

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 18



Introduced by

HONORABLE REPS. ARLENE D. BROSAS (GABRIELA WOMEN'S PARTY); CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, FERDINAND R. GAITE, AND EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT (BAYAN MUNA); FRANCE L. CASTRO (ACT TEACHERS); SARAH JANE I. ELAGO (KABATAAN); WILFRIDO MARK ENVERGA (1ST DISTRICT, QUEZON); JOSEPHINE RAMIREZ-SATO (LONE DISTRICT, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO); CHERYL DELOSO-MONTALLA (2ND DISTRICT, ZAMBALES); ARGEL JOSEPH CABATBAT (MAGSASAKA); JOSE SINGSON, JR. (PROBINSYANO AKO); JOSE CHRISTOPHER BELMONTE (6TH DISTRICT, QUEZON CITY); MA. VICTORIA UMALI (A-TEACHER); JOSEPH STEPHEN PADUANO (ABANG LINGKOD); WILFREDO CAMINERO (2ND DISTRICT, CEBU); MANUEL SAGARBARRIA (2ND DISTRICT, NEGROS ORIENTAL); EDGAR CHATTO (1ST DISTRICT, BOHOL); DIEGO TY (1ST DISTRICT, MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL); JOSELITO SACDALAN (1ST DISTRICT, NORTH COTABATO); ISAGANI AMATONG (3RD DISTRICT, ZAMBOANGA DEL NORTE); LOREN LEGARDA (LONE DISTRICT, ANTIQUE); RUTH MARIANO-HERNANDEZ (2ND DISTRICT, LAGUNA); RESURRECCION ACOP (2ND DISTRICT, ANTIPOLO); DAHLIA LOYOLA (5TH DISTRICT, CAVITE); JOY MYRA TAMBUNTING (2ND DISTRICT, PARAÑAQUE); JOSEFINA TALLADO (1ST DISTRICT, CAMARINES SUR); RAMON NOLASCO, JR. (1ST DISTRICT, CAGAYAN); DAVID SUAREZ (2ND DISTRICT, QUEZON); SERGIO DAGOOC (APEC); GODOFREDO GUYA (RECOBODA); IRENE SAULOG (KALINGA); AMIHILDA SANGCOPAN (AMIN); YASSER ALONTO BALINDONG (2ND DISTRICT, LANA DEL SUR); RASHIDIN MATBA (LONE DISTRICT, TAWI-TAWI); ALAN 1 ECLEO (LONE DISTRICT, DINAGAT IS.); ROSE MARIE ARENAS (3RD DISTRICT, PANGASINAN); NOEL VILLANUEVA (3RD DISTRICT, TARLAC); ELIZALDY CO (AKO-BICOL); MANUEL CABOCHAN III (MAGDALO); SOLOMON CHUNGALAO (LONE DISTRICT, IFUGAO); ANGELO BARBA (2ND DISTRICT, ILOCOS NORTE); GERARDO VALMAYOR (1ST DISTRICT, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL); JULIET MARIE DELEON FERRER (4TH DISTRICT, NEGROS OCCIDENTAL); LEO RAFAEL CUEVA (2ND DISTRICT NEGROS OCCIDENTAL); BIENVENIDO ABANTE, JR. (6TH DISTRICT, MANILA); CRISTAL BAGATSING (5TH DISTRICT, MANILA); MANUEL ZUBIRI (3RD DISTRICT, BUKIDNON); CHRISTOPHER DE VENECIA (4TH DISTRICT, PANGASINAN); JANETTE GARIN (1ST DISTRICT, ILOILO); CORAZON NUÑEZ-MALANYAON (1ST DISTRICT, DAVAO ORIENTAL); XAVIER JESUS ROMUALDO (LONE DISTRICT, CAMIGUIN); JUNIE CUA (1ST DISTRICT, QUIRINO); FAUSTINO MICHAEL CARLOS DY III (5TH DISTRICT, ISABELA)

A JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET OF FIFTEEN BILLION PESOS (P15,000,000,000) TO BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED TO THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND DIRECTING THE LATTER TO EXCLUSIVELY USE THE AMOUNT TO URGENTLY PROCURE AT LEAST 750,000 METRIC TONS OF PALAY FROM LOCAL FARMERS AT THE FARM GATE PRICE OF TWENTY PESOS (P20) PER KILOGRAM, AND SELL THE NFA RICE AT TWENTY SEVEN PESOS (P27) PER KILOGRAM IN ORDER TO EASE THE DIRE IMPACTS OF THE RICE LIBERALIZATION AND TARIFFICATION LAW

WHEREAS, in line with the Philippine government's compliance to the neoliberal policy prescription of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to shift from quantitative restrictions to tariffs, President Rodrigo Duterte signed into law on February 14, 2019 Republic Act No. 11203 otherwise known as "An Act Liberalizing the Importation, Exportation and Trading of Rice, Lifting for the Purpose the Quantitative Restriction on Rice, and for Other Purposes" or the Rice Liberalization and Tariffication Act;

