

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'19 NOV 26 P1 :25

SENATE

Senate Bill No. 1191

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

AN ACT
APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF SIX BILLION PESOS (P6,000,000,000.00) AS
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR F.Y. 2019 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Five (5) months after the passage of Republic Act No. 11203 otherwise known as the "An Act Liberalizing the Importation, Exportation, and Trading of Rice, Lifting for the Purpose the Quantitative Restriction on Rice, and for Other Purposes," farm-gate prices of *palay* have plummeted to as low as P7 to P10 per kilo in some provinces.

Said significant drop has resulted in huge income losses of rice farmers and the rice industry, which is estimated to be around P40 billion to P60 billion.

This Bill seeks to appropriate the said amount to fund the Unconditional Cash Transfer (UCT) for rice farmers, which shall serve as an initial, supplementary, and transitional measure and compensation for the reduction or loss of farm income arising from the influx of imported rice, and to encourage rice farmers to continue farming.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this Supplemental Budget is earnestly sought.



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

1 **SECTION 1. Appropriations.** – The sum of Six Billion Pesos (P6,000,000,000.00) is
2 hereby appropriated to supplement the FY 2019 Budget under the General
3 Appropriations Act of 2019 (Republic Act No. 11260) for the purpose of providing initial,
4 unconditional cash transfers to rice farmers.

5 **SEC. 2. Use and Release of Funds.** – The amounts appropriated herein shall be used
6 to provide direct cash transfers to vulnerable rice farmers who are planting one (1)
7 hectare or less, as compensation for the reduction or loss of farm income arising from the
8 influx of imported rice. Releases from this Fund shall be made by the Department of
9 Budget and Management (DBM) directly to the Department of Agriculture.

10 **SEC. 3. Availability of Appropriations.** – The appropriations authorized in this Act
11 shall be available for release and obligation for the purpose specified until December 31,
12 2020.

13 **SEC. 4. Submission of Reports.** – The DBM and the implementing agency shall
14 submit, either in printed form or by way of electronic document, to the Senate President,
15 the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Commission on Audit, the quarterly
16 accountability reports on the utilization of funds. The DBM and the DBM's wed

1 administrator or his/her equivalent shall be responsible for ensuring that the said
2 quarterly reports are likewise posted on the official website of the DBM and the
3 implementing agency.

4 Releases from the said Fund shall be subject to the submission of a special budget
5 pursuant to Section 35, Chapter 5, Book VI of Executive Order No. 292, series of 1987.

6 **SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.*** - If for any reason, any section or provision of this Act
7 is declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions of this Act
8 which are not affected shall continue in full force and effect.

9 **SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.*** - All provisions of existing laws, orders, rules and
10 regulations or parts thereof which are in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of
11 this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

12 **SEC. 7. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect immediately upon its publication in
13 the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the
14 Philippines.

Approved,