

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. 7794



Introduced by Representative Rico B. Geron

EXPLANATORY NOTE

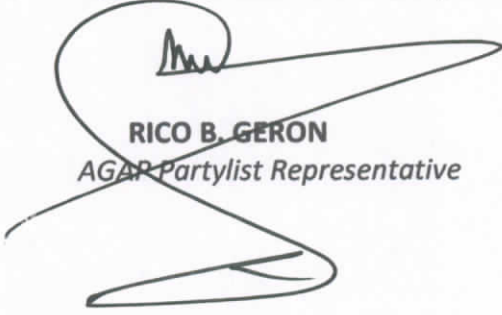
This Bill seeks to mandate all state colleges and universities to develop courses relating to agriculture to urge Filipino students to take up agriculture related courses as the Philippines grapples with food security.

For the past years, it is apparent in the decrease of enrollment in most colleges and universities that offer degree programs in agriculture despite increasing demand for food and farm products all over the country. One probable reason is the lack of employment opportunities available in the agriculture sector. Also, the availability of two year short courses for student which allow them to get immediate employment with appropriate compensation.

We should recognize the need to support agriculture education but the welfare of farmers should be the primary consideration when implementing agriculture programs and projects, after all, they are the country's main producers. Losing them could make the entire country under food scarcity and insecurity.

When the Constitution specifically mandates that the State shall give priority to quality education especially to those who are poor and underprivileged, thus, our farmers are most of the time remain to be the deprived and unfortunate. This proposed legislation is a definite method toward providing the most deserved assistance to uplift the lives of our small Filipino farmers.

Approval of this bill earnestly sought.



RICO B. GERON

AGAP Partylist Representative

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. **7794**

Introduced by Representative Rico B. Geron

**AN ACT MANDATING ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES TO DEVELOP COURSES
RELATING TO AGRICULTURE PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION,
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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 “Agricultural Course Act of 2018.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. The state shall establish means to protect the agriculture sector and the country’s food security.

SECTION 3. The Department of Education and Commission on Higher Education shall jointly promulgate the necessary implementing rules to carry out the purposes of the Act.

SECTION 3. Appropriations. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged to the budget of Department of Education and Commission of Higher Education as provided in General Appropriations Act.

Thereafter, the necessary sum for the implementation of this Act shall be provided in the subsequent General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. 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 5. Effectivity. ---- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.