

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **6125**



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Introduced by **REP. NATHANIEL “Atty. Nat” M. ODUCAO**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill establishes a comprehensive framework for the development, coordination, and strengthening of the Philippine National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) and the formulation of a National Quality Policy (NQP) that will promote a culture of quality, competitiveness, and consumer protection across all sectors of the economy. It also proposes the creation of the Philippine National Quality Infrastructure Coordinating Council (PNQICC) to ensure coherence, collaboration, and accountability among government agencies, the private sector, and other stakeholders engaged in standardization, accreditation, metrology, and conformity assessment.

In today’s rapidly evolving global economy, the quality of a country’s products and services shapes its reputation, competitiveness, and capacity for growth. While the Philippines is rich in innovation and enterprise, it faces challenges in meeting international quality and safety standards due to fragmented institutions, outdated regulations, and limited coordination among quality-related agencies. These gaps hinder industries from effectively competing in global markets and expose consumers to unsafe and substandard products.

Quality infrastructure includes standards, metrology, accreditation, and conformity assessment. These are the ones that form the essential foundation of industrial development and trade. It guarantees that products