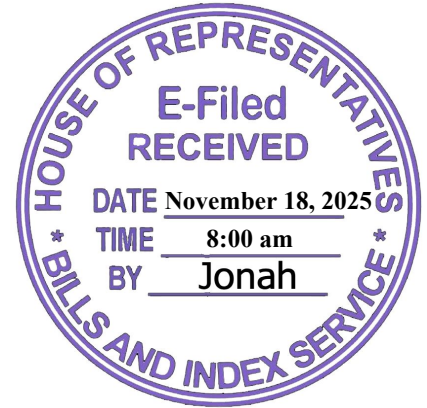




Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6074



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**Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre**

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**AN ACT**  
**INSTITUTING THE CHILDHOOD OBESITY PREVENTION ACT,**  
**BANNING THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF SUGARY FOOD AND**  
**BEVERAGES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS, MANDATING DAILY PHYSICAL**  
**ACTIVITY, AND ESTABLISHING PARENT NUTRITION EDUCATION**  
**PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Childhood obesity continues to be one of the fastest-growing public health crises in the Philippines, which directly impacts the physical and mental well-being of children and adolescents. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), childhood obesity is now a global epidemic, with far-reaching consequences for future health. The Philippines has seen a rapid increase in the prevalence of childhood obesity, with a direct link to poor dietary habits and sedentary lifestyles.

Internationally, the WHO and United Nations (UN) have called for urgent action to address the growing epidemic of childhood obesity, urging governments to implement school food policies that reduce the consumption of sugary foods and increase physical activity levels. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being), and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), align with the objectives of this bill, emphasizing the importance of preventive measures in improving child nutrition and health.

This bill aims to:

- a. Prohibit the sale of sugary food and beverages in public schools to curb the growing obesity rates among children;
- b. Institutionalize daily physical activity as part of the regular curriculum to encourage healthier lifestyles;
- c. Educate parents and guardians on proper nutrition to ensure that healthy habits are practiced at home and reinforced in the community; and
- d. Enforce penalties for non-compliance to ensure that schools, vendors, and parents actively adhere to the provisions of this Act.

By aligning with international recommendations, the Childhood Obesity Prevention Act not only addresses the immediate health concerns of Filipino children but also contributes to achieving the global health targets set by the WHO and the UN SDGs.

This bill is a critical step toward reducing childhood obesity, improving the overall health of future generations, and fulfilling the nation's commitment to international health and nutrition goals.

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



**FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ**



**YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ**



**ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ**



**JUDE A. ACIDRE**



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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “*Childhood Obesity Prevention Act.*”

**SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of children to health and proper nutrition. The State shall pursue measures to prevent childhood obesity, which poses long-term risks to public health, quality of life, and national productivity.

**SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.*** For purposes of this Act:

- a. “*Sugary food and beverages*” refers to the products containing high

amounts of added sugar, including but not limited to carbonated soft drinks, powdered juice drinks, candies, sweetened baked goods, and sugar-laden snacks.

- b. “*Public schools*” refers to all state-funded elementary and secondary schools.
- c. “*Physical activity*” refers to the structured or unstructured bodily movements that promote physical fitness, including sports, games, and exercise.

**SEC. 4. *Prohibition.*** – The sale, distribution, and promotion of sugary food and beverages shall be prohibited within all public elementary and secondary schools, including school canteens, cafeterias, and within a 100-meter radius of school premises.

**SEC. 5. *Mandated Daily Physical Activity.*** – All public elementary and secondary schools shall implement a minimum of thirty (30) minutes of daily physical activity for students, which may include structured physical education, supervised play, or organized sports.

**SEC. 6. *Parent Nutrition Education Program.*** – The Department of Education (DepEd), in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), shall develop and implement a Parent Nutrition Education Program to be conducted at least twice annually, aimed at:

- a. Promoting healthy food preparation at home;
- b. Raising awareness on the risks of childhood obesity;
- c. Encouraging family involvement in physical activities.

**SEC. 7. *Penalties for Violation.*** – Non-compliance to this measure shall subject the following stakeholders to specific sanctions;

a. *Schools and Educational Institutions.* – Any public elementary or secondary school found violating the provisions of Section 4 (ban on sugary food and beverages) of this Act shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. *First Offense* – Written warning and mandatory attendance in a compliance seminar organized by the Department of Education (DepEd) within 30 days.
2. *Second Offense* – Suspension of school canteen operations for 30 days, with a fine of ₱50,000.
3. *Third Offense* – Suspension of school canteen operations for 60 days, with a fine of ₱100,000. A formal notice of non-compliance will be issued to the school, and further action may be taken based on the gravity of the violations.

b. *School Personnel.* – Personnel responsible for violating the ban on sugary food and beverages (such as school canteen operators, suppliers, or vendors) shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. *First Offense.* – Written warning and mandatory retraining on nutrition standards and healthy food choices.
2. *Second Offense.* – Fine of ₱10,000 and disqualification from participating in any school nutrition-related activities for one year.
3. *Third Offense.* – Termination of employment, with a ban on future employment in public educational institutions.

c. *Parents and Guardians.* – Parents and guardians who fail to attend the Parent Nutrition Education Program as mandated in Section 6 of this Act shall be subject to the following penalties:

1. *First Offense.* – Written warning and notification for mandatory

attendance at the next available session.

2. *Second Offense.* – Fine of ₱2,000 for failure to attend the nutrition program, unless a valid reason is provided.
3. *Third Offense.* – Fine of ₱5,000, along with a requirement to complete an online nutrition education program, if physical attendance is not possible.

**SEC. 8. *Compliance and Monitoring.*** – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall be responsible for monitoring and ensuring compliance with the provisions of this Act in public schools. The DepEd shall conduct regular audits and inspections of school canteens and food vendors to ensure adherence to the ban on sugary foods and beverages.

The National Nutrition Council (NNC), in coordination with the Department of Health, shall oversee the Parent Nutrition Education Program and track participation. Failure to meet the required educational sessions shall be flagged for further action.

**SEC. 9. *Reporting and Transparency.*** – A comprehensive annual report on the implementation of this Act shall be submitted by the Department of Education to the Congress of the Philippines detailing: (a) Number of schools found in violation of Section 4; (b) Number of personnel penalized; (c) Number of parents and guardians educated under the Parent Nutrition Education Program; (d) Statistical data on childhood obesity prevalence in schools.

This report will also be made available to the public through official channels.

**SEC. 10. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of

this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA) under the budget of the Department of Health.

**SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)*.** – The Department of Education, Department of Health, and the National Nutrition Council shall jointly issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

**SEC. 12. *Separability Clause*.** – If, for any reason, any part or provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, other parts of provisions thereof not affected shall thereby continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause*.** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, and other issues or parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 14. *Effectivity*.** – This Act shall take fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,