

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Philippines

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **5708**



Introduced by **HON. NICANOR M. BRIONES**
Representative, AGAP Party List

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to a Department of Science and Technology survey in 2018, rice has been one of the top most wasted foods in the Filipino household. The Philippine Rice Research Institute recently reported that daily rice wastage per household was at an average of 53 grams of cooked rice¹. This is equivalent to more than 300,000 metric tons of rice, which could have been allocated to feed around 2.79 million Filipinos.

Given the current issues in food supply and food inflation in the country, we cannot permit such volume of food wastage to continue. It is imperative, therefore, to reduce rice wastage in accordance with our goal of achieving food security.

The 1987 Constitution has mandated the State to promote a just and dynamic social order that frees the people from poverty, and promote social justice in all phases of national development. The State likewise adheres to the policy of achieving food security and self-sufficiency and poverty reduction. As such, many of our government programs have been geared towards these goals.

This bill is filed in support of these policies. Mandating commercial food establishments to offer of half-cup of rice in their menu will allow Filipinos to order just the right amount of rice they can consume. Moreover, it will allow Filipinos to save money by purchasing only the amount of rice needed. In the long run, it is hoped that this will help develop a sense of responsibility and awareness among Filipinos on their food consumption.

With the foregoing premises considered, this representation fervently

¹ Philippine Rice Research Institute. 30 November 2024. PH saves P3.6B worth of rice. Retrieved at <https://www.philrice.gov.ph/ph-saves-p3-6b-worth-of-rice/> on 28 October 2025.

seeks support in the approval of this bill. This is a re-filed bill from the 19th Congress.



NICANOR M. BRIONES
Representative
AGAP Partylist

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AN ACT
MANDATING ALL COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS SERVING FOOD TO
THE PUBLIC TO PROVIDE ONE-HALF CUP OF RICE SERVING AS A
MENU OPTION, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF SUCH,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title of Act. - This Act shall be known as the “Half-cup Rice Act of 2023”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to mandate all commercial establishments serving food to the public to include half-cup or one hundred grams (100g) of cooked rice serving option in their menus.

SEC 3. Penalties. – Any business establishment who is found violating this Act shall be meted with a fine in the amount of Twenty Thousand Pesos (Php20,000.00) for the first offense; Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php50,000.00) for the second offense; and One Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php100,000.00) and suspension of license or permit to operate for a period of not less than thirty (30) days for the third and subsequent offenses.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Agriculture shall formulate the rules and regulations for the proper implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, or regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,