



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10032



Introduced by: Representative Florencio Gabriel G. Noel

AN ACT
CREATING AN AGRICULTURAL PENSION PROGRAM TO PROVIDE SOCIAL
SECURITY AND PENSION BENEFITS TO FARMERS AND FISHERFOLK

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Who are the pillars and backbone of our society? They are the farmers who laboriously till the soil in order to bring food to our table, and the fisherfolks who goes out to the sea before the break of dawn.

Despite the vital role that the farmers and fisherfolk play in the lives of the Filipinos, they remain to be one of the least protected sectors by law. After all the arduous work, they are left with no fallback position, thus, it is but appropriate to accord them pension and benefits which retirees from the private and government sectors enjoy.

In recognition of their efforts and contribution to the society, the establishment a pension program for the farmers and fisherfolks is hereby proposed.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


FLORENCIO GABRIEL G. NOEL
An Waray Party-list Representative



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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “*Pensyonadong Magsasaka at Mangangisda Act*”.

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

- a. Revitalize the agriculture industry towards sustainability and create the necessary conditions to end hunger, achieve food security, and improve the general health and nutrition of Filipinos;
- b. Recognize the fundamental role and give proper value to the contributions of farmers and fisherfolk in our daily survival, national development, and in ensuring long-run food security;
- c. Protect and promote the welfare of farmers and fisherfolk by putting in place measures that would reduce their socio-economic risks and vulnerabilities, thereby improving their quality of life, and
- d. Establish and institutionalize a comprehensive pension and social security program for the benefit of agricultural workers.

SEC. 3. *The Farmers and Fisherfolk Social Security and Pension Program.* – There is hereby established the “Farmers and Fisherfolk Social Security and Pension Program,” herein referred to as Program, which shall provide agricultural workers a substantial and reliable source of income security and secured retirement in their old age.

The Program shall consist of the comprehensive set of objectives, targets, and holistic approach in the provision of sickness, maternity, disability, retirement, death, and funeral benefits to farmers and fisherfolk.

It shall be integrated and made consistent with the package benefits under Social Security System (SSS) and relevant programs of the Department of Agriculture (DA) and the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (PCIC).

SEC. 4. *Implementing Agencies.* – The PCIC, an attached of the DA, and the SSS shall be the primary implementing agencies of the provisions of this Act.

To fulfill the goals of this Act, they shall perform the following duties and functions:

- a. The SSS and PCIC shall tap the expertise of other relevant government office in the formulation of the objectives, targets, and approaches under the Program.
- b. The PCIC shall manage the registration system of eligible agricultural workers under the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA) and maintain the required operational reports.
- c. The SSS shall manage the funds allocated and the social security and pension scheme of the Program and maintain the required actuarial and financial reports.
- d. The PCIC and the SSS shall perform other duties and functions necessary in the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

The PCIC and the SSS shall collaborate with and secure the technical assistance of the DA in all stages of implementation of this Act. The DA shall ensure that the objectives of the Program are met and shall evaluate and monitor the Program's contribution to the productivity of the agricultural sector and the improvement of the quality of life of farmers and fisherfolk.

SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the initial implementation of this Act shall be drawn from the savings of the national government. Thereafter the funds necessary for the continuous implementation of the program shall be sourced from the ten percent (10%) of the total annual duties collected from the importation of agricultural products. The supplemental amount necessary for its implementation shall be included in the annual appropriations of the DA.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the date of effectivity of this Act, the PCIC shall, in consultation with the DA, SSS, the Department of Budget and Management, and the Department of Finance, formulate the rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive and administrative orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,