

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6997



Introduced by Representative **MARLYN L. PRIMICIAS-AGABAS**

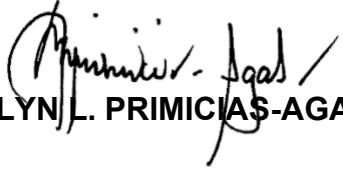
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Small farmers and fisherfolk continue to bear the brunt of rising fuel prices. For many of them, fuel is not a luxury but a daily necessity used in plowing fields, running irrigation pumps, operating fishing boats, and transporting produce to markets. Any increase in petroleum prices immediately reduces their already limited income and makes it harder for them to sustain their livelihoods. This proposed measure seeks to ease that burden by granting a fuel discount to those who rely on agriculture and fisheries as their primary source of income.

This bill is anchored on the State's constitutional duty to promote social justice and protect marginalized sectors. Article XIII of the 1987 Constitution mandates the State to protect and support farmers and fishermen. Providing a petroleum discount directly responds to these mandates by lowering production costs and helping ensure that agricultural and fishing works remain viable and sustainable.

This bill also complements existing laws such as Republic Act No. 8435, or the "Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997," which recognizes the need to empower the agricultural and fisheries sector to develop and sustain themselves. Fuel expenses account for a significant portion of farming and fishing costs, and any form of relief in this area can have an immediate and meaningful impact. By allowing farmers and fisherfolk to save on fuel, this measure supports not only their income but also the stability of the country's food supply.

The proposed fuel discount is a modest but necessary form of assistance for those who work at the frontlines of food production. By reducing operating costs, this measure helps farmers and fisherfolk remain productive, protects their livelihoods from volatile fuel prices, and ultimately benefits consumers through more stable food prices. This bill is a concrete step toward honoring the contribution of farmers and fisherfolk and providing them with support that directly addresses their everyday needs.


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AN ACT
GRANTING DISCOUNTS ON PETROLEUM PRODUCTS TO QUALIFIED FARMERS
AND FISHERFOLK FOR AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERIES USE, AND PROVIDING
FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION

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 *"Farmers and Fisherfolk Fuel Discount Act of 2025."*

SECTION 2. Statement of Policy. — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to provide a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth. Toward this end, the State shall provide assistance to small farmers and fishermen in terms of petroleum discount privileges designed to lower the cost of goods and services produced by the agricultural sector and expand productivity as the key to raise the quality of life for all farmers and fishermen.

SECTION 3. Discount on Petroleum Products. — Qualified farmers and fishermen shall be entitled to a Ten Percent (10%) discount for every liter of petroleum products purchased. *Provided,* That such petroleum products are used for the cultivation of crops, planting of fruits, trees and similar agricultural products, raising of livestock, marketing and distribution of their produce to retailers and end-user or the production of fish and other aquatic products.

For purposes of this Act, farmers refers to a natural person, farmer organizations and other juridical entities engaged in cultivating, planting, marketing and distributing crops, vegetables, fruits and other agricultural products and shall include livestock raisers, whose Subsistence depends on farming as the primary source of income. Fisherfolk refers to a person who is engaged in raising, catching, taking or gathering of fish or aquatic products for profit.

SECTION 4. Beneficiaries. — The beneficiaries of this Act are farmers and fisherman whose annual income does not exceed Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 250,000.00).

SECTION 5. Duty of City/Municipal Agriculturist. — The city or municipal agriculturist

is hereby mandated to make a list of legitimate beneficiaries and regularly update the same. It shall issue the corresponding identification cards which shall be valid anywhere in the country for purposes of purchasing petroleum products.

SECTION 6. Local Government Units. — It shall be the responsibility of the local chief executive to ensure that the provisions of this Act are fully implemented.

SECTION 7. Implementing Rules and Regulations. — The Department of Agriculture and the Department of Interior and Local Government shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days after approval of this Act.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. - If, for any reason, any section of or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. Repealing Clause. - All laws, decrees or executive issuance and any rules and regulations or any part thereof which may be inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed, amended or modifies accordingly.

SECTION 10. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,