



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Twentieth Congress
1st Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. **2674**



Introduced by Rep. Elisa T. Kho and Rep. Antonio T. Kho

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill, to be known as the "Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile Act of 2025," establishes a critical policy for the Philippine government: to protect its citizens' right to life by guaranteeing immediate and sufficient access to food and essential supplies during and after any disaster. Recognizing the country's vulnerability to natural and human-induced calamities, the bill emphasizes the urgent need for a decentralized, accessible, and well-maintained network of food banks and stockpiles across the archipelago.

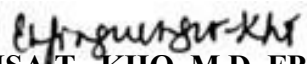
The bill mandates the establishment and construction of a Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile (DFBS) in every province and highly urbanized city within one year of its effectivity. These facilities must be strategically located, disaster-resilient, and capable of storing enough food and non-food relief goods to cover at least 25% of the local population's immediate needs for three days. The management and operation of these DFBS will primarily fall under the respective Local Government Units (LGUs) through their Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (LDRRMOs), in close coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the Department of Agriculture (DA).

This collaborative effort will ensure standardized procurement, quality control, inventory management, and distribution protocols, with a strong emphasis on utilizing locally produced goods and preventing wastage through regular checks and timely distribution. Initial funding for the DFBS establishment will come from national disaster funds, followed by annual appropriations in the General Appropriations Act, and a portion of local disaster funds, supplemented by national government technical and financial assistance.

The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) will be the primary coordinating body, ensuring inter-agency collaboration and encouraging partnerships with the private sector and non-government organizations. Robust monitoring and evaluation frameworks, including regular audits and annual reports, are also mandated to ensure accountability and effectiveness.

Finally, the Act provides for the formulation of Implementing Rules and Regulations by the NDRRMC to ensure its smooth and effective implementation, along with standard legal clauses to ensure its legal soundness and immediate effectivity upon publication.

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


REP. ELISA T. KHO, M.D.,FPCCP


REP. ANTONIO T. KHO



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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 of 2025."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect the right to life of its citizens by ensuring immediate and adequate access to food and essential supplies during and in the aftermath of natural and human-induced disasters. The State recognizes the urgent need to strengthen disaster preparedness and response capabilities by establishing a decentralized, accessible, and well-maintained network of food banks and stockpiles across the archipelago.

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. As used in this Act:

- a. Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile (DFBS): Refers to a facility or designated area within every province and highly urbanized city responsible for the procurement, storage, and distribution of essential food items and other non-food relief goods for disaster-affected populations.
- b. Essential Food Items: Refers to non-perishable food products that are high in nutritional value and have a long shelf life, such as rice, canned goods, dried noodles, biscuits, potable water, and fortified food supplements.

c. Non-Food Relief Goods: Refers to essential items other than food, such as hygiene kits, blankets, sleeping mats, temporary shelters, first aid supplies, and other basic necessities.

d. Highly Urbanized City (HUC): Refers to a city with a minimum population of two hundred thousand (200,000) inhabitants, as certified by the National Statistics Office, and an annual income of at least Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000.00) for the last two (2) consecutive years based on 1991 constant prices, as certified by the Department of Finance.

e. Local Government Unit (LGU): Refers to provinces and highly urbanized cities.

f. National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC): The principal government agency responsible for disaster preparedness, response, and rehabilitation.

g. Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD): The primary government agency responsible for social welfare and development, including disaster relief operations.

h. Department of Agriculture (DA): The primary government agency responsible for the agriculture sector, including food security.

SECTION 4. Establishment and Construction of Disaster Food Banks and Stockpiles.

a. Within one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act, a Disaster Food Bank and Stockpile (DFBS) shall be established and constructed in every province and highly urbanized city in the Philippines.

b. The DFBS shall be strategically located in areas that are accessible, less prone to natural hazards, and have adequate infrastructure to facilitate the rapid ingress and egress of relief goods.

c. The design and construction of each DFBS shall adhere to disaster-resilient building standards as prescribed by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and other relevant agencies, ensuring its structural integrity during calamities.

d. Each DFBS shall have adequate storage capacity to cater to the immediate food and non-food relief needs of at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the projected population of the province or highly urbanized city for a period of at least three (3) days, based on the latest census data and disaster vulnerability assessments. This capacity shall be reviewed and adjusted periodically by the NDRRMC in consultation with LGUs.

SECTION 5. Management and Operation of Disaster Food Banks and Stockpiles.

a. The DFBS in each province and highly urbanized city shall be primarily managed and operated by the respective Provincial Government or City Government, through their Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (LDRRMOs), in close coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) regional and provincial/city offices.

- b. The DSWD, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture (DA), shall provide guidelines for the standardized procurement, quality control, inventory management, and distribution protocols for essential food items and non-food relief goods.
- c. The DFBS shall maintain a diversified inventory of essential food items, giving priority to locally produced goods where feasible, to support local economies and ensure cultural appropriateness.
- d. Regular inventory checks, stock rotation, and replenishment shall be conducted to ensure the freshness and usability of stored items. Items nearing expiration shall be promptly distributed to vulnerable communities through existing social welfare programs, ensuring no wastage.
- e. The LDRRMOs, in coordination with the DSWD and other relevant agencies, shall develop and implement a comprehensive distribution plan for relief goods from the DFBS during disaster operations, prioritizing the most vulnerable populations.

SECTION 6. Funding.

- a. The initial funding for the establishment and construction of the Disaster Food Banks and Stockpiles shall be charged against the unprogrammed funds of the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund (NDRRMF), or from such other sources as may be identified by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).
- b. Thereafter, an annual appropriation shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for the maintenance, replenishment, and operational expenses of the Disaster Food Banks and Stockpiles.
- c. Local Government Units shall allocate a portion of their respective Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Funds (LDRRMF) for the specific purpose of maintaining and replenishing their DFBS, in accordance with existing laws and regulations.
- d. The DSWD, DA, and other relevant national government agencies shall provide technical assistance and, when necessary, augmentation funds to LGUs for the procurement of specialized equipment and supplies for the DFBS.

SECTION 7. Inter-Agency Coordination.

- a. The NDRRMC shall serve as the primary coordinating body for the implementation of this Act, ensuring seamless coordination among national government agencies, local government units, and other stakeholders.
- b. The DSWD, DA, DILG, DOH, DPWH, and other relevant agencies shall collaborate in developing comprehensive guidelines, standards, and training programs related to the establishment, operation, and management of the DFBS.

c. Partnerships with the private sector, non-government organizations (NGOs), and community-based organizations shall be encouraged for the donation of goods, logistical support, and volunteer services for the DFBS.

SECTION 8. Monitoring and Evaluation.

a. The NDRRMC, through its appropriate sub-committees, shall establish a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the DFBS network.

b. Regular audits of the DFBS, including inventory, financial records, and operational procedures, shall be conducted by the Commission on Audit (COA) and other relevant oversight bodies.

c. An annual report on the status and operations of the DFBS nationwide shall be submitted by the NDRRMC to the Office of the President, the Senate President, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

SECTION 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC, in consultation with the DSWD, DA, DILG, DPWH, and other relevant government agencies and stakeholders, shall formulate and promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

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

SECTION 11. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,