

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 1258



Introduced by Representative **MARCELINO R. TEODORO**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that “the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.”

In line with this, Republic Act No. 10121, also known as the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010, was enacted to strengthen the country’s policies and systems for disaster preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. It emphasizes the importance of good governance, risk assessment, early warning systems, public awareness, and the reduction of underlying risk factors.

The Philippines is no stranger to disasters. Located along the typhoon belt and the Pacific Ring of Fire, the country experiences an average of 20 tropical cyclones annually, as well as frequent earthquakes and volcanic eruptions. These natural hazards repeatedly threaten lives, livelihoods, and infrastructure.

The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the country’s vulnerability to supply chain disruptions, particularly in accessing critical medical supplies and equipment. Panic buying, hoarding, and supply shortages compromised the ability of healthcare providers and responders to protect and save lives.

This bill seeks to establish a **National Emergency Stockpile**, under the supervision of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) or any succeeding agency. This stockpile will serve as a centralized reserve of essential items—including medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, food supplies, basic commodities, and emergency-related materials and facilities—that can be deployed swiftly during declared national or local emergencies. To ensure rapid response, regional stockpiles will be strategically located and secured against both natural and human-induced threats such as floods, fires, earthquakes, theft, and looting.

The enactment of this measure will strengthen the nation’s disaster preparedness and enhance its ability to respond effectively to future emergencies.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marcelino R. Teodoro".

MARCELINO R. TEODORO
Representative
First District, Marikina City

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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HOUSE BILL NO. 1258

Introduced by **REP. MARCELINO R. TEODORO**

AN ACT

**PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF A DISASTER
FOOD BANK AND STOCKPILE IN EVERY PROVINCE AND HIGHLY URBANIZED
CITY IN THE PHILIPPINES, PROVIDING FOR THEIR MAINTENANCE, AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “*Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile Act*”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is declared the policy of the State to protect the people from the adverse effects of calamities and emergencies by ensuring a sufficient and adequate supply of essential items and materials and preventing whenever possible the dangerous and costly dependence of the Philippines on foreign nations and organizations for suppliers of such items and materials and the country’s vulnerability to production and supply-chain disruptions.

Furthermore, Article II, Section 9 of the Constitution declares that “the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all”. These policies and principles shall be upheld and promoted by ensuring adequate and immediate supply of food, water, and other essential goods during calamities through strategic prepositioning of the same in all provinces and highly urbanized cities of the Philippines.

In achieving the same, the implementers shall likewise promote agriculture, livelihood, and income generation for local producers by using the agricultural products of the locality for the supplies to be stored in the Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile

1 covered by this Act.
2

3 **SEC. 3. *Establishment of Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile.*** – A Disaster Food Bank
4 and Stockpile, hereinafter referred to as the Stockpile, shall be established as
5 central repository and supply reserve of food, water, medicines, vaccines, antidotes,
6 and other critical medical supplies, and other essential goods such as, portable power
7 source, first aid kits, portable light source, clothing, tents, and communication devices in
8 every province and highly urbanized city of the Philippines: *Provided*, That such items
9 and materials shall be non-perishable or shall have a shelf life of at least two (2) years,
10 for food items: *Provided, further*, That if simultaneous establishment of the same in all
11 provinces and highly urbanized cities is impracticable due to financial and logistical
12 considerations, priority shall be given to island provinces or island regions, coastal
13 provinces, earthquake-prone provinces, provinces with a highly active volcano, and other
14 similarly situated provinces.
15

16 The establishment of the Stockpile shall be an inter-agency effort, headed by the
17 National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) and the
18 Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). The expertise and cooperation
19 of the following agencies shall likewise be required for the full and efficient implementation
20 of this Act:
21

- 22 (1) Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH);
 - 23 (2) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI);
 - 24 (3) Department of Agriculture (DA);
 - 25 (4) Department of Science and Technology (DOST); and
 - 26 (5) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).
- 27

28 **SEC. 4. *Location of the Stockpile.*** – The NDRRMC shall determine the actual locations
29 of the Stockpile, taking into consideration equitable distribution among the regions of
30 the country, accessibility, safety and security from natural and human-induced disasters,
31 and the immediate release of the stockpile in case of a disaster or an emergency. The
32 actual locations shall be kept strictly confidential and shall not be publicly disseminated.
33

34 **SEC. 5. *Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile Structure.*** – Every Stockpile shall be housed
35 in a calamity-proof structure or warehouse, hereinafter referred to as the Structure, to
36 be designed and constructed by the DPWH.
37

38 Said Structure shall be designed with the following specifications and considerations:
39

- 40 (a) The Structure shall be able to withstand Category 5 typhoons, high
41 magnitude earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and storm surges;
- 42 (b) The size and volumetric capacity of the Structure shall be sufficient to hold
43

1 supplies of food, water, essential goods, and other basic necessities for the whole
2 population of the province for at least three (3) weeks;

3
4 (c) The Structure shall be powered using sustainable sources such as solar,
5 wind, or hydro-electric power, and shall have backup power in case of power outages;

6
7 (d) Measures shall be taken to ensure that the Structure is secure from
8 unauthorized access, thievery, and looting. Limited and secure access granted
9 to the officials in charge of its maintenance and replenishment shall likewise be
10 included in the design; and

11
12 (e) The Structure shall be vermin-proof and well-insulated and designed to be fire
13 resistant and fully equipped with fire extinguishers in case of fires resulting from
14 electrical fault, accident, or arson.

