

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2558



Introduced by **Hon. Janice V. Degamo**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The public market is the economic and social heart of many municipalities across the Philippines. It is a place not only for trade, but for daily community life, livelihood, and interaction. In the Municipality of Valencia, Negros Oriental, a growing town just west of Dumaguete City, the local public market has long served as a vital space for vendors, fisherfolk, farmers, and consumers alike.

However, as the municipality experiences steady growth in population and commerce, the present market infrastructure has become outdated, congested, and insufficient in meeting basic standards of sanitation, safety, accessibility, and environmental sustainability. The lack of proper drainage, waste management, and inclusive facilities further hinders both productivity and public health.

This bill, seeks to address these long-standing issues by funding the full rehabilitation and modernization of the Valencia Public Market. The envisioned facility shall feature:

- a) Clean and accessible wet and dry sections;
- b) Energy-efficient lighting and solar power systems;
- c) Safe and sanitary water access, toilets, and waste disposal units;
- d) PWD-accessible structures and vendor-friendly design;
- e) Space-saving layouts that respect the needs of local micro and small enterprises.

This bill mandates a participatory planning and design process involving vendors, cooperatives, and local residents to ensure that the market reflects the needs of the people it serves. It also recognizes that economic dignity begins at the local level and that empowering small vendors, farmers, and fisherfolk with clean, secure, and organized marketplaces is essential to inclusive growth. The modernization of the Valencia Public Market will not only uplift daily commerce, but also enhance public health, tourism potential, and the overall quality of life for all Valencia residents.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


JANICE V. DEGAMO
Representative, 3rd District of Negros Oriental

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AN ACT
MODERNIZING THE PUBLIC MARKET IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF
VALENCIA, NEGROS ORIENTAL, THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION OF
SANITARY, GREEN, AND VENDOR-FRIENDLY FACILITIES, 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 "Valencia Public Market Modernization Act."

Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to promote economic activity, protect public health, and support sustainable development at the local level. Public markets, as vital centers of livelihood and trade, must be upgraded to meet modern standards of sanitation, safety, accessibility, and environmental responsibility.

Section 3. *Objectives* This Act seeks to:

- a) Renovate and modernize the Valencia Public Market to ensure clean, safe, and efficient facilities for vendors and consumers;
- b) Incorporate green infrastructure, such as rainwater harvesting, solar lighting, and waste segregation;
- c) Enhance public health through proper drainage, ventilation, and waste management systems;
- d) Promote economic growth and livelihood opportunities for micro and small vendors;
- e) Establish inclusive spaces for women, senior citizens, and persons with disabilities (PWDs).

Section 4. *Scope of the Project.* The modernization shall include, but not limited to:

- a) Construction of sanitary wet and dry sections, with improved drainage and flooring;
- b) Installation of solar panels and LED lighting for energy efficiency;
- c) Provision of clean water access points and handwashing stations;
- d) Construction of toilets and waste disposal areas, in accordance with DOH sanitation codes;
- e) Designated unloading bays, vendor stalls, and communal spaces;
- f) Incorporation of PWD-friendly ramps, signage, and vendor kiosks;
- g) Setup of segregated waste bins and composting units;
- h) Provision for market administration offices and security/safety features (CCTV, fire exits, alarms, etc.)

Section 5. *Implementation.* The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) shall be the lead implementing agency, in close coordination with the following:

- a) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI);
- b) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- c) Department of Health (DOH);
- d) The Local Government Unit (LGU) of Valencia;
- e) Local vendors' associations.

The LGU of Valencia shall lead the planning and community consultations and shall ensure that vendor displacement is minimized during construction.

Section 6. *Participatory Design Process.* The LGU of Valencia, with support from the DILG and DTI, shall organize consultations with market vendors, cooperatives, tricycle associations, and other stakeholders to ensure that the design and operations of the new market reflect local needs and promote inclusive economic growth.

Section 7. *Appropriations.* The amount of One Hundred Twenty Million Pesos (₱120,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial implementation of this Act, to be sourced from the national budget under the General Appropriations Act (GAA). Additional funding may be sourced from:

- a) Public-Private Partnerships (PPP);
- b) Municipal Development Fund Office (MDFO);
- c) Local Government Support Fund (LGSF).

Section 8. *Monitoring and Evaluation.* The DILG and DPWH shall jointly submit annual progress reports to the Congress on the status of the implementation, including fund utilization, vendor satisfaction, and economic outcomes. The Commission on Audit (COA) shall conduct a full audit of the use of public funds under this Act.

Section 9. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 10. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 11. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,