



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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 1813

Introduced by Representative Ivan Howard Guintu

EXPLANATORY NOTE

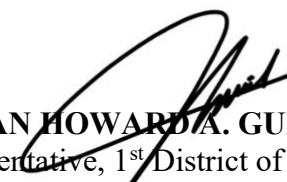
Section 5, Article XIII of the Philippine Constitution recognizes the role of the state in providing farmers and farmworkers appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial production, marketing, and other support services.

It was reported by the Department of Agriculture in 2024 that the country is losing an average of 342,000 metric tons of rice, which is equivalent to Php7.89 billion in post-harvest losses per year. Unfortunately, losses incurred during post-harvest also affects the income of our farmers. It was noted by the Institute of Food Science and Technology, Food Science Cluster, University of the Philippines - Los Baños (2016), that post-harvest losses in our country is primarily due to “the lack of modern agriculture technologies, resources and skills, infrastructure, support for research, innovation, and agricultural workers.”

This proposed measure seeks to establish warehouses and rice mills, as well as the corresponding machineries needed for its operation, to every rice-producing city and municipality in our country. In the initial phase of the implementation of this proposed measure, there shall be established one rice mill and warehouse in every district with at least one rice-producing city or municipality. Therefore, this proposed measure shall enable our farmers satisfy their material needs, and consequently, raise their income.

While our country aims to increase food production, it is of utmost importance to complement this with policies and programs that aim to reduce post-harvest losses.

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


IVAN HOWARD A. GUINTU
Representative, 1st District of Capiz



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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR POST-HARVEST FACILITIES TO FARMERS

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 "Post-Harvest Facilities Support Act".

SEC 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote agricultural and rural development. Specifically, the State aims to raise farm incomes to a level high enough to allow farmers to satisfy their material needs and enhance their self-esteem. It is also the policy of the State to encourage and strengthen non-government organizations, such as farmer organizations, cooperatives, and enterprises

SEC 3. *Post-Harvest Facilities.*- The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), in consultation with the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and farmer cooperatives shall construct warehouses and rice mills in every rice-producing municipality and city in the Philippines: *Provided*, That in the initial phase of the program, every district with at least one rice-producing municipality shall be the beneficiary of at least one warehouse and rice mill.

Additionally, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in consultation with the DA, DAR, and farmer cooperatives, shall provide the equipment and machinery required to operate these warehouses and rice mills as well as the necessary transport facilities.

SEC 4. *Acquisition of Farmer Cooperatives.* -The warehouses and rice mills, including the equipment and machinery required to operate them, shall be sold at cost to accredited farmer cooperatives which will be given twenty-five (25) years to amortize the facilities.

SEC 5. *Funding.*- The amount of One Billion Pesos (Php 1,000,000,000.00) is initially appropriated for the program. In subsequent years, funding for the program shall be incorporated in the General Appropriations Act.

SEC 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* -Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Agriculture, Department of Trade and Industry shall jointly promulgate the necessary 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 orders, decrees, rules and regulations, or any part thereof inconsistent with the provision of this Act are deemed repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC 9. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.