15
16 **SEC. 6. Quantity and Replenishment of the Stockpile.** – The quantity and volume of
17 the Stockpile shall be strictly and regularly monitored and maintained. Replenishment,
18 replacement, and addition to the Stockpile shall be done on an annual basis or as often
19 as may be deemed necessary. Pursuant to this, a computerized system for the
20 real-time monitoring of the date of expiration and shelf-life of the items and materials in
21 the Stockpile shall be set up to avoid unnecessary wastage and decay.

22
23 If after the lapse of twelve (12) months from any instance of stockpiling, the remaining
24 unused goods in a Stockpile shall be distributed by the DSWD to the indigent
25 communities through any of their programs.

26
27 The stockpiling and regular replenishment of supplies shall be spearheaded and
28 facilitated through the coordinated efforts of the DSWD, DTI, DA, and DOST, with
29 the following guidelines:

30
31 (a) The DSWD shall:

32 (1) Update the institutionalized and standard contents of their family food pack
33 (FFP) and devise each FFP to contain all regular necessities such as, rice,
34 canned good, basic medication, water, and ready-to-eat meals including
35 the locally processed produced products of the local farmers and micro-
36 producers of the respective provinces/localities; and

37
38 (2) Make use of the fund allocation for the procurement of FFPs to purchase the
39 collated products of the local farmers and micro-producers.

40
41 (b) The DA, through their Provincial Directors, shall organize all farmers and micro-
42 producers in their respective provinces and facilitate the production and
43 purchase of their local produce. They shall ensure that the demand for raw
44 materials and agricultural produce are equitably distributed among all farmers
45 and micro-producers in the locality.

1
2 (c) The DTI, through their Provincial Directors, shall facilitate the purchase of non-
3 agricultural products, such as clothing, shelter materials, essential equipment,
4 and other essential goods, from local suppliers and producers. They shall
5 ensure that the demand for such products is equitably distributed among all
6 suppliers and producers in the locality.

7
8 (d) The DOST, through their Provincial Directors, shall facilitate the processing of
9 all agricultural and non-agricultural raw materials and products into preserved
10 goods or ready-to-eat meals, as well as the procurement or production of water
11 filtration devices and systems to be stocked into the Stockpile. The DOST
12 shall likewise ensure that the processed food packs and products do not expire
13 for at least two (2) years.

14
15 In the stockpiling process, the DSWD and the DILG, through their Regional Directors,
16 shall provide the DA, DTI, and DOST the necessary data such as, the number of
17 beneficiaries per barangay, municipality, city, or province, and other necessary
18 information to make sure that the raw materials to be procured and the stocks to be
19 processed will be sufficient for all constituents for at least three (3) weeks following a
20 calamity.

21
22 During the initiation and replenishment of stockpiling processes, the DILG and the
23 DSWD shall monitor any change in the number of beneficiaries to make the
24 necessary adjustment in the process of procurement of raw agricultural and non-
25 agricultural goods and stockpiling.

26
27 **SEC. 7. Utilization and Deployment of the Stockpile.** – In the event of any calamity,
28 the NDRRMC and the DSWD shall initiate the use and deployment of the stocks in
29 the Stockpile. Any order of utilization and deployment shall be accompanied with a time-
30 specific plan for the replenishment and replacement of the withdrawn supplies.

31
32 The NDRRMC, through the local councils, shall issue an order, memorandum or
33 circular to access and distribute the goods in the Stockpile. They shall likewise facilitate
34 the provision of adequate local transportation from the Stockpile to the affected
35 barangays.

36
37 The DSWD and the DILG shall identify the areas affected and coordinate with the
38 NDRRMC for the system of utilization, deployment, and distribution of goods in the
39 Stockpile: *Provided*, That the same shall be efficient and immediate.

40
41 A first-in, first-out system or any similar arrangement shall be adopted in the
42 utilization and deployment of the Stockpile. Items and materials that will be near their
43 expiration dates or the end of their shelf-life shall be donated and transferred to
44 the appropriate government agencies and institutions such as the DSWD, the
45 Department of Health, government hospitals, and local government units for immediate

1 distribution to indigent citizens or other beneficiaries as may be identified by the
2 concerned agency or institution, subject to immediate replenishment and replacement
3 and reservation for imminent calamities or emergencies.

4
5 **SEC. 8. *Prepositioning of the Stockpile.*** – In preparation of the occurrence of a
6 disaster or calamity that can be reasonably predicted using available technology
7 or information, the NDRRMC shall preposition items and materials from the Stockpile
8 in secured Structures near the areas expected to be affected by the disaster or calamity.

9
10 **SEC. 9. *Annual Report.*** – The NDRRMC shall submit to the Office of the President, the
11 Senate of the Philippines, and the House of Representatives, within the first quarter of
12 every year, an annual report relating to the progress of the implementation of this
13 Act. The confidentiality of the locations of the Stockpile shall be observed in the Annual
14 Report.

15
16 **SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within sixty (60) days from the
17 effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC, in consultation with the DSWD, DPWH, DTI, DA,
18 DOST, and other relevant government agencies, shall issue the necessary rules and
19 regulations for its effective implementation.

20
21 **SEC. 11. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this
22 Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the departments and
23 agencies concerned. Thereafter, the funding of which shall be included in the annual
24 General Appropriations Act.

25
26 **SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.*** – If, for any reason any section, subsection, clause, or
27 term of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, such parts not affected by such declaration
28 shall remain in full force and effect.

29
30 **SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.*** – All existing laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
31 proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with
32 the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified, or repealed accordingly.

33
34 **SEC. 14. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in
35 the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

36
37 Approved,