



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

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6076



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

AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR DAY CARE CENTERS REHABILITATION AND
IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, CREATING DAY CARE CENTERS
REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FUND, APPROPRIATING
FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XV, Section 3(2) provides that the State shall defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development.

The maintenance of daycare centers is crucial for fostering a child's early cognitive, emotional, and social development, building foundational skills for lifelong learning. They provide a safe and stimulating environment essential for long-term growth and economic development. Further, interacting with a diverse group of peers helps children learn valuable social skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

In the recent study of the Philippine Institute for Development Studies, it was provided that as of 2024, the Philippines faces a shortage of around 33,000 daycare centers—far below the estimated need of 96,000 centers.

Thus, this bill seeks to create a Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Council under the Department of Social Welfare and Development, tasked to formulate and adopt a comprehensive program and guidelines to resolve the shortages of day care Centers in the country. Further, said council shall formulate a plan for the rehabilitation and improvement of existing centers, address deficiencies in day care materials, equipment and furniture and fixtures.

It is believed that the passage of this bill will be a crucial step in ensuring that every child has the support and opportunities they need to thrive, which will eventually enable them to become positive contributors to society.

Finally, we recognize Rep. Wilfredo Mark M. Enverga of the First District of Quezon for filing a similar bill in the Nineteenth Congress.

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



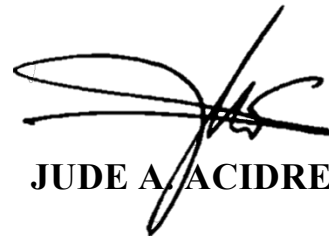
FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ



YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ



ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ



JUDE A. ACIDRE



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

SECTION. 1. Title - This Act shall be known as "Day Care Centers Rehabilitation and Improvement Act".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and to provide them with special protection against all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty,

exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development. Filipino children up to six (6) years of age deserve the best care and attention at the family and community levels. Towards this end, the State shall endeavor to provide Filipino children in every barangay facilities that are adequate, safe and conducive to enable the children achieve their holistic development. Accordingly, the State shall ensure a continuing effort towards rehabilitation and improvement of all day care centers nationwide.

SEC. 3. Objective. - There shall be established a comprehensive and continuing Day Care Centers Rehabilitation and Improvement Program, hereinafter referred to as the "Program" which shall have the following objectives:

- a) To address the inadequacy of day care centers in the country;
- b) To rehabilitate/improve and renovate dilapidated centers;
- c) To improve the delivery of day care services; and
- d) To foster an environment in the center conducive for barangay level total development and protection of children.

SEC. 4. Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Council. – There is hereby created a Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Council in the Department of Social Welfare and Development which shall be headed by the Department Secretary as Chairperson and representatives of various national leagues in the provinces, cities and municipalities as member.

The council shall formulate and adopt a comprehensive program and guidelines to resolve the shortages of day care Centers, its rehabilitation and improvement of centers, deficiencies in day care materials, equipment and furniture and fixtures.

SEC. 5. Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund. - There is hereby created a trust fund, to be known as Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund for which the sum of Fifty Billion Pesos (P50,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated. The total amount allocated herein shall be used exclusively for the construction, rehabilitation and/or repair, renovation of day care centers in the country, the procurement of day care materials, equipment, furniture and fixtures pursuant to the program and guidelines as determined by the Council.

Provided, that all unexpended balance, after the completion of the work and/or procurement authorized for each fiscal year, shall at once revert to the National Treasury to the credit of the appropriation provided for under this Act and shall not be withdrawn from it nor expended except for the purpose indicated herein. Such unexpended balance for any fiscal year shall be added to the appropriation for the next fiscal year and expended accordingly.

SEC. 6. Bidding. - Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, funds allocated under the provision of this Act shall be executed through public bidding in accordance with the existing government rules and regulations.

SEC. 7. Appropriation. - The amount needed to implement this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year.

SEC. 8. Separability. - Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.

SEC. 9. 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,