



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6335



Introduced by Representative Carlos Andes Loria

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to establish postharvest facilities in every rice, corn and high-value crop producing city or municipality and appropriate funds therefor.

The State upholds a continuing obligation to support Filipino farmers across all stages of agricultural production. Article XII, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform. To realize these constitutional mandates, it is imperative to strengthen the agricultural value chain, including the critical post-harvest stage where farmers continue to suffer significant losses and income reduction.

According to the Department of Agriculture (DA), two of the major staple crops in the Philippines—rice and corn—have been incurring substantial post-harvest losses annually. Rice losses average 342,000 metric tons, equivalent to approximately ₱7.89 billion, while corn losses average 151,000 metric tons or about ₱2.87 billion. These losses come from inadequate drying facilities, poor storage conditions, spoilage during handling, and the absence of modern post-harvest technologies. Such inefficiencies directly erode farmers' incomes, weaken market competitiveness, and contribute to food insecurity.

These challenges underscore the necessity of establishing modern, accessible, and community-based post-harvest facilities nationwide. Dryers, storage warehouses, silos, cold-chain systems, milling equipment, and transport

and handling facilities are essential to reduce waste, preserve product quality, enhance farmers' profitability, and stabilize food supply. Without such infrastructure, even increased agricultural production will fail to translate into improved farmer welfare.

This bill seeks to address these longstanding gaps by mandating the construction, upgrading, and expansion of post-harvest facilities in all rice, corn, and high-value crop-producing municipalities and cities across the country. It also provides for the procurement of necessary equipment and machinery and empowers local government units in partnership with farmer cooperatives to manage and sustain these facilities.

If enacted, this measure will strengthen the country's post-harvest industry, reduce food loss and waste, improve product quality, support agricultural modernization, and contribute to national food security. The effective implementation of the Act will involve coordinated efforts among the Department of Agriculture, Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization, Department of Public Works and Highways, and the Department of Agrarian Reform.

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



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1 cooperatives, strengthen local agricultural value chains by improving drying,
2 storage, milling, and processing systems, and provide the necessary support,
3 machinery, and infrastructure to reduce crop losses, preserve product quality,
4 and enhance farmers' profitability and resilience.

5 SEC. 3. *Establishment of Postharvest Facilities.* - The Department of
6 Agriculture (DA) and Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and
7 Mechanization (PhilMech), in coordination with the Department of Public
8 Works and Highways, Department of Agrarian Reform, and farmer
9 cooperatives, shall construct, establish, upgrade, or rehabilitate postharvest
10 facilities in every rice, corn, and high-value crop-producing municipality and
11 city.

12 These postharvest facilities may include:

- 13 a. Mechanical and solar dryers;
- 14 b. Storage facilities such as warehouses, silos, and cold storage units;
- 15 c. Milling and processing equipment;
- 16 d. Sorting, grading, and packaging systems; and
- 17 e. Transport and handling equipment that support post-harvest
18 operations.

19 The DA and PhilMech shall prioritize the establishment of postharvest
20 facilities in cities or municipalities producing rice, corn and high-value crops
21 without post-harvest facilities.

1 SEC. 4. ***Role of Local Government Units.*** – The local government units
2 shall manage and operate the postharvest facilities within their respective areas,
3 in coordination with farmer cooperatives and accredited farmers’ organizations.
4 LGUs shall ensure that these facilities remain accessible, operational,
5 sustainable, and beneficial to local farmers, and shall establish local guidelines
6 to promote efficient facility management and maintenance.

7 SEC. 5. ***Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary for the initial
8 implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations
9 of DA and PhilMech. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the
10 continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
11 Appropriations Act.

12 SEC. 6. ***Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** - Within thirty (30) days
13 from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall, in
14 coordination with the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government, issue the
15 rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act.

16 SEC. 7. ***Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is declared
17 unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall
18 remain in full force and effect.

19 SEC. 8. ***Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, rules, regulations, proclamations,
20 executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
21 repealed, amended, or revised accordingly.

1 SEC. 9. ***Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

3 Approved,