

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 3551

Introduced by REP. FAUSTINO 'BOJIE' G. DY III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 11037 or the "Masustansyang Pagkain Para Sa Batang Pilipino Act" established a national feeding program to address hunger and undernutrition among Filipino children by providing them free meals.

The program has the following components and coverage: Supplemental Feeding for Day Care Children, School-Based Feeding Program; Milk Feeding Program; Micronutrient Supplements; Health Examination, Vaccination, Deworming; Gulayan sa Paaralan; Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH); and Integrated Nutrition Education, Behavioral Transformation, and Mobilization.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is the lead agency for the supplemental feeding program for day care children and the Department of Education (DepEd) is the lead implementer for the school-based feeding program. In particular, the law requires the DSWD and the DepEd to provide one fortified meal to undernourished kids for not less than 120 days in a year.

This requirement, aside from benefiting Filipino children, also presents a livelihood opportunity for small-scale farmers. The farmers can help supply the vegetables and other produce needed in making healthy meals for the children.

Hence, this Bill which amends Republic Act No. 11037 by mandating that 30 percent or more of the supplies needed to implement the national feeding program shall be procured from small-scale farmers. Accordingly, the Department of Agriculture shall keep and regularly update a list of Small-Scale Producers and the Department of Agrarian Reform shall institute support services for agrarian reform beneficiaries who are part of said list.

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



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AN ACT
MANDATING THE PROCUREMENT FROM SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS
IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL FEEDING PROGRAM,
AMENDING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11037,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "MASUSTANSYANG PAGKAIN PARA SA
BATANG PILIPINO ACT"

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

SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 11037, otherwise known as the "Masustansyang Pagkain Para sa Batang Pilipino" Act is hereby amended by inserting the following provisions after Section 7 of the said Act:

SECTION 8. PROCUREMENT OF PRODUCE FROM SMALL SCALE PRODUCERS - THE GOVERNMENT IS, HEREBY, MANDATED TO ENSURE THAT 30% OR MORE OF THE SUPPLIES NEEDED TO IMPLEMENT THE NATIONAL FEEDING PROGRAM ARE PROCURED FROM SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS.

SECTION 9. REGISTRY OF SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS - THE DA SHALL KEEP AND REGULARLY UPDATE A LIST OF SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS. IT SHALL USE THE REGISTRY FOR BASIC SECTORS IN AGRICULTURE (RSBSA), THE REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE (RFO) LIST OF BENEFICIARIES, THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES'S NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL FISHERFOLK REGISTRATION (BFAR FISH R) FOR FISHERFOLK, AND ANY OTHER LIST IT MAY DEEM NECESSARY TO KEEP THE REGISTRY UP TO DATE. FURTHERMORE, THE DA IS REQUIRED TO COORDINATE WITH THE DSWD TO CROSS-MATCH AND COMPARE THE REGISTRY WITH THE DSWD'S NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD TARGETING SYSTEM

FOR POVERTY REDUCTION (NHTS-PR) TO AVOID
DUPLICATION AND REDUNDANCY.

SECTION 10. SUPPORT SERVICES FOR AGRARIAN REFORM
BENEFICIARIES WHO ARE SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS -
THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM (DAR) SHALL
INSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING BENEFITS FOR AGRARIAN
REFORM BENEFICIARIES WHO ARE SMALL-SCALE
PRODUCERS AS CONTAINED IN THEIR LIST OF
BENEFICIARIES:

- A. TRAINING ON PRODUCTION, HARVESTING,
PROCUREMENT PROCESS OF THIS ACT, AND ANY
OTHER TOPIC THE DAR SEES FIT;
- B. SUBSIDIZED FARM EQUIPMENT;
- C. FACILITIES FOR STORAGE AND HARVESTING;
- D. CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SMALL-SCALE FARMER;
- E. ACCESS TO CROP INSURANCE;
- F. ACCESS TO CREDIT/LOW INTEREST RATES.

SECTION 2. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11037 is hereby renumbered as Section 11, and all succeeding sections of the same Act are hereby renumbered accordingly.

SECTION 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DA and the DAR, in consultation with DSWD, DEPED, the National Nutrition Council (NNC), the Food and Nutrition Research Institute (FNRI), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and such other relevant government agencies, nongovernment organizations, and development partners, shall promulgate their respective rules and regulations for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, rules, regulations, executive orders, proclamations, presidential decrees and other issuances inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,