

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 9205

BY REPRESENTATIVES DEFENSOR (L.), CABOCHAN, BENITEZ, ALBANO, LARA, ACOP, DALIPE, ALONTE, FUENTEBELLA, GORRICETA, ROBES, ESCUDERO, ESTRELLA, SAVELLANO, GONZALES (A.), TAN (S.A.), CAMINERO, ONG (J.), SUANSING (E), SUAREZ (A), BASCUG, UY (J.), PLAZA, DY (F.), TAN (A.S.), BABASA, CARI-VERGARA, SACDALAN, SAGARBARIA, GASATAYA, ACOSTA, SIAO, ROQUE, TEJADA, BARBA, CABREDO, VIOLAGO, SINGSON-MEEHAN, DY (F.M.C.), DY (I.P.), DIMAPORO (A.), LOYOLA, SANGCOPAN, NATIVIDAD-NAGAÑO, LACSON, LUSOTAN, BAÑAS-NOGRALES, RAMIREZ-SATO, MERCADO, DATOL, CABATBAT, BORDADO, HARESCO, GERON, BARONDA, ARENAS, DE VENECIA, GARCIA (P.J.), OAMINAL, QUIMBO, REVILLA, RODRIGUEZ, BIAZON, CALDERON, CAMPOS, CUA, CUARESMA, DAZA, DUAVIT, FRASCO, GONZAGA, MOMO, BALINDONG, DAGOOC, DELOSO-MONTALLA, DIMAPORO (M.K.), DUJALI, GULLAS, GUYA, LABADLABAD, MACEDA, ORTEGA, REYES, ROMAN, TAMBUNTING, TAN (A.), TIANGCO, TORRES-GOMEZ, TUTOR, VARGAS ALFONSO, DE JESUS, FLORES, GO (M.), SAULOG, ECLEO, YAP (E.), NIETO AND ENVERGA, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 915

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE AGRICULTURE INFORMATION SYSTEM IN ALL CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES

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 "Agriculture Information System Act."

1 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to uplift the socioeconomic
2 conditions of farmers and farming communities nationwide in order to promote their welfare
3 and empower their sector in the overall development and progress of the country. Pursuant to
4 this, an integrated, computerized, web-based agricultural commodity supply inventory and
5 registry system linking farmers and organized communities all over the country needs to be
6 established to provide an easy-to-access local and global real time information for agricultural
7 commodities, with an end view of creating a wider range of market linkages among farmers
8 and agricultural buyers. Furthermore, through a synchronized agriculture information system,
9 the National Government shall have access to real-time agricultural information which can
10 rationalize the objectives and policy directives in the agricultural sector.

11
12 **SEC. 3. Objectives.** – This Act aims to attain the following objectives:

- 13 (a) Provide an up-to-date database of agricultural and fisheries products in a locality;
14 (b) Foster information sharing between farmers and potential buyers of agricultural
15 and fisheries products;
16 (c) Secure a market for agricultural and fisheries products and ensure appropriate
17 return of investment for farmers and fisheries stakeholders;
18 (d) Allow local government units to manage a secure and independent platform that
19 creates linkages for farmers and fisheries stakeholders;
20 (e) Provide data on specific commodities that are readily available in a particular
21 locality for purposes of production monitoring in order to meet the demands of the market;
22 (f) Provide a secure, transparent, and independent modern web application that may be
23 accessed anytime by the public through a multi-platform support or cross-platform support
24 devices which can be linked to existing systems in the Department of Agriculture (DA);
25 (g) Streamline training and seminars in the management of the operations;
26 (h) Monitor the use of inputs given by producers, buyers, and other segments of
27 the value-chain including information during post-harvest and processing; and
28 (i) Ensure that all forms of assistance given to local government units (LGUs),
29 registered cooperatives and other qualified individuals and organizations are monitored.

30
31 **SEC. 4. Agriculture Information System.** – All cities and municipalities are hereby
32 mandated to establish an Agriculture Information System (AIS), hereinafter referred to as
33 Information System. The AIS shall serve as a dynamic online computer database where
34 information on the demand for specific agricultural and fisheries commodities is gathered and

1 uploaded simultaneously with the production data from farmers in every barangay. The AIS
2 shall merge and synchronize agricultural data from different sources into a cohesive database
3 designed to facilitate linkages from place of origin or the farm to local, and ultimately, global
4 markets. The AIS shall also be integrated with the existing systems of the DA.

5
6 The Information System shall have the following features and contents:

7 (a) Municipal and city-wide identification of individual farmers, fish breeders, and
8 fisherfolk as well as qualified organizations which produce specific farm and fisheries
9 products, regardless of quantity;

10 (b) Crop harvest, volume, and type forecasting;

11 (c) Inventory of specific classification of crop varieties planted, livestock and type of
12 fish raised in a particular LGU;

13 (d) Farmers' and fisherfolk demographics, including age group, gender, ethnic group,
14 income, seminars and trainings attended, and assistance received;

15 (e) Selected reports presented in both tabular and graphical form:

16 (f) Registry of farmers' contact details and farm location to facilitate market linkages;

17 (g) Search engine which allows farmers, fish breeders, and fisherfolk to look for
18 potential and actual buyers and for such buyers to search for farms, farmers, and
19 available agricultural and fisheries products; and

20 (h) Customizable dashboard which is accessible only to registered farmers and
21 fisherfolk clients and contains the farmers' and fisherfolk's profile such as the area of the
22 farm or fishpond, crops planted, livestock and type of fish raised.

