

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session

3787

HOUSE BILL NO. _____



Introduced by Representative Solomon R. Chungalao

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The COVID-19 pandemic that ravaged the whole world revealed the importance of securing a stable food source for the local populace. When everything came close to an absolute standstill, those who were fortunate enough to weather the lockdowns were those who had ready access to resources or those who were able to produce these resources.

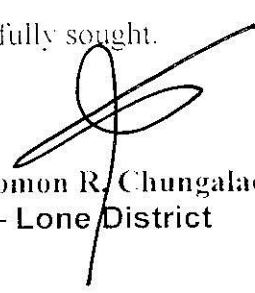
Unexpectedly, during these times, our farmers became the underrated frontliners who never ceased to feed our countrymen as they continued to grow crops all throughout. A segment of these agricultural frontliners are those belonging to the agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs), who benefitted from the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program via awarded land and support services.

Despite absolute proof of their importance to our nation, it saddens one to realize that they collectively and individually bear the weight of agrarian reform debt burden. They are still saddled with payments for amortizations, interest due, in the event of delinquency, for the land they were awarded.

It is the objective of this proposed measure to realize the social justice aim of the agrarian reform program by emancipating the ARBs from the debt that history has proven to be too burdensome for them to shoulder. By condoning the financial obligations related to the award of land, the ARBs can then focus all their effort, resources, and expertise toward food security for the Philippines. In case of any unforeseen calamity in the future, we will be assured that the food supply will not be a problem and the supply chain will still soldier on. A promise that is not baseless, considering the agricultural sector's performance during an unprecedented period in our recent history.

It is noteworthy to state that the emancipation of agrarian beneficiaries from debt burden is included in the priority agenda of the present administration as expressly mentioned in the State of the Nation Address of President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos, Jr.

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


Rep. Solomon R. Chungalao
Ifugao – Lone District



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HOUSE BILL NO. **3787**

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE CONDONATION OF UNPAID
AMORTIZATIONS AND INTERESTS OF AGRARIAN REFORM
BENEFICIARIES ON LANDS AWARDED UNDER THE
COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

*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 "Agrarian Reform
Condonation of Land Amortization Act."

SEC. 2. *Condonation of Amortizations and Interest Payments.* - All unpaid
amortizations and interest payments due for land acquisition secured by agrarian
reform beneficiaries (ARBs) under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform
Program (CARP) pursuant to Sec. 26 of R.A. 6657, otherwise known as the
Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended by R.A. 9700 are
hereby condoned, thereby relieving the ARBs from the payment thereof:

1 *Provided*. That the attached liens and encumbrances arising from the condonation
2 shall be cancelled by the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP): *Provided further*,
3 *That* ARBs who are to be awarded with Certificate of Land Ownership Award
4 (CLOA). shall be granted their agricultural land free of any amortization.

5 SEC. 3. ***Cancellation of Foreclosure Proceedings***. All pending foreclosure
6 proceedings against delinquent beneficiaries pursuant to Section 26 of RA 6657.
7 as amended are hereby cancelled.

8 SEC. 4. **Implementing Rules and Regulations**.-Within thirty (30) days from the
9 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), in
10 coordination with the Presidential Agrarian Reform Council (PARC), and the
11 LBP, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to effectively
12 implement the provisions of this Act.

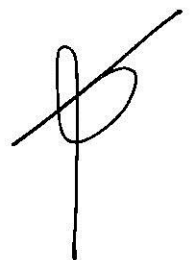
13 SEC. 5. ***Repealing Clause*** -- All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or
14 parts thereof inconsistent with any of the provision of this Act are hereby
15 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

16 SEC. 6. ***Separability Clause***. -- If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid
17 or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in
18 full force and effect.

19 SEC. 7. ***Effectivity***. -- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
20 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

21 Approved.

22

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'P' or 'B' shape with a vertical line extending downwards.