

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

**Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1884



Introduced by Hon. Alexandria P. Gonzales

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In recent years, the Philippines has witnessed a troubling rise in obesity and lifestyle-related diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, and cardiovascular ailments. According to the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), nearly four in ten adults in urban areas are either overweight or obese—a growing public health crisis with significant social and economic costs.

One key contributor to this trend is the increasing consumption of food away from home, especially from fast food chains, cafés, and restaurants, where high-calorie meals are often served without any nutritional disclosure. Unlike pre-packaged food items that carry nutritional labels under existing regulations, food prepared and sold in food service establishments remains largely unregulated in terms of transparency.

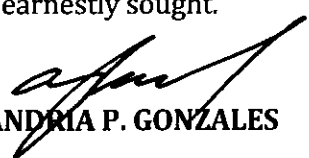
This bill, the Menu Calorie Labeling Act of 2025, seeks to empower consumers by requiring food establishments to disclose calorie content and basic nutritional information of the food and drinks they offer. This will enable Filipinos to make more informed and healthier dietary choices, especially in a society that increasingly relies on convenient dining options.

The proposal aligns with similar policies in other countries such as the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom, where calorie labeling has shown promise in reducing excessive calorie intake and nudging healthier food choices, especially among young adults and working professionals.

The bill is not meant to burden small or traditional food vendors, which is why the requirement is limited to larger chains or high-volume establishments. It also provides for a phased implementation, clear enforcement guidelines, and reasonable exemptions.

This is a preventive health measure that promotes transparency, accountability, and consumer empowerment—all vital in achieving a healthier population. The long-term benefits will include reduced healthcare costs, greater nutritional awareness, and a stronger public health system.

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


ALEXANDRIA P. GONZALES

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AN ACT
MANDATING CALORIE LABELING ON MENUS OF FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS,
INCLUDING FAST FOOD CHAINS, RESTAURANTS, CAFÉS, AND BARS, TO PROMOTE
NUTRITIONAL AWARENESS AND PREVENT OBESITY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 "Menu Calorie Labeling Act of 2025."

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Towards this end, the State shall require transparency in nutritional information of food items sold in food establishments to empower consumers to make informed dietary choices, thereby reducing risks of obesity and related non-communicable diseases.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the following terms are defined:

- a. Food Service Establishment – refers to any entity, including fast food chains, restaurants, cafés, bars, canteens, and other dining establishments, which offer food for sale to the public for immediate consumption, whether dine-in or takeout.
- b. Menu Labeling – refers to the act of indicating calorie information and other nutritional content of food and beverage items offered for sale.
- c. Calorie – refers to the unit of energy derived from food and beverages, typically expressed in kilocalories (kcal).

SECTION 4. *Scope and Coverage.* - This Act shall apply to all food service establishments operating in the Philippines that have:

- a. At least ten (10) branches nationwide under the same trade name or brand; or
- b. An average daily customer traffic of at least one hundred (100) persons.

SECTION 5. *Mandatory Calorie Labeling.* - Covered food service establishments shall:

- a. Indicate the calorie content per serving of each regular food and beverage item on all physical and digital menus, including overhead menu boards and online platforms;
- b. Present calorie information in a clear, visible, and legible format, adjacent to the name or price of the item;
- c. Include a standard statement on menus indicating average daily calorie needs (e.g., "Average adult daily energy requirement is 2,000 kcal."); and
- d. Make available, upon request or via QR code, additional nutritional information including but not limited to total fat, saturated fat, sugar, sodium, carbohydrates, and protein content.

SECTION 6. *Exemptions.* - The following shall be exempt from mandatory calorie labeling:

- a. Temporary or seasonal food items offered for less than 60 days per year;
- b. Custom orders or items modified at the specific request of the customer;
- c. Food establishments operating within educational institutions that already follow Department of Education or CHED nutrition guidelines.

SECTION 7. *Enforcement and Compliance.* - The Department of Health (DOH) in coordination with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and local government units (LGUs) shall be the primary agencies to implement and monitor compliance with this Act. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall assist in promoting awareness among businesses.

A compliance certificate shall be required for continued operation of affected establishments.

SECTION 8. - Any food service establishment found in violation of this Act shall be liable to:

- a. A warning and a grace period of thirty (30) days to comply for first offense;
- b. A fine of Twenty Thousand Pesos (₱20,000.00) for second offense;
- c. A fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (₱50,000.00) and suspension of business permit for third offense;
- d. Subsequent violations may lead to revocation of business license upon due process.

SECTION 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DOH, in coordination with the FDA, DTI, and LGUs, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the effective enforcement of this Act.

SECTION 10. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary to implement the provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended or repealed accordingly.

SECTION 13. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,