



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

20th Congress
First Regular Session

• House Bill No. **6629**



Introduced by: REP. ROSALIE ANG SALVAME

EXPANATORY NOTE

Palawan has the vast majority of bearing cashew trees in the Philippines, where over 90 percent of the total are found and also accounts for 90 percent of the national supply of cashew. The top cashew-producing municipalities within Palawan are Roxas, El Nido, and Dumarang with known large-scale cashew farming and processing and are a major livelihood. Cashew is the designated One Town, One Product (OTOP) of the province, and the processed nuts are a popular local delicacy and pasalubong for visitors.

The cashew industry is vital because it sustains local livelihoods, strengthens the province's economy, and reinforces its identity as the "Cashew Capital of the Philippines." Its development ensures farmers benefit from higher incomes, supports food processing enterprises, and positions Palawan as a leader in nut production nationally and internationally.

The economic importance of cashew farming is that it is a major livelihood source. Cashew farming is a primary income stream for many rural households in Palawan. Strengthening the industry helps stabilize farmer earnings and reduces poverty in agricultural communities. It has also export potential because cashew nuts are in demand globally, with markets in Europe and Asia. Palawan's designation as the Cashew Capital will boost its visibility and competitiveness in international trade.

The Cashew Capital designation is not just symbolic—it highlights Palawan's unique agricultural heritage and promotes tourism. Visitors associate Palawan with cashew-based delicacies, boosting local pride and recognition.

This Bill will likewise promote community empowerment. Cooperatives and farmer groups gain stronger bargaining power and access to government aid when the province is recognized as the country's cashew hub.

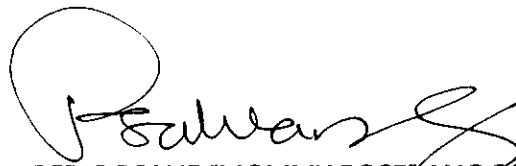
By maximizing cashew production and processing, Palawan reduces reliance on other industries like mining or tourism, creating a more balanced economy.

Furthermore, cashew is a versatile crop—its nuts, fruit, and by-products can be used for food, feed, and even industrial purposes. Developing the industry ensures sustainable use of local resources.

Palawan's leadership in cashew production strengthens the Philippines' position in the global nut market, potentially increasing exports and foreign exchange earnings.

Developing Palawan's cashew industry is crucial for economic resilience, farmer empowerment, export growth, and cultural identity. It's not just about nuts—it's about livelihoods, sustainability, and national pride.

Given the importance of this measure, passage is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rosalie Ang Salvame', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

REP. ROSALIE "MOMMY ROSE" ANG SALVAME

Representative, 1st District of Palawan



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Introduced by: REP. ROSALIE "MOMMY ROSE" ANG SALVAME

AN ACT
TO DEVELOP THE CASHEW INDUSTRY, CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE CASHEW
SUBSIDY FUND AND DECLARING THE PROVINCE OF PALAWAN AS THE CASHEW
CAPITAL OF THE PHILIPPINES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "*Cashew Industry Development Act of 2025.*"

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to revitalize, support and promote the sustainable development of the cashew industry, recognizing its importance to the national economy, the livelihood of cashew farmer communities, and to reassert the Province of Palawan's status as a leader in cashew production both domestically and internationally.

SEC. 3. *Objectives.* – The objectives of this Act are to:

- a) Encourage sustainable and environment friendly cashew farming practices;
- b) Support research and development initiatives for the advancement of the cashew industry;

- c) Provide comprehensive support and assistance to cashew farmers and producers.

SEC. 4. *Sustainable Cashew Farming Practices.* – The Department of Agriculture (DA), through its High Value Crops Development Program, shall develop and promote sustainable cashew farming practices ensuring the protection of our ecosystems and biodiversity.

SEC. 5. *Research and Development.* – The DA, and in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), shall initiate and support research and development projects aimed at improving cashew production technologies, disease management, and product innovation.

SEC. 6. *Support and Assistance for Farmers through a Cashew Subsidy Fund.* – The government shall provide comprehensive support to cashew farmers through the creation of a Cashew Subsidy Fund which shall financially support the Cashew Industry. It shall be directly and exclusively used for the following:

1. access to quality seedlings,
2. planting and cultivation of cashew;
3. technical and skills training of cashew farmers;
4. establishment of post-harvest facilities;

Special emphasis shall be placed on small-scale farmers and community-based initiatives of farmer organizations.

SEC. 7. *Market Competitiveness and Promotion.* – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in collaboration with the DA, shall implement strategies to enhance the market competitiveness of Palawan cashew, including branding, marketing, and establishing trade partnerships to expand commercial and export opportunities.

SEC. 8. *Cashew Capital of the Philippines.* The Province of Palawan is hereby declared and granted the official designation as the Cashew Capital of the Philippines

SEC. 9. *Appropriations.* – The amount of P 100,000,000 is hereby appropriated and shall serve as the initial amount for the Cashew Subsidy Fund. Thereafter the amount necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be charged against the budget of the DA and included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The DA, in consultation with DTI, DOST, and other relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days after its enactment.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette, or in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,