WHEREAS, RA 11203 opened the floodgates for the massive importation of rice, leading to a sharp decline in palay prices and consequently into huge losses in the income of farmers. Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) indicate that the average farm gate price of palay has hit its lowest in more than two years, as cheap imported rice surpassed 1.3 million metric tons during the first half of 2019 under the Rice Liberalization and Tariffication Law;

WHEREAS, estimates from Bantay Bigas and farmers' groups point to a dismal crash in palay prices, with some regions such as Central Luzon reporting farmgate price levels at P11 per kilo or even P7 in some areas; Farmgate price of palay is seen to further drop during the coming months;

WHEREAS, Filipino farmers have lost around P40 billion in just the first half of the 2019 due to the huge drop in the price of palay, according to the Federation of Free Farmers (FFF);

WHEREAS, the One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000) allocated for Expanded Rice Credit Assistance under the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (RCEF) as part of Rice Liberalization and Tariffication Law is certainly not enough to aid our rice farmers, notwithstanding the fact that it requires minimum collateral and imposes minimum interest rates;


WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture's (DA) Expanded Survival and Recovery Assistance Program for Rice Farmers (SURE Aid) amounting to P1.5 billion will only provide each farmer P15,000 in the form of zero-interest loans, and will only cover 100,000 rice farmers out of the total estimated 2.4 million rice farmers;

WHEREAS, the National Food Authority (NFA) can only purchase 350,000 metric tons or 7 million sacks of palay from local farmers at P20 per kilo farm gate price through its current P7-billion budget for buffer stocking for 2019;

WHEREAS, the country is once again entering the harvest season of the lean second cropping. The NFA must be refueled with adequate funds so that it can procure a substantial portion from the coming harvest;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives in Congress assembled, that a supplemental budget of fifteen billions pesos (P15,000,000,000.00) be immediately released to the National Food Authority as supplemental budget for the exclusive and urgent procurement of at least 750,000 metric tons of palay from local farmers at the farm gate price of twenty pesos (P20) per kilogram, and sell the NFA rice at twenty seven pesos (P27) per kilogram in order to ease the dire impacts of the Rice Liberalization and Tariffication Law.

Adopted,

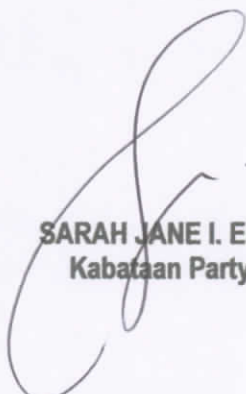

ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriela Women's Party


CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist


EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist

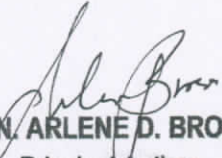

FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Partylist


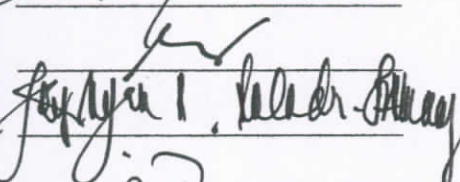

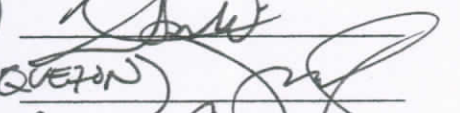

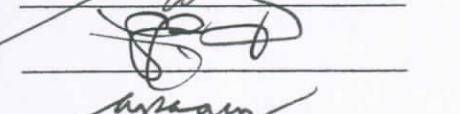
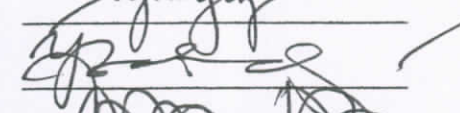





FRANCE L. CASTRO
Act Teachers Partylist


SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist

MANIFESTO OF SUPPORT


- A. A JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET OF FIFTEEN BILLION PESOS (P15,000,000,000) TO BE IMMEDIATELY RELEASED TO THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY (NFA) AND DIRECTING THE LATTER TO EXCLUSIVELY USE THE AMOUNT TO URGENTLY PROCURE AT LEAST 750,000 METRIC TONS OF PALAY FROM LOCAL FARMERS AT THE FARM GATE PRICE OF TWENTY PESOS (P20) PER KILOGRAM, AND SELL THE NFA RICE AT TWENTY SEVEN PESOS (P27) PER KILOGRAM IN ORDER TO EASE THE DIRE IMPACTS OF THE RICE LIBERALIZATION AND TARIFFICATION LAW


