

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. **2472**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES	
RECEIVED	
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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

Introduced by Representative Rico B. Geron

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This Bill seeks to grant our Filipino farmers and farmer beneficiaries a non wage benefit in a form of free college education for agricultural courses in all state college or universities.

Considering that agriculture is not merely a source of livelihood but a way of life. It is the main source of food, fodder and fuel. It is the basic foundation of economic development, the back bone of our economy. Agriculture is important not only from economic point of view but has deep rooted influence on our social, political and cultural life. Agriculture provides highest contribution to national income. But this idealism has been dejected when many of the government programs do not reach our small agricultural farmers and farm beneficiaries including their free access to education when the children of our small farmers could not even finish tertiary education.

When the Constitution specifically mandates that the State shall give priority to quality education especially to those who are poor and underprivileged, thus, our farmers are most of the time remain to be the deprived and unfortunate. This proposed legislation is a definite method toward providing the most deserved assistance to uplift the lives of our small Filipino farmers.

Approval of this bill earnestly sought.



RICO B. GERON

AGAP Partylist Representative



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AN ACT GRANTING AGRICULTURAL FARMERS AND FARMER BENEFICIARIES NON-BENEFITS IN THE FORM OF FREE TERTIARY EDUCATION FOR AGRICULTURAL COURSES IN ALL STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Agricultural farmers and farm beneficiaries shall be exempted from paying tuition and matriculation fees within the entire stay a state college and universities provided however, that the student shall enrol agricultural courses.

SECTION 2. The Department of Education and Commission on Higher Education shall jointly promulgate the necessary implementing rules to carry out the purposes of the Act.

SECTION 3. *Appropriations.* The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be charged to the budget of Department of Education and Commission of Higher Education as provided in General Appropriations Act.

Thereafter, the necessary sum for the implementation of this Act shall be provided in the subsequent General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* ---- All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity.* ---- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved.