLE RANCHING IN THE
PHILIPPINES.

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title* - This Act shall be known as the "Cattle Ranching Development Act of 2015."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy* - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide policy directions and support programs/projects for the sustained development, strengthening and promotion of the Cattle Ranching Industry in the Philippines in as much as the industry provides contributes significantly in the national economy through the steady supply of cattle in the market, provides employment and livelihood to the local residents and a vital contributor to the attainment of cattle self-sufficiency of the country.

SEC. 3. *Development of Cattle Ranching Industry* – The Department of Agriculture shall give priority in developing and instituting programs and projects in Cattle Ranching focused in :

- a. the transforming of the cattle industry from its limited raw production into the integration of other co-production ventures of the industry;
- b. the development of cattle ranching programs that are environment friendly;
- c. the development of marketing programs;
- d. the establishment, identification and improvement, rehabilitation, construction of farm-to-market roads and trans-shipment ports for the transport of cattle and its by-products through the integration of the cattle ranching industry program with the various development programs of the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Philippine Ports Authority;
- e. the implementation of programs that shall benefit the cattle ranchers and workers through sustained technical support in research development, extension, and trainings;
- f. the identification and making available for purchase or lease on a long term basis, in consultation with the Department of Agrarian Reform and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, public or private ranch/grazing land in the country suitable for cattle ranching.

SEC. 4. *Incentive Package* – Beginning cattle ranchers shall be entitled to tax incentives relative to the establishment of new cattle ranches. These include the following:

- a. Exemption from the payment of customs duties on the importation of all types of breeding cattle for beginning ranching activities;
- b. Exemption from payment of value-added tax (VAT) on the importation of cattle ranching inputs;

SEC. 5. *Ranch Protection* – The Department of Agriculture shall endeavor to preserve ranch viability for future generation. As such, Cattle Ranchers who have purchased ranch/grazing lands for the purpose of establishing cattle ranches cannot convert the land to other uses within a period of 25 years. Purchase or sale of ranch/grazing lands shall only be transferred to applicants for ranching in order to maintain the viability of the land and keep it as a ranching/grazing land.

SEC. 6. *Other Incentives* – The Department of Agriculture shall assist and facilitate in the extension of bank loans at low interest rates to current and beginning cattle ranchers to support the development of the cattle industry. It shall likewise make available cattle insurance and broad risk-management programs to cattle ranchers at an affordable rate.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Agency* - The lead agency in the implementation of this Act shall be the Department of Agriculture. It shall determine, define and disseminate information regarding the purpose and goal of this Act. It shall also be responsible for the monitoring compliance with this Act.

SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. – The Department of Agriculture shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act not later than three (3) months from the effectivity of this law.

SEC. 11. *Effectivity* - This Act Shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,