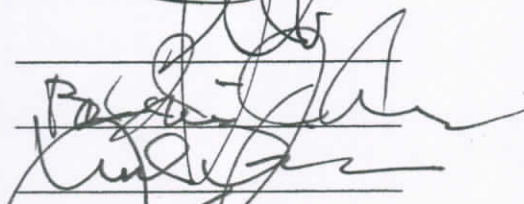



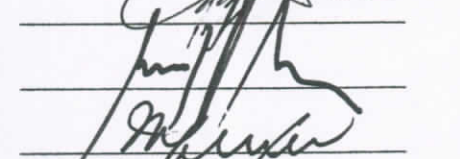
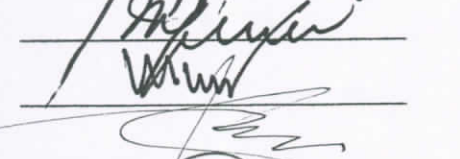

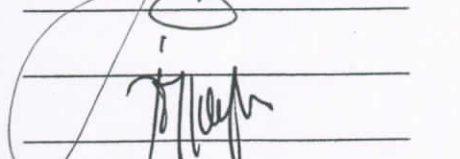
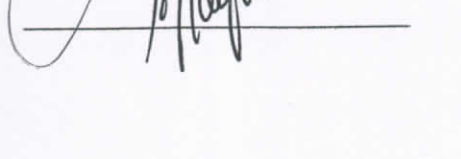
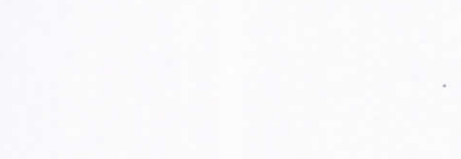




HON. ARLENE D. BROSAS
 Principal Author

Name & District/ Party-list	Signature
<u>RUTH MARIANO HERNANDEZ</u> / 2ND DISTRICT OF LAGUNA and Central	
<u>RESURRECCION M. ARAP</u> / 5TH DISTRICT CAVITE	
<u>DAHLIA A. LOYOLA</u>	
<u>JOY MYRA S. TAMBUKING</u>	
<u>JOSEFINA B. TALLADO</u>	
<u>RAMON C. NOLASCO, Jr.</u> (1st District, Cagayan)	
<u>BERDINAND R. SATE</u> (BAYAN MUNA)	
<u>DAVID C. SUAREZ</u> (2ND DIST. QUEZON)	
<u>SEIGWO C. DAGOOZ</u> (APEC PARTYLIST)	
<u>GODOFREDO N. GUYA</u> (RECOBODA)	
<u>IRENE SAULOG KALINCA</u> PARTYLIST	
<u>AMIHILDA J. SANGUPAN</u>	
<u>YASSER ALONTO BALINDONG</u>	
<u>RASHIDIN MATBA</u>	

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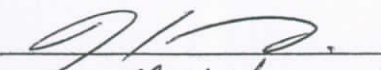
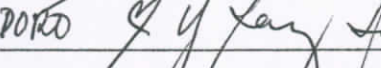



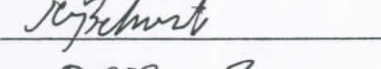
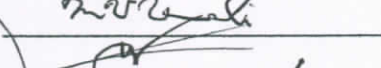
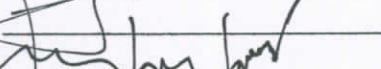
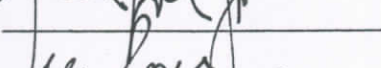
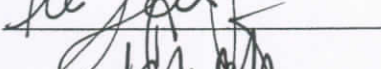
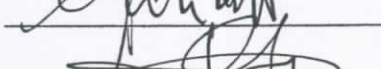


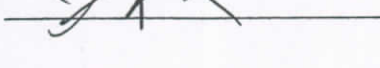

HON. ARLENE D. BROSAS
Principal Author

<u>Name & District/ Party-list</u>	<u>Signature</u>
ALAN I B. ECLIO	
ROSE MARIE J. APEÑAS	
NOEL L. VILLANUEVA	
ELIZAVOS CO	
MANUEL CABOCHAN III	
SOLOMON R. CUNICANAS	
ABETO M. BARRA	
GERARDO VALMAYAN	
Juliet Marie de Leon Ferrer	
Leo Cueva	
BENNY M. ABANTE	
Cristal Bagatsing	
MANUEL F. ZUBIR	
JOFF DE VENEZIA	

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Principal Author

<u>Name & District/ Party-list</u>	<u>Signature</u>
MARK ENVERGA 1 st Dist. Quezon	
JOSEPHINE RAMIREZ SATO, LD, OCC. MINDORO	
CHERYL DELOSO-MONTALA, 2 nd Dist. Zambales	
Argel Cabatbat -Magsasaka PL	
JOSE C. SINGSON JR PL	
Kit Belmont	
MA. VICTORIA V. KMALI	
JOSEPH STEPHEN PARMANO	
WILFREDO S. CAMINERO	
MANUEL T. SAGARDOYAN	
EDGAR CHATO	
DIEGO C. TY	
JOEL SACDAN	
ISAGANI S. AMATONG	


Loren Legarda

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Name & District/ Party-list

Faustino Michael Dy T. III

Signature

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