



**Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila**

**Nineteenth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 6246



Introduced by Representative Rudys Caesar G. Fariñas I

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure acknowledges the need to protect and promote people's right to good health and instill health consciousness among them. In this regard, the State should recognize that food intake is crucial to promoting this policy and that consumers need information on the nutritional composition of commercially sold food.

This bill directs food service establishments to display each standard menu item's total number of calories and prominently display these on their menus and menu boards. This bill also requires food establishments to apply for and secure a Nutrition Disclosure Compliance Certificate (NDCC) from the Department of Health (DOH).

Finally, this bill imposes penalties for non-compliance with these requirements.

Hence, this representation seeks the passage of this measure.


RUDYS CAESAR G. FARIÑAS I



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**AN ACT
MANDATING FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS TO DISPLAY THE NUTRITION
FACTS AND INFORMATION ON THEIR MENUS**

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

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2 SECTION 1. **Short Title.** –This Act shall be known as the “*Mandatory*
3 *Menu Labeling Act.*”

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5 SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to protect and
6 promote the right of the people to good health, and instill health consciousness
7 among them. The State recognizes that food intake is crucial to the promotion of
8 this policy and that there is a need to keep the consumers informed of the
9 nutritional composition of commercially sold food by food service establishments
10 in order to encourage healthier food choices.

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12 SEC 3. **Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:

1 (a) *Food service establishment* refers to an entity that is one of at least
2 twenty (20) entities or more doing business under the same name, regardless of
3 its type of ownership, and selling substantially the same menu items in standard
4 portions. It shall include, but not limited to, chain restaurants, chain coffee
5 shops, bakeries, self-service food locations, such as buffets and salad bars,
6 convenience stores.

7 (b) *Food items* refer to ready-to-eat and prepared food or beverage for sale
8 in a restaurant or food service establishment;

9 (c) *Food-on-display* refers to food offered for sale that is visible to a
10 customer before making a selection, and needs no further preparation before
11 consumption;

12 (d) *Standard menu item* refers to any individual food item or combination
13 of food items that is routinely listed on a menu or menu board, or routinely
14 offered for sale by a restaurant or fast food chain establishment;

15 (e) *Menu* refers to a printed list of food items and their prices posted in a
16 fast food chain or restaurant as defined in this Act, including fliers for
17 distribution;

18 (f) *Menu board* refers to any pictorial display of food items and their prices
19 posted in a fast food chain or restaurant as defined in this Act, including those
20 found in drive-thrus;

21 (g) *Nutritional and calorie information* refers to the total number of calories
22 and nutritional information, which shall be displayed in kilocalories of each
23 menu item on menu and menu boards;

24 (h) *Self-service food* refers to food and beverage that consumers may help
25 themselves to, including food offered for sale at a salad bar, buffet line, cafeteria
26 line; and

27 (i) *Standard menu item* refers to food or beverage items offered for sale by
28 a food facility through a menu or menu board.

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SEC. 4. **Disclosure of Number of Calories.** – All food service establishments, as defined under this Act, are hereby mandated to disclose the total number of calories of each standard menu item and prominently display these on their menus and menu boards, adjacent to the standard menu item.

Disclosure and display of nutrition information shall not apply to temporary menu items.

SEC. 5. **Calorie Content.** – The disclosure of nutrition content information by food establishments, as required in the preceding section, shall indicate the calories contained in a standard menu item to the nearest five-calorie increment up to and including fifty (50) calories, to the nearest ten-calorie increment above fifty (50) calories. For food with fewer than five (5) calories, the declaration may be expressed as zero (0).

SEC. 6. **Nutrition Disclosure Compliance Certificate.** – Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, food service establishments are also directed to apply for and secure a Nutrition Disclosure Compliance Certificate (NDCC) from the Department of Health (DOH). The NDCC issued by the DOH shall be valid for two (2) years from the date of issuance and may be renewed at least thirty (30) days before its expiration. The DOH may refuse to renew the NDCC of any food service establishment found to be in violation of this Act.

The failure of any restaurant or food service establishment to secure a NDCC is a ground for suspension or revocation of its license to operate.

1 SEC. 7. **Penalties.** – A fine of not less than Twenty thousand pesos
2 (P20,000) but not more than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000) shall be
3 imposed upon any person operating a food service establishment found to have
4 failed to comply with the mandatory nutrition information disclosures or to have
5 declared false or grossly inaccurate nutrition information regarding the amount
6 of calories or nutrients contained for each standard menu item.

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8 SEC. 8. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – Within sixty (60) days
9 from the effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of Health shall issue the necessary
10 rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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12 SEC. 9. **Separability Clause.** – If any part or provision of this Act is
13 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other parts which are not affected shall
14 remain in full force and effect.

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16 SEC. 10. **Repealing Clause.** – All existing laws, orders, decrees, rules and
17 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
18 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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20 SEC. 11. **Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
21 after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general
22 circulation.

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24 Approved,