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Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon city

2.06.14
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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

H. Bill No. 743

Introduced by Honorable JUNIE L. CUA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Still acclaimed as a centerpiece program of the government owing solely to the fact that our economy is primarily based on agriculture, the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program engaged in an ambitious but viable dream, focused not totally on equitable ownership of land but on an improved quality of life so as to bring right at the doorstep of the agrarian reform beneficiaries the amenities and conveniences of modern living and integrate them in the mainstream of a progressive society not, as it always was, a social and economic burden.

So much have been gained in agrarian reform as the march of progress in the countryside has gone far, wide and sophisticated. But its avowed objective is still yet to be completed. Still lingering in the equitable re-distribution aspect in the ownership of agricultural lands is the resistance of influential entrepreuneuring owners who are able to elude, or, at least delay, the effects of agrarian reform despite the comprehensiveness of its character and thrusts.

Re-invigorated by the bright beginnings and prospect upon the restoration of popular authority in 1985, we, in 1988, embarked in a massive agrarian reform program, infusing therein an initial amount of P50 Billion to ensure its workability, foreseeing the constraints to confront within a democratic setting. Fine-lined for ten years, the projection fell short and, within the enshrined constitutional objective of agrarian reform and rural development, Congress enacted Republic Act No. 8532, entitled "An Act Strengthening Further the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), by Providing Augmentation Fund Therefor, Amending for the Purpose Section 63 of Republic Act No. 6657, otherwise known as "The CARP Law of 1988".

The actual implementation of the Program, however, did not turn out to be that simple. And the shortfalls that it encountered were primarily owing to the failed perception on the degree of resistance that emanated from a natural human reaction adverse to change. Nonetheless, there is no reason to falter. Getting confrontational though in character, the carefully crafted Program survived. It is a constitutional mandate.

Parenthetically, noted was the difficulty of the farmer beneficiaries in the availment of credit loans facilities needed in their farming activities as to be assured of greater production, for want of collateral or standby guaranties.

The acquisition and distribution component of the Program is yet to be completed and the development and/or transformation of the farmer beneficiaries toward making them competitive in the prevailing socio-economic milieu still requires guidance, especially financial assistance, that there is the urgent need for an additional period to complete and firm the dichotomy of objectives of the Program toward realizing the envisioned dignified existence of farmers as reliable and capable partners in the shaping of a stronger Republic.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be a stylized name, possibly "J. ...", written in a cursive style.

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. Bill No. **743**

Introduced by Honorable JUNIE E. CUA

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM PROGRAM (CARP), FURTHER AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE SECTIONS SIXTY-THREE AND THIRTY-SEVEN OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6657, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF 1988.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 63 of Republic Act No. 6657, otherwise known 2
as the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, as amended by
3 Republic Act No. 8532, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

4 “SECTION 63. *Funding Source.* – The initial amount needed to
5 implement this Act until the year 2018, or an additional period of ten (10)
6 years from the expiration of its period under the amendatory Republic Act No.
7 8532, shall be funded from the Agrarian Reform Fund.

8 “Additional amounts necessary for this purpose are hereby authorized
9 to be appropriated in excess of the previous initial and augmentation funds,
10 amounting to one hundred billion Pesos (P100,000,000,000.00)

1 "The additional initial amount hereby authorized to be appropriated hereunder
2 shall in no case exceed one hundred sixty-two billion Pesos
3 (P162,000,000,000.00).

4 "Sources of funding or appropriation shall include the following:

5 "(a) Proceeds of the sales of the Privatization Management Office
(PMO), formerly Assets Privatization Trust (API);

6 "(b) All receipts from assets recovered and from sales of ill-gotten
7 wealth recovered through Presidential Commission on Good Government
8 (PCGG);

9 "(c) Proceeds of the disposition of the properties of the government in
10 foreign countries, for the specific purposes of financing production credits,
11 infrastructure and other support services required by this Act;

12 "(d) All income and collections of whatever kind and nature arising
13 from the agrarian reform operations, projects and programs of the DAR
14 and other implementing agencies of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform
15 Program;

16 "(e) Portion of amounts accruing to the Philippines from all sources of
17 official foreign aid grants, debt swaps and concessional financing from all
18 countries, to be used for the specific purposes of financing, production, credit,
19 infrastructures, and other support services required by this Act;

20 "(f) yearly appropriations of not less than Three Billion Pesos
21 (P3,000,000,000.00) from the General Appropriations Act;

1 “(g) Other government funds not otherwise appropriated.”

2 “SEC. 2. Section 37 of Republic Act No. 6657, known as the
3 Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988, on Support Services to the
4 Beneficiaries, is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 “SECTION 37. *Support Services to the Beneficiaries.*- The
6 PARC shall ensure that support services to farmer beneficiaries are provided 7
 such as:

8 “(a) Land surveys and titling;

9 “(b) Liberalized terms on credit facilities and production loans. FOR
10 THE PURPOSE, ALL FINANCING INSTITUTIONS SHALL ACCEPT
11 AS COLLATERAL FOR LOANS ANY DULY REGISTERED
12 EMANCIPATION PATENT (EP) OR CERTIFICATE OF LAND
13 OWNERSHIP AWARD (CLOA), WHETHER INDIVIDUAL OR
14 COLLECTIVE, ISSUED BY THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE
15 DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM, TO FARMER
16 BENEFICIARIES OF AGRARIAN REFORM IN AN AMOUNT
17 CONSISTENT WITH EXISTING FINANCING PRACTICES OR, IN LIEU
18 THEREOF, SPECIALLY WITH RESPECT TO AGRICULTURAL LEASEHOLD
19 HOLDERS, ANY MARKET OR PURCHASE ORDER AND/OR
20 EXPECTED HARVEST, SUPPORTED BY A DULY REGISTERED
21 AGRICULTURAL LEASEHOLD CONTRACT; PROVIDED, THAT
22 THE LOANS OBTAINED SHALL BE USED IN THE IMPROVEMENT
23 OR DEVELOPMENT OF THE FARMHOLDING OF THE FARMER-