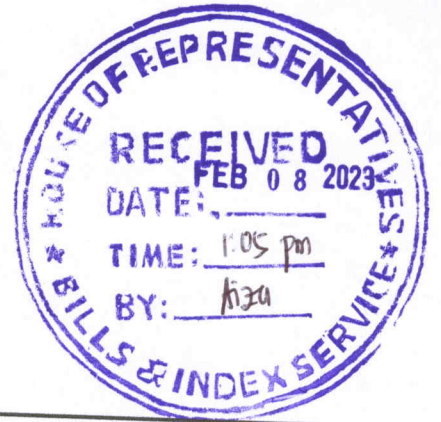


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7118



Introduced by Rep. Sittie Aminah Q. Dimaporo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Halal Industry in the Philippines, as a country with significant number of Muslim Filipinos among its population, is somehow underdeveloped. It should be emphasized that the development and promotion of the Halal industry, particularly the promotion of Halal Tourism, can greatly benefit our country in terms of the increase of tourists coming from Muslim-dominated countries. Most of the tourists coming from Muslim-dominated countries would rather prefer our neighboring Southeast Asian countries simply because of the lack of Halal-certified products and services. The Halal accreditation in the Philippines is issued by the private sector, which entails costs for small and medium enterprises. This SMEs can somehow augment the supply of goods and services provided by large corporations which has secured their Halal certification from private Halal accreditation entities.

This bill therefore seeks to provide a mechanism in which the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos can accredit and provide training for local halal accreditors for Halal goods and services. It is also the objective of this measure to establish a Halal Development Program for SMEs and provide an accreditation seal that shall be recognized in lieu of the accreditation of Halal-Certifying bodies which the SMEs cannot afford.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought


SITTIE AMINAH Q. DIMAPORO
2nd District, Lanao del Norte

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 7118

Introduced by Rep. Sittie Aminah Q. Dimaporo

AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 8 (h) AND SECTION 11 (a) OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9997 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON MUSLIM FILIPINOS ACT OF 2009, TO PROMOTE LOCAL HALAL ENTERPRISES AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as “Halal Enterprise and Product Development Act of 2023”.

SECTION 2. Section 8 (h) of Republic Act No. 9997 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(h) facilitate the accreditation of local halal products and establishments for the purpose of community development, halal tourism, and other modes of halal enterprises that would benefit Muslim Filipinos.”

SECTION 3. Section 11 (a) of Republic Act No. 9997 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(a) **Bureau of Muslim Economic Affairs [AND HALAL ACCREDITATION]** – This Bureau shall promote and develop economic livelihood programs and projects through the extension of loans, entrepreneurship, trade and marketing assistance to the members of Muslim Filipino Communities. It shall also be responsible for the promotion and development of cooperative endeavors among Muslim Filipinos in coordination with the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA). It shall likewise promote and implement manpower training and community self-help projects for the economic development of Muslim Filipinos.

[This Bureau shall also be responsible for assisting Muslim Small & Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in its accreditation for Halal goods and services. It shall also be mandated to coordinate the initiatives of different national line agencies, state and private universities, local government units, and the private sector in the development of the Halal domestic industry.]

- (i) *Establishment of Small and Medium Enterprise Halal Development Program – the Bureau shall endeavor to provide a framework in accrediting goods and services of small and medium enterprises as halal. Such program shall be low-cost and financially sustainable for the success of small and medium enterprises.*
- (ii) *Halal Accreditors Scholarship Program – the Bureau shall partner with the SUCs to develop a scholarship program for halal accreditors. Such Halal Accreditors shall be utilized for the accreditation of Halal goods and services developed by government, community livelihood and SMEs programs.*
- (iii) *NCMF Halal Seal – the Bureau shall develop a seal of accreditation for halal products that may be utilized under national and/or local government programs should the private sector accreditation be pending or not financially feasible for the community or SMEs]*

SECTION 5. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 6. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)- Within ninety (90) days from the approval of this Act, the Commission, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 7. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SECTION 8. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, issuances, rules and regulations that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,