

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **2232**



Introduced by **Hon. Charisse Anne C. Hernandez**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 13 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates the State recognition of the vital role of the youth in nation-building and promotion and the protection of their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being and states further its role to inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs. Furthermore, Republic Act 8044 otherwise known as the “Youth in Nation-Building Act of 1995” creates the structures to implement a comprehensive and coordinated program for the youth and gives recognition to the youth’s responsibility in fulfilling their vital role in nation-building;

According to the Philippine Statistics Authority, 2.87 million Filipinos are unemployed in March 2022. The number of unemployed youth dropped to 843 thousand in March 2022 from 1.24 million in 2021 of the same month. Nevertheless 843,000 unemployed youth is still a huge number. The agriculture and industry sectors accounted for 25.2 percent of the total Philippine employment. However, the problem in this situation is that fishermen and farmers had the highest poverty incidence among the sectors and that agricultural workers still remain among the poorest and deprived groups in our community.

Considered as the backbone of our society, the agriculture sector ensures food security. With the current issues at hand, food security may be at risk because younger Filipino generations are choosing not to engage in agriculture. Furthermore, in many Asian nations, the abilities of young Filipinos living in rural areas are not adequately utilized by the agricultural sector. Traditional farming practices are consequently increasingly disappearing in rural communities;

Hence, the strengthening of the Filipino youth's involvement in agriculture and entrepreneurship is beneficial not only to our economy, but also for the improvement of society.



CHARISSE ANNE C. HERNANDEZ
Lone District, Calamba City

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AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE FILIPINO YOUTH INVOLVEMENT IN AGRICULTURE
AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP BY ESTABLISHING A YOUTH AGRICULTURAL
HUB IN EVERY PROVINCE AND CITY

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as Young Agripreneurs Act.

SEC. 2. There shall be established a Youth Agricultural Hub in every province and city. The Provincial/ City Government shall conduct an assessment to determine placement of the Youth Agricultural Hubs. The Cities and municipalities within the province shall encourage partnerships with different government agencies and other stakeholders. The Provincial Agriculture Office shall perform oversight functions and assign personnel to fulfill the functions of the Youth Agricultural Hubs.

SEC. 3. The Youth Agricultural Hubs shall:

- (a) Facilitate training for the youth focusing on agriculture, financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and other related courses;
- (b) Be a venue for research farming extensions;

- (c) Coordinate and establish partnerships with government agencies, LGUs, and non-government organizations, civil society, private sector, among others;
- (d) Facilitate the request for additional financial assistance and referral to appropriate funding agencies;
- (e) Monitor implementation and evaluate progress of the approved and funded projects;
- (f) Prepare and submit progress reports of the approved and funded projects to the LGUs; and
- (g) Organize programs, projects, and activities to further promote youth engagement in agriculture.

SEC. 4. There shall be Youth Agripreneurship Trade Fairs showcasing the youth's agricultural products.

SEC. 5. The State shall appropriate funds for the conduct of projects, programs, and activities identified in this Act.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

SEC. 7. If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected hereby shall remain valid and enforceable.

SEC. 8. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.