

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 2263, June 19, 1959 ]**

**AN ACT AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT  
NUMBERED ONE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY-NINE,  
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AGRICULTURAL TENANCY ACT OF  
THE PHILIPPINES.**

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

SECTION 1. The last paragraph of section four of Republic Act Numbered One thousand one hundred ninety, nine is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. *Systems of Agricultural Tenancy: Their Definitions.*—

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"*Leasehold tenancy* exists when a person who, either personally or with the aid of labor available from members of his immediate farm household, undertakes to cultivate a piece of agricultural land susceptible of cultivation by a single person together with member, of his immediate farm household, belonging to or legally possessed by, another in consideration of a fixed amount in money or in produce or in both."

SEC. 2. Subsections (c) and (r) of section five of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows herein-below; and said section five is further amended to inserting a new subsection between subsections (c) and (d) to be known as subsection (c-1), two new subsections between subsections (g) and (h) to be known as subsections (g-1) and (g-2) and by adding a new subsection after subsection (r) to be known as subsection (s) to read as follows:

"SEC. 5. *Definition of Terms.*—As used in this Act:

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"(c) Agricultural year is the period of time necessary for the raising of seasonal agricultural products, including the preparation of the land, and the sowing, planting harvesting and, whenever applicable, threshing of the crop: *Provided, however,* That in the case of coconuts, citrus, coffee, ramie, and other crops where more than one harvest is obtained from one planting, the words "agricultural year" shall mean the period of time from the of the land to the first harvest and thereafter harvest to harvest. In both cases, the period of time may be to shorter or longer than a calendar year.

"(c-1) *Beginning of the agricultural year* is the time the first farm operation for the production of the principal crop is performed, such as, seed-bed preparation in the case of rice.

"(g-1) *Broadcasting* is the strewing, or the scattering f seeds directly to

the landholding in lieu of transplanting.

"(g-2) *Ratooning* is the cutting of the straw close to the ground at harvesting time after all the standing water has been drained out to allow the young tillers to sprout out the rootstocks and develop into mature normal bearing plants in three or four months with the aid of fertilizer, manure or compost.

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"(r) Auxiliary crop is any product raised other than the crop to which the cultivation of the land is principally devoted in each agricultural year; and excluding the produce of the lot referred to in section twenty-two, paragraph three.

"(s) *Suited for mechanization* shall mean that more than 60% of the tenants' labor as provided for in this Act shall be displaced by farm machinery and that the employment of mechanized implements will lower the cost of production."

SEC. 3. Section nine of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 9. *Severance of Relations.*—The tenancy relationship is extinguished by the voluntary surrender or abandonment of the land by, or the death or incapacity of, the tenant: *Provided*, That in case of the tenant's death or incapacity, the tenancy relationship shall continue between the landholder and one member of the tenant's immediate farm household who is related to the tenant within the second degree by consanguinity and who shall cultivate the land himself personally unless the landholder shall cultivate the land himself personally or through the employment of mechanical farm implements, in accordance with section fifty hereof. Should the deceased or incapacitated tenant have two or more members of his immediate farm household qualified to succeed him, the landholder shall have the right to choose from among them who should succeed. The expiration of the period of the contract as fixed by the parties, or the sale, alienation or transfer of legal possession of the land does not of itself extinguish the relationship. In the latter case, the purchaser or transferee shall assume the rights and obligations of the former landholder in relation to the tenant. In case of death of the landholder, his heir or heirs shall likewise assume his rights and obligations."

SEC. 4. Section fourteen of Republic Act Numbered Eleven hundred ninety-nine is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 14. *Change of System.*—The tenant shall have the right to change, the tenancy contract from one of share tenancy to leasehold tenancy and vice versa and from one crop sharing arrangement to another of the share tenancy. If the share tenancy contract is in writing and is duly registered, the right to change from one crop sharing arrangement to another or from one tenancy system to another may be exercised at least one month before the beginning of the next agricultural year after the expiration of the period of the contract, in the absence of any registered written contract, the right may be exercised at least one month before the agricultural year when the change shall be effected."

