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SENATE  
P.S. RES. NO. **386**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manny B. Villar

**RESOLUTION**  
**URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO STUDY, IN AID OF**  
**LEGISLATION, THE POLICY DIRECTION OF THE GOVERNMENT ON**  
**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF RECOMMENDING A**  
**FEASIBLE ROADMAP, APPROACHES AND POLICY STRATEGIES TO MAKE THE**  
**SECTOR GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE**

**Whereas**, Article XIII Section 5 of the Constitution states that “[t]he State shall recognize the right of farmers, farmworkers, and landowners, as well as cooperatives, and other independent farmers' organizations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of the program, and shall provide support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services”;

**Whereas**, agriculture comprises a fifth of the country's gross domestic product;

**Whereas**, the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics reported that the full year farm output has declined for two consecutive years — particularly in 2010, output fell by 0.12 percent while in 2009, it fell by 0.37 percent— after a series of typhoons destroyed crops, livestock and farm infrastructures;

**Whereas**, one study showed that seventy percent (70%) of the poor in the Philippines are found in the rural areas where the usual means of livelihood is fishing and farming;

**Whereas**, according to a study of the supply chain in agriculture, the Filipino farmer gets too small a share of the wholesale value of the end product as he only gets forty seven percent (47%) as compared to farmers in India, Thailand and China, who are getting sixty two percent (62%), sixty three percent (63%) and ninety seven percent (97%) respectively;

**Whereas**, this goes to show that the poverty incidence of the Filipino farmers and fishermen is directly linked to their output in agriculture and the share they receive in the production thereof;

**Whereas**, in the two-day multi-sectoral conference “Agriculture and Fisheries 2025” which was recently concluded, two priority areas in agriculture were raised: first, limit the traditional short-term response of reacting to food shortages by importing and

two, tap public private partnership by letting it reach the grass root levels or the local community;

**Whereas**, there were strategies recommended to tackle these issues such as: one, farmers and fishermen organization; two, stronger support for the local government units as regards agriculture and fisheries; three, elimination of corruption and ensuring that the budget allocation reach the beneficiaries; and four, rationalization and optimization of the Department of Agriculture budget;

**Whereas**, to curb poverty and help the country to reach its global competitiveness target comes year 2025, specific road map with concrete strategies must be in place to improve our agriculture situation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to urge the Committee on Agriculture and Food to study, in aid of legislation, the policy direction of the government on agricultural development with the objective of recommending a feasible roadmap, approaches and policy strategies to make the sector globally competitive.

Adopted,

  
**Manny Villar**