

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4474**



Introduced by Honorable Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the Republic of the Philippines farm mechanization shall enhance the efficiency of both land and labor, inputs that are vital in sustaining food production and increasing farm income. However, despite the various innovations in mechanization technologies in the country, the country lagged behind other Asian countries in terms of mechanical power. In 2009, the **PCAARRD** (formerly Philippine Council for Agriculture, Forestry and Natural Resources Research and Development or PCARRD) reported that the different farming activities of selected crops were predominantly operated at low mechanization level.

This House Bill seeks to improve the agri-fishery sector through mechanization programs.

Earnest approval of this bill is hereby requested.


MICHAEL L. ROMERO Ph.D

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AN ACT

**MANDATING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) TO
PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR THE NATIONAL AGRI-FISHERY
MECHANIZATION PROGRAM (NAFMP) TO IMPROVE THE STATES
AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES SECTOR THROUGH
MECHANIZATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy - The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall provide an additional Five hundred million pesos (**₱500,000,000.00**) for the National Agri-Fishery Mechanization Program (NAFMP) to carry-out its functions to improve the Agri-fishery sector through mechanization as mandated in Republic Act No. 10601

SECTION 2. Powers and Functions of the NAFMP:

The National Agri-Fishery Mechanization Program (NAFMP) shall be formulated by the Department of Agriculture (DA) to:

- (a) promote and support through the provision of research grants, credit, transparent and predictable regulation, the local development and manufacture of agricultural and fisheries machinery by the private sector;
- (b) unify, lead and support the efforts of various institutions in the research, design and development of agricultural and fisheries machinery;
- (c) establish quality, safety and performance standards for agricultural and fisheries machinery;
- (d) support the establishment of quality, safety and performance testing centers for the certification of agricultural and fisheries machinery in strategic localities in the country;
- (e) establish guidelines for the registration of ownership of agricultural and fisheries machinery; and
- (f) promote the adoption of certified agricultural and fisheries machinery for improving agriculture and fishery productivity.

SECTION 3. Appropriation - The amount intended for the implementation of this Act shall be charged under the existing funding of the Department of Agriculture.

Thereafter such amounts necessary for the successive and continuous implementation of this Act, including the operations maintenance of reserves shall be automatically appropriated in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. Repealing Clause. All laws, executive orders, issuances, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. Separability Clause. If, for any reason or reasons, any portion or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,