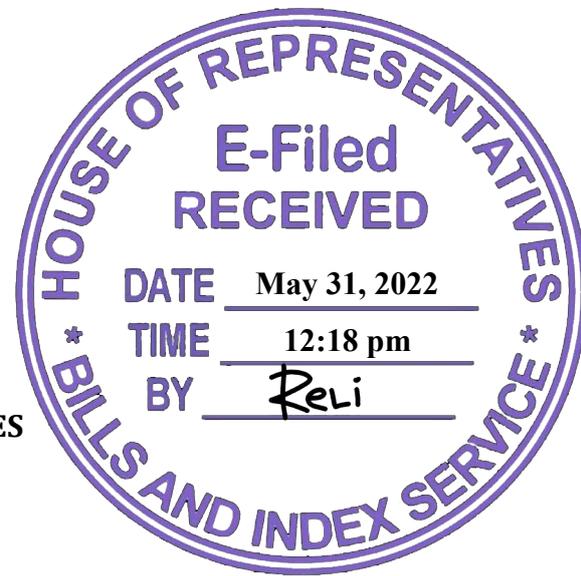




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2601



Introduced by Magsasaka Party-list Representative
ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND OTHER APPROPRIATE
COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
RISING INCIDENCE OF DEATHS DUE TO SELF-INFLICTED HARM AMONG FARMERS

1 **WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 11036, or the Mental Health Act of 2017, affirms the
2 basic right of the Filipinos to mental health as the fundamental rights of people who
3 require mental health services;

4 **WHEREAS**, R.A. 11036 defines mental health as “a state of well-being in which the
5 individual realizes one’s own abilities and potentials, copes adequately with the normal
6 stresses of life, displays resilience in the face of extreme life events, works productively
7 and fruitfully, and is able to make a positive contribution to the community.”;

8 **WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) recognizes that mental health
9 issues are associated with higher socioeconomic risk factors such as poverty, financial
10 problems, social exclusion, poor education, high medical treatment costs, and
11 unemployment;

12 **WHEREAS**, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) recorded an increase in cases
13 of farmer deaths due to intentional self-harm from 2016 to 2020. In 2020, 475 cases of
14 farmers' suicide were recorded, a 41.5% increase from the 278 cases in 2019. While in
15 2018, 341 cases were recorded which is a 28.2% increase from the 326 cases recorded in
16 the previous year, and a 36.42% increase from 302 cases in 2016;

1 **WHEREAS**, these numbers represent real people– Filipino farmers with families
2 across the country, and whose deaths have implications in their communities;

3 **WHEREAS**, we recognize farmers and their families as the producers of food that
4 impact the health of the people and country, understanding the mental health of our
5 farmers, together with the fisherfolks, is significant because the economy is crucially
6 dependent on the farmers’ overall wellbeing and productivity which, if left unchecked,
7 may lead to the decline in their economic activity resulting to productivity losses;

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**,
9 that the Committee on Health and other appropriate Committees are directed to conduct
10 an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the rising incidence of deaths due to self-inflicted
11 harm among farmers.

Adopted,



ARGEL JOSEPH T. CABATBAT