

surveys, agrarian reform coverage, cooperative records, and geospatial data to ensure transparent monitoring of farm consolidation and prevent unlawful re-fragmentation of lands.

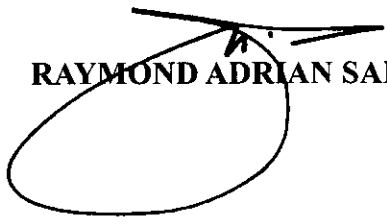
In addition, the measure clarifies the roles of national government agencies and local government units in land reclassification and consolidation. Prime and irrigated agricultural lands will be shielded from premature conversion, while clustering and consolidation programs will be incentivized through cooperative and IDO-type structures.

Key features of the bill include:

1. Recognition of cooperative-based consolidation as the default mode of land clustering and scaling up farm operations.
2. Adoption of the IDO model of NIA as a tested institutional framework for farmer governance.
3. Removal of unnecessary bureaucratic clearances for non-fragmentary land transfers.
4. Creation of a Digital Agricultural Land Registry integrating cadastral, geospatial, and cooperative data.
5. Clear penalties for fraudulent or unlawful transactions that result in new land fragmentation.
6. Security of tenure for farmers while promoting consolidation of collective CLOAs into viable production clusters.

By enacting this measure, Congress will provide farmers with the institutional support, organizational structures, and science-based tools needed to overcome land fragmentation and scale up productivity. Cooperative-led consolidation and IDO-type organizations will empower farmers not only to improve their incomes but also to contribute to food security, rural development, and national resilience.

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



RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA

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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **4361**

Introduced by **Representative RAYMOND ADRIAN SALCEDA**

AN ACT
PROMOTING FARM PRODUCTIVITY AND AGRICULTURAL RESILIENCE BY
REDUCING LAND FRAGMENTATION, PRIORITIZING COOPERATIVE-BASED
CONSOLIDATION, INSTITUTIONALIZING SCIENCE-BASED LAND
MANAGEMENT, ADOPTING THE IRRIGATORS' DEVELOPMENT
ORGANIZATION MODEL, 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 "Farm Productivity and Land Consolidation Act."

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

- (a) Promote food security and agricultural productivity by reducing land fragmentation and preserving economically viable farm sizes;
- (b) Institutionalize cooperative-based consolidation as the preferred pathway for clustering farmlands, pooling resources, and achieving economies of scale;
- (c) Adopt proven institutional models for farmer governance and participation, including the Irrigators' Development Organization (IDO) model of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), as a framework for the management of consolidated farms;
- (d) Institutionalize science-based and data-driven land governance through digital registries, geospatial mapping, and agrarian reform monitoring systems; and
- (e) Protect farmers and agrarian reform beneficiaries from exploitative land transactions that undermine long-term farm viability.

SEC. 3. *Landholding Ceiling Requirement.* Any sale, transfer, or conveyance of agricultural lands shall be valid only if, after the transaction, the resulting agricultural landholdings of the transferee do not exceed one thousand twenty-four (1,024) hectares, consistent with agribusiness ceilings and agrarian reform law.

SEC. 4. *Cooperative-Based Consolidation.*

(a) Land consolidation programs shall give first priority to organizing farmers into cooperatives, federations, or associations.

(b) Consolidation shall ensure that individual farmers retain ownership of their awarded or titled lands but pool production decisions, inputs, postharvest facilities, and marketing through their cooperative structure.

(c) The Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), and Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) shall jointly provide incentives for cooperatives that lead consolidation efforts.

SEC. 5. *Adoption of the Irrigators' Development Organization (IDO) Model.*

(a) The IDO model of the National Irrigation Administration (NIA), which empowers organized irrigators to co-manage irrigation systems, shall be recognized as a key institutional model for consolidated farms.

(b) Farmers' cooperatives and associations may adopt the IDO model or hybrid variations thereof to jointly manage land, water, and production systems.

(c) The DA and NIA shall issue joint guidelines integrating IDOs into farm clustering and land consolidation programs.

SEC. 6. *Removal of DAR Clearance for Non-Fragmentary Transfers.* Transfers of agricultural land ownership shall no longer require DAR clearance if the resulting agricultural landholdings are consolidated under a cooperative or IDO-type organization, and remain above the minimum farm size threshold as validated by the DA and the Land Registration Authority (LRA).

SEC. 7. *Land Reclassification and Conversion.* Local governments may continue to reclassify land under the Local Government Code of 1991, subject to DHSUD guidelines and national-level approval by DA and NEDA for highly productive or irrigated lands, ensuring protection against premature conversion of prime agricultural areas.

SEC. 8. *Digital Agricultural Land Registry.* The LRA, in partnership with DA, DAR, DICT, and CDA, shall establish a unified registry integrating cadastral surveys, geospatial maps, cooperative-based consolidation records, and agrarian reform coverage.

SEC. 9. *Penalties.* Any person who knowingly falsifies records or undertakes land transactions resulting in unlawful fragmentation shall be punished with imprisonment of six (6) months to three (3) years or a fine of ₱50,000.00 to ₱500,000.00, or both. Corporate violators shall hold responsible officers criminally liable.

SEC. 10. *Effect on Existing Landholdings.* Existing Notices of Coverage and collective CLOAs shall remain valid. Consolidation shall be pursued through cooperatives or IDO-type structures, with parcelization programs ensuring security of tenure while preventing new fragmentation.

SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within ninety (90) days from effectivity, the DA, DAR, LRA, NIA, and CDA, in consultation with farmer organizations, shall promulgate the implementing rules of this Act.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, or issuances inconsistent with this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,