SEC. 5. Subsections (2) and (3) of section twenty-two of the same Act are hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 22. *Rights of the Tenant:*

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"(2) The tenant shall, aside from his labor, have the right to prove any of the contributions for production whenever he can do so adequately and on time subject the provisions of section fourteen of this Act.

"(3) The tenant shall have the right to demand for a home lot suitable for dwelling with an area of not more than 3 per cent of the area of his landholding provided that it does not exceed one thousand square meters and and that it shall be located at a convenient and suitable place within the land of the landholder to be designated by the where the tenant shall construct his dwelling and raise vegetables, poultry, pigs and other animals and engage in minor industries, the products of which shall accrue to the tenant exclusively. The Tenant's dwelling shall not be removed from the lot already assigned to him by the landholder, except as provided in section twenty-six unless there is a severance of the tenancy relationship between them as provided under section nine, or unless the tenant is ejected for cause, and only after the expiration of forty-five days following such severance of relationship or dismissal for cause.

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SEC. 6. Subsections (I) and (2) of Section twenty-five of the same Act arc hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 25. *Eights of the Landholder:*

"(1) The landholder shall have the right to choose the kind of crop and the seeds which the tenant shall plant in his holdings: *Provided*, That if the tenant should object, the court shall settle the conflict according to the best interest of both parties: *Provided, further*, That in no case shall a tenant be ejected as a consequence of a change in in Crop.

"(2) The landholder shall have the right to require tenant to follow those proven farm practices which have found to contribute towards, increased agricultural production and to use fertilizer of the kind or kinds shown proven farm practices to be adopted to the requirements of the land: *Provided*, That in case of disagreement thereto by the tenant, the court shall settle the conflict according to the best interest of both parties."

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SEC. 7. Subsection (a) of section twenty-six of the same Act is hereby to amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 26. *Obligations of the Landholder:*

- a. The landholder shall furnish the tenant with a home as provided in section 22 (3): *Provided*, That should the landholder designate another site for such m lot than that already occupied by the

tenant, the formed shall bear the expenses of transferring the existing house and improvements from the home lot already occupied by the tenant to the site newly designated by the former1  
*Provided, further,* That if the tenant disagrees to the transfer of the home lot, the matter shall be submitted to the court for determination."

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SEC. 8. Section twenty-seven of the same Act is hereby amended by inserting the following subsections to be known as subsections to be known as subsections (4) and (5) :

"SEC. 27. *Prohibition to the Landholder:*

"(4) The landholder shall not mortgage the share of the tenant in the crop, and any mortgage executed by the landholder on the land and/or its crop shall not affect the share of the tenant in such crop.

"(5) The landholder shall not discourage, directly or indirectly, the formation, maintenance or growth of a union or organization of tenants in his landholding, but he shall not initiate, dominate, assist or interfere in the formation or administration of any such union or organization."

SEC. 9. Subsection (2) of section twenty-eight of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 28. *Expenses for Seeds; Fertilizers; Pest and Weed Control Expenses:*

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2. The cost of fertilizer and expenses foe pest and disease control, as evidenced by sales invoices and/or receipts, as well as the cost of weeding beyond the customary practice in the locality shall be paid out of the gross harvest and returned to the party who advanced the cost expenses. In case of disagreement as to the cost of weeding, the court shall determine the same.

SEC. 10. Section thirty-one of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 31. *Cost of Fertilizer, Etc.; When to be Advanced by the Landholder.*—Whenever the use of fertilizer, the application of insect, disease and rodent control measures weeding beyond the customary practice in the locality is directed by the landholder, he shall advance their cost, which shall be deducted from the gross produce."

SEC. 11. Section thirty-two of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 32. *Share Basis.*—The parties shall, on ricelands which produce a normal average of more than forty cavans hectare for the three agricultural years next preceding the current harvest, receive as shares in the gross produce, after setting aside the same amount of palay used as seed, and after deducting the cost of fertilizer, pest and weed control, irrigation fees, reaping of not more than ten per centum of the gross harvest, threshing and, whenever applicable, broadcasting or other farm operations not listed in this Act as contributions or labor of tenant, the