

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

House Resolution No. 226



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**Introduced by Representative Rico B. Geron**

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**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRARIAN REFORM TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, IN THE PROLIFERATION OF IRRIGATED AND IRRIGABLE LAND CONVERTED INTO NON AGRICULTURAL PURPOSE IN VIOLATION OF SECTION 65 OF RA 6657 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE COMPREHENSIVE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW OF 1988, AS AMENDED BY RA 9700 .**

**WHEREAS**, Philippines is an agricultural country with most of its land is agricultural. This aims for food security, sustainability of natural resources, social equity and global competitiveness. One of the major agricultural systems include lowland irrigated farming, rainfed farming and upland farming. Irrigated farm areas mainly grow rice and sugarcane whereas rainfed areas are planted with coconut, corn and cassava. This is the critical role of agriculture sector in the country's overall economic development.

**WHEREAS**, despite of its importance, agricultural land is at risk, through extensive conversion to other uses. The rampant conversion of prime agricultural, as well as irrigated and irrigable lands driven by rapid urbanization and population growth, is a serious threat to the sustainability of a primarily agricultural economy to country, A number of agricultural lands that are critical to food production have been transformed into subdivisions, commercial centers, golf courses and export processing zones, among others.

**WHEREAS**, Section 22 of RA 9700 provides Section 65 of RA 6657, as amended is hereby further amended to read as follows:

**" Section 65. Conversion of Lands.-** xxxx. Provided, furthermore, that irrigated and irrigable lands shall not be subject to conversion: Provided, finally That the National Irrigation Administration shall submit a consolidated data on the location nationwide of all irrigable lands within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act.

**WHEREAS,** Its dismal effect caused the displacement of our farmers which greatly contributed to the increase of unemployment and lack livelihood in the country. Also, it has disrupted the ecological balance of our environment which could impact on local climate change and imminent water crisis.

**WHEREAS,** Thus, inconsistent with the policy of the State to ensure the availability, adequacy, accessibility of food supplies to every Filipino at all times, to ensure food security and promote social justice.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Members of the House of Representatives are hereby urged to direct the Committee on Agrarian Reform to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, in the proliferation of irrigated and irrigable land converted to non-agricultural purpose in violation of Section 65 of RA 6657 otherwise known as Comprehensive Reform Act of 1988, as amended by RA 9700.

Approved,



**RICO B. GERON**