

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Bill No. 10999



Introduced by Honorable Ma. Alana Samanta Taliño Santos

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE BARANGAY INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT
APPROACH FOR NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT OF THE RURAL POOR AS A
LINKAGE PROGRAM FOR ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND
COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Stunting, marked by impaired growth due to chronic malnutrition, deprives children of optimal physical and cognitive development. In the Philippines, one out of three Filipino children are stunted. This figure is above the average ratio, as compared with ASEAN and East Asian countries.

Despite the downward trend in stunting, the gradual pace of reduction is still alarming. From over three decades until the present, the Philippine stunting rate has declined by a mere 15.9 percentage points – from a staggering 44.7 percent to a still worrisome 28.8 percent.

While there are programs and initiatives that prioritize nutrition, a 2024 report by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies revealed that only a quarter of the Filipino children from age 6 to 12 months meet the recommended energy intake (REI).

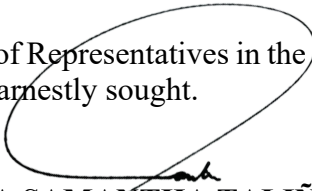
Stunting not only leads to irreversible damage to a child's long-term physical and cognitive growth, it also has a lasting impact on the nation's economic trajectory. Study findings underscore that human capital takes root in early childhood, with a healthy upbringing significantly contributing to sustained development. The tangible link between improved childhood nutrition and reduced rates of stunting underscores this correlation.¹ Stunted mothers tend to give birth to stunted children, highlighting the urgency of a coordinated policy intervention.

Investing in young Filipinos is therefore a strategic move crucial for advancing human capital development, impacting national progress. As such, the Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement or BIDANI Act seeks to create a comprehensive nutrition-in-development action research program of the state universities and colleges (SUCs) and community colleges in coordination with other relevant stakeholders.

¹ Chakravarty, N., Tatwadi, K., & Ravi, K. (2019). Intergenerational effects of stunting on human capital: where does the compass point?. *International Journal of Medicine & Public Health*, 9(4).

With the formulation of the Barangay Integrated Development Plan, it seeks to combat malnutrition and food insecurity by mobilizing local governments, providing a roadmap that will address the nutritional needs of the people.

This measure was approved on third reading by the House of Representatives in the 18th Congress. In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



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Representative
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*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 the “Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) Act.”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to recognize nutrition as a basic human right that shall be promoted as a public good and a public concern that can be satisfactorily achieved through multi-sectoral support and cooperation. To this end, the State shall vigorously work towards the provision of the nutritional needs of the poor and vulnerable especially in the rural areas, and give utmost support to programs and projects that are responsive to the health needs of the Filipino people.

SECTION 3. *Objectives.* - This Act shall have the following objectives:

- a) To encourage the cooperation and participation of academic institutions and local government units (LGUs) in promoting the nutritional well-being of the people;
- b) To develop among state universities and colleges (SUCs), and community colleges an effective research-action network program that will improve the nutrition and general well-being of the rural poor; and
- c) To improve the nutritional well-being of the poor in the rural areas in order to enhance their health and productivity.

SECTION 4. *The Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement Program.* - The Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) is established as a comprehensive nutrition-in-development action research program of the state universities and colleges (SUCs) and community colleges in support

of the health and nutrition program of the national government and local government units (LGUs) whose target beneficiaries are the rural poor.

It is a comprehensive model for building the capacity of LGUs to integrate nutrition concerns in countryside development programs that supports the implementation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) to combat malnutrition, food and nutrition Insecurity, social deprivation, and poverty alleviation.

SECTION 5. *Program Goals.* - The BIDANI Program shall promote nutrition-in-development through community and other stakeholders' participation in an integrated management system facilitated by SUCs. The Program shall:

- a) Require all SUCs and community colleges to assist the government in achieving the nutrition targets of the PPAN;
- b) Engage the SUCs and community colleges in the conduct of training and capacity-building activities for all BIDANI stakeholders on the BIDANI strategies and innovative practices to ensure that in-planning nutrition shall be Integrated in all areas of local governance;
- c) Promote the best nutrition-in-development practices of successful LGUs through the participation of local nutrition management teams; and
- d) Build partnerships among SUCs, community colleges, and other stakeholders to support the citizenry towards self-help and self-reliance; encourage citizen action through the Involvement of various stakeholders; and coordinate with government organizations (GOs), non-government organizations (NGOs), private organizations (POs) and other private sector groups In linking the community with existing resources.

SECTION 6. *BIDANI Structural/Organizational Linkages.* - The BIDANI partners and stakeholders shall work at different levels, as follows:

- a) State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and Community Colleges' Partnership with SUCs shall be formalized through an execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the University of the Philippines-Los Banos (UPLB), the national coordinator of the BIDANI Program, represented by its Chancellor, and the President of the concerned SUCs or community colleges. Upon approval of the MOA, the BIDANI Program shall be operationalized under the Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension (OVPRE) of the partner SUC or community college. A BIDANI SUC or community college will then choose and coordinate with Its partner LGU;
- b) City or Municipal Local Government Units - The implementation of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall commence upon the approval by the city or municipality of the nutrition plans formulated by the participating SUC or community college concerned through a city or municipality resolution. Each city or municipality shall then create a City or Municipal organization, such as a committee composed of heads and representatives of

different city or municipal line agencies, that shall be responsible for the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and replication of the BIDANI strategy in the locality;

c) **Barangay Units** - The realization of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall be accomplished at the barangay level. The members of each Barangay Development Councils (BDC) shall be expanded and the BDC shall hereinafter be called the Program Planning and Implementing Committee. The Committee shall be composed of representatives from the Sangguniang Barangay, BDC, the various purok in the barangay and other community leaders who shall be trained on the BIDANI strategy to ensure that the processes for planning and management of development programs, projects and activities will be participative and responsive to the needs of the residents of the barangay; and

d) **Other Stakeholders** - The participation and inputs of the NGOs, POs, other government agencies and offices, shall be sought in the formulation of plans by the members of the barangay.

SECTION 7. *BIDANI Innovative Strategies.* - To facilitate the local implementation of the BIDANI, the Program shall be implemented using the following innovative strategies:

a) **Formulation of the Barangay Integrated Development Plan (BIDP)** - Upon approval of this Act, each barangay shall formulate its BIDP which shall include the barangay's plans and programs relative to nutrition, and which shall be integrated into the municipal development plan;

b) **Updating of the Existing Barangay Management Information System (BMIS)** - As part of its research activities, the concerned SUC or community college shall continue to update its existing people-based information system which shall focus on the identification of the needs of the barangay through efficient and effective data collection. The data shall be the basis for program planning, management and implementation of various projects and activities in the barangay; and

c) **Implementation of the Participative Nutrition Enhancement Approach (PNEA)** - The National Nutrition Council (NNC), and participating SUCs and community colleges shall utilize the life cycle approach in the formulation of food production policies and programs, and promote market-driven livelihood activities among the households to prevent malnutrition among preschool children and nutritionally-at-risk families.

SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program shall be included in the budget of the participating SUCs or community college, in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs shall provide funding to the participating community colleges for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program. Participating SUCs and community colleges may also receive grants, donations, and other forms of financial support from foreign and local persons, institutions, and governments for the Implementation of the BIDANI linkage program. In addition, the income generated by

participating SUCs or community colleges may also be used to augment the fund for the BIDANI Linkage Program.

SECTION 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the UPLB-BIDANI, in coordination with the National Nutrition Council (NNC), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the participating SUCs and community colleges, shall prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,