23
24 **SEC. 5. Registration.** – All cities and municipalities shall encourage and facilitate the
25 free registration of all farmers, fisherfolk, as well as buyers transacting within their respective
26 areas in the Information System.

27
28 **SEC. 6. Functions and Responsibilities of Cities and Municipalities.** – The LGU shall
29 exercise the following functions and responsibilities:

30 (a) The Municipal Agriculture Office, in coordination with the Municipal
31 Agrarian Reform Office, shall gather, encode, and consolidate all pertinent data on the profile
32 and demographics of farmers, fisherfolk as well as buyers;

33 (b) Monitor and control farm inputs including machineries and equipment;

1 (c) For municipalities and component cities, prepare and submit real-time data
2 under (a) and (b) to the provincial agricultural office and to the respective regional offices
3 of the DA;

4 (d) For highly urbanized cities, submit real-time data to the respective regional
5 offices of the DA;

6 (e) Establish farmer and buyer linkages and act as a gatekeeper at the city or
7 municipal level in the nationwide marketing of agricultural products; and

8 (f) Serve as the web administrator at the municipal or city level and be
9 responsible for integrating farm and fisheries locations into the geographic integration
10 system map.

11
12 **SEC. 7. *Functions and Responsibilities of the Province.*** – The provincial government
13 shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

14 (a) The Provincial Planning and Development Office (PPDO) is the web administrator
15 at the provincial level and is responsible for integrating farm and fisheries data into the
16 geographic integration system maps for agriculture and fisheries;

17 (b) The Local Economic and Investment Promotion Office (LEIPO) acts as the lead
18 administrator of the AIS in the provincial level and ensures the balance between supply and
19 demand;

20 (c) The Provincial Agricultural Office monitors the submission of reports from
21 municipalities and component cities, and ensures the completeness, accuracy, and validity of
22 data submitted by the Municipal Agricultural Offices and the Municipal Agrarian Reform
23 Offices; and

24 (d) Except for highly urbanized cities, prepare and submit such data to the regional
25 office of the DA.

26
27 **SEC. 8. *Functions and Responsibilities of the Regional Office of the DA.*** – The
28 regional office of the DA shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

29 (a) Integrate the data provided by the provinces and highly urbanized cities in the
30 existing information systems of the DA such as the National Farmers and Fisheries
31 Information System (NFFIS) which is a web-based data collection system that serves as a
32 platform for updating the Registry System for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA);

1 (b) Collaborate with the regional offices of the Department of Trade and Industry
2 (DTI) in order to facilitate the availment of the various programs of the DTI as well as
3 strengthen market linkages through such programs;

4 (c) Recommend to the central office of the DA appropriate interventions in the form
5 of marketing, importation, and training assistance, as may be needed;

6 (d) Validate the data from the LGUs acting as the system administrator at the regional
7 level and provide real-time report to the central office of the DA; and

8 (e) Endorse for financial assistance the qualified fifth and sixth class municipalities
9 that can be given assistance in establishing and maintaining their respective AIS.

10
11 **SEC. 9. *Functions and Responsibilities of the Central Office of the DA.*** – The central
12 office of the DA shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

13 (a) Allocate funding for the integration of the AIS with existing information systems;

14 (b) Coordinate with the Department of Information and Communications Technology
15 (DICT) to upgrade, expand, and integrate its information systems;

16 (c) Ensure that the implementation, appropriate verification processes and information
17 safeguards are in place pursuant to existing laws and regulations, in coordination with the
18 DICT, Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), National Privacy Commission (NPC),
19 Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Science and
20 Technology (DOST);

21 (d) Approve the prioritized interventions by the regional offices and allocate
22 corresponding funding;

23 (e) Collaborate with other agencies for the creation of market linkages in the domestic
24 and international markets; and

25 (f) Provide safety nets in the import and export of agricultural products in order to
26 support farmers.

27
28 **SEC. 10. *Duties of the Secretary.*** – The Secretary of the DA shall monitor and ensure
29 the compliance of all cities and municipalities as provided for under this Act and shall, as
30 soon as practicable, establish a centralized AIS that shall integrate and link all existing
31 information systems in the country.

1 **SEC. 11. *Reports.*** – The Secretary of the DA shall prepare and submit to the President
2 and both Houses of Congress an annual report on the implementation of the program which
3 shall contain the list of accomplishments and recommendations for improvements.

4 **SEC. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days after the
5 effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture shall promulgate the necessary rules and
6 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

7
8 **SEC. 13. *Appropriations.*** – The Secretary of Agriculture shall include in the
9 Department’s programs the establishment of the integrated and centralized AIS, the funding of
10 which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs shall provide the
11 necessary funds for the establishment of an AIS in their respective annual budgets.

12
13 **SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or
14 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full
15 force and effect.

16
17 **SEC. 15. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules
18 and regulations or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
19 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

20
21 **SEC. 16. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
22 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

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24 Approved,