

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **983**



Introduced by **Rep. ANGELO MARCOS BARBA**
2nd District, Ilocos Norte

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is a country with a rich and diverse culture, as reflected in its varied handloom weaving traditions that have existed since time immemorial. The handloom, has since then, became an integral part of the country's history and heritage.

The handloom weaving industry in the Philippines is a promising sector with the potential to be a lucrative industry while also functioning as a soft power that promotes national identity and expression. The industry has undergone significant effects from industrialization, mass production, and digitalization, making it essential to undertake revitalization efforts.¹

This measure aims to promote and protect the handloom weaving industry in the country by establishing the National Handloom Weaving Development Council. The council will be responsible for developing a roadmap and database for the industry, providing training and intellectual property protection, and promoting and developing the handloom industry.

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



ANGELO MARCOS BARBA

¹Abola, K., *et al.* (2020). Crafting Futures: Sustaining handloom weaving in the Philippines. *British Council of the Philippines*. Retrieved 31 January 2023, from https://www.britishcouncil.ph/sites/default/files/british_council_-_crafting_futures_-_full_report.pdf

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROTECTION OF
THE PHILIPPINE HANDLOOM WEAVING INDUSTRY

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 “*Philippine Handloom Weaving Industry Development Act of 2025.*”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of State Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to instill patriotism and nationalism among the people, especially in the education system, who shall, at all times, be loyal to the Republic and the Filipino people, promote the preferential use of locally manufactured goods that utilize local resources and technologies, celebrate the culture and heritage of the country through the adoption of measures to elevate its value and prestige and, thus, generate wider employment and inclusive greater growth for the country by preserving and nurturing handloom weaving activities thus in turn and nurtures the textile culture and heritage of our people.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms are hereby defined as follows:

(a) *Handloom* – refers to a device used in weaving fabrics by holding the warp threads under tension to facilitate the interweaving of the weft threads;

(b) *Handloom-woven fabric* – refers to fabric woven using a handloom;

(c) *Handloom weaving industry* – composed of the interrelated and interconnected component supply chain realizing the production of textiles through the handloom;

(d) *Neo-ethnic Philippine textiles* – refers to textiles made of or containing natural or indigenous materials, sourced and/or produced in the Philippines using updated, relevant, and green scientific and technological approaches and innovations, while integrating and/or retaining traditional patterns, designs, icons, motifs and/or approaches, and thus, contribute to livelihood generation and in sustaining the local handloom weaving and textile heritage.

SECTION 4. *Establishment of the National Handloom Weaving Development Council.* – The National Handloom Weaving Development Council shall be composed of the following:

(a) Head of the Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) as Chair of the Council;

(b) Head of the Garments and Textile Industry Development Office (GTIDO) of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) as Co-Chair;

(c) Head of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) as Member;

(d) Head of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) as Member;

(e) Head of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Office of the President, as Member;

(f) Head of the Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority (PhilFIDA) of the Department of Agriculture (DA) as Member;

(g) Head of the Philippine Creative Industry Development Council (PCIDC);

(h) The Representative of the Traditional and Cultural Expressions Domain of the Philippine Creative Industries Development Council (PCIDC) as Member;

(i) Head of the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL) as Member;

(j) A representative of an accredited handloom weaving industry association as Member;

(k) Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Culture and the Arts as Member;

(l) Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology as Member;

(m) Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Trade, Commerce, and Entrepreneurship as Member;

(n) Chairperson of the House Committee on Science and Technology as Member;

(o) Chairperson of the House Committee on Trade and Industry as Member;

(p) Chairperson of the House Special Committee on Creative Industry and Performing Arts as Member.

SECTION 5. *The National Handloom Weaving Industry Development Policy.* – The Council shall formulate one (1) year after it is created the National Handloom Weaving Industry Development Policy. This shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) Formulation of the Handloom Weaving Industry Roadmap;
- (b) Innovations in handloom design and engineering;
- (c) Technical support mechanism for sustainable handloom weaving activities;
- (d) Development and promotion of neo-ethnic Philippine textiles;
- (e) Development of Philippine Standards for Handloom Woven Textiles;
- (f) Intellectual property protection framework for textiles;
- (g) Development of a database of Philippine textile;
- (h) Development of a textile-related Technical and Skills and Vocational Programs; and
- (i) Education and Training.

The Council shall implement and monitor the measures to enable the Policy.

SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – The amount of Ten million pesos (P10,000,000.00) is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National

Treasury for the initial implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be appropriated as a distinct and separate item.

SECTION 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Director of the Philippine Textile Research Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), in coordination with the Garment and Textile Industry Development Office of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the National Commission on Culture and the Arts (NCCA), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), the Philippine Fiber Industry Development Authority (PhilFIDA) of the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Intellectual Property Office of the Philippines (IPOPHL), and the Philippine Creative Industries Development Council shall promulgate implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 9. *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 is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,