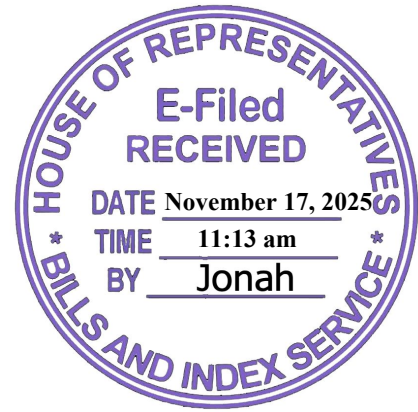




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6008



Introduced by Representative KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The passage of Republic Act No. 11203, otherwise known as the “Rice Tariffication Law,” introduced a liberalized trade regime for rice by replacing quantitative restrictions with tariffs. While intended to stabilize rice supply and lower consumer prices, its implementation has yielded consequences that have burdened local farmers and undermined national food security.

This bill repeals RA 11203 and restores the National Food Authority’s regulatory functions and establishes a ₱15 billion Transitional Rice Fund to finance expanded palay procurement, subsidized credit and insurance, mechanization, and rice price stabilization measures.

By reinstating the State’s capacity to intervene in the rice sector and providing tangible support to farmers, this measure ensures that the pursuit of food security is balanced with the protection of local producers and the welfare of consumers.

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


DEPUTY SPEAKER KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN
2nd DISTRICT ILOCOS SUR



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House Bill No. **6008**

Introduced by Representative KRISTINE SINGSON-MEEHAN

**AN ACT REPEALING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11203, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "RICE
TARIFFICATION LAW "AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SEC. 1. Repeal of Republic Act No. 11203. —Republic Act No. 11203, otherwise known as the "Rice Tariffication Law/ including all its amendments, implementing rules and regulations, and related issuances, is hereby repealed in its entirety.

SEC. 2. Restoration of the National Food Authority (NFA) Mandate. —

(a) The regulatory and import-licensing functions, bufferstocking mandate, and domestic market stabilization powers of the National Food Authority under Presidential Decree No. 4, as amended, are hereby reinstated.

(b) Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NFA, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA), shall promulgate interim guidelines to resume said functions while permanent rules are being formulated.

SEC. 3. Establishment of a Transitional Rice Fund. —

(a) A Transitional Rice Fund (TRF) is hereby created, with an initial appropriation of **P15** billion, to be sourced from the unutilized balances of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) and other available appropriations.

(b) The TRF shall finance;

1. Expanded palay procurement by the NFA at regionally adjusted support prices;
2. Subsidized credit, crop insurance, and mechanization programs for smallholder rice farmers;
3. Post-harvest facilities, irrigation rehabilitation, and climate-resilient infrastructure; and
4. Rice price stabilization measures to protect consumers, especially low-income households.

SEC. 4. Trade Policy during Transition. —

(a) All rice importation, whether public or private, shall require a permit from the NFA. Import volumes shall be calibrated based on projected domestic production, buffer-stock requirements, and food security objectives,

(b) In the absence of a duly issued NFA permit the Bureau of Customs (BOC) shall deny clearance to any rice shipment (c) Customs duties and tariffs collected on rice imports during the transition shall accrue to the TRE

SEC. 5. Appropriations. — The amounts necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the DA, NFA, and other concerned agencies. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act

SEC 6. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect

SEC 7. Repealing Clause. — All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 8. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,