



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 3740

BY REPRESENTATIVES MARAÑON, MACARAMBON, ROMUALDO, VILLAFUERTE,
CUA (G.), AND MANGUDADATU, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 372

AN ACT TO EXTEND THE UTILIZATION PERIOD OF THE AGRICULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND, AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8178, ENTITLED "AN ACT REPLACING QUANTITATIVE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, EXCEPT RICE, WITH TARIFFS, CREATING THE AGRICULTURAL COMPETITIVENESS ENHANCEMENT FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 8178, entitled "An Act
2 Replacing Quantitative Import Restrictions on Agricultural Products, Except
3 Rice, With Tariffs, Creating the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement
4 Fund, and for Other Purposes" is hereby amended, to read as follows:

5 "SEC. 8. *Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund.*

6 – To implement the policy enunciated in this Act, there is hereby

1 created the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund,
2 hereinafter referred to as the Fund. [The proceeds of] THE FUND
3 SHALL CONSIST OF ALL DUTIES COLLECTED FROM the
4 importation of AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS UNDER THE minimum
5 access volume (MAV) [shall accrue to the General Fund and shall
6 be deposited with the National Treasury] MECHANISM,
7 INCLUDING UNUSED BALANCE AND COLLECTIONS FROM
8 REPAYMENTS FROM LOAN BENEFICIARIES INCLUDING
9 INTERESTS, IF ANY. THE FUND SHALL BE AUTOMATICALLY
10 CREDITED TO SPECIAL ACCOUNT 183 IN THE GENERAL FUND OF
11 THE NATIONAL TREASURY.

12 The entire proceeds shall be set aside and earmarked by
13 Congress for irrigation, farm-to-market roads, post-harvest
14 equipment and facilities, credit, research and development, other
15 marketing infrastructure, provision of market information,
16 retraining, extension services, MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM
17 SCALE ENTERPRISES (MSMSE) IN AGRICULTURE,
18 AQUACULTURE AND FISHERIES SECTORS; YOUNG
19 ENTREPRENEURS, OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH, GRADUATES OF
20 AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND RELATED COURSES;
21 AGRICULTURE AND FISHERY COOPERATIVES ENGAGED IN

1 ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES and other forms of assistance and
2 support to the agricultural sector.

3 The Committees on Agriculture and Food, Appropriations
4 and Finance of both the Senate and the House of Representatives
5 shall conduct a periodic review of the use of the Fund. The Fund
6 shall [have a life of nine (9) years] EXIST UNTIL THE YEAR 2015,
7 after which all remaining balances shall revert to the General
8 Fund.”

9 SEC. 2. A new section is hereby inserted after Section 8 [of R. A.
10 8178] to be designated as Section 9 to read as follows;

11 **SEC. 9. *OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – AN OVERSIGHT***
12 **COMMITTEE IS HEREBY CREATED COMPOSED OF FIVE**
13 **MEMBERS EACH FROM THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF**
14 **REPRESENTATIVES TO MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE**
15 **IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.**

16 **THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE COMMITTEES ON**
17 **AGRICULTURE AND FOOD OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF**
18 **REPRESENTATIVES SHALL BE THE CHAIRPERSON AND CO-**
19 **CHAIRPERSON, RESPECTIVELY, OF THE OVERSIGHT**
20 **COMMITTEE: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE MINORITY IN THE**
21 **SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL BE**

1 ENTITLED TO NOT LESS THAN TWO SEATS EACH IN THE
-2 OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE.

3 THE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE SHALL BE PROVIDED
4 WITH THE NECESSARY FUNDS TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES
5 RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF ITS FUNCTIONS AS
6 PROVIDED HEREIN.

7 The succeeding sections shall be renumbered accordingly.

8 SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive issuances,
9 rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified
10 accordingly.

11 SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* – The provisions of this Act are hereby
12 declared to be separable, and in the event one or more of such provisions are
13 held unconstitutional, the validity of the other provisions shall not be affected
14 thereby.

15 SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days from the date of its
16 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two newspapers of general
17 circulation.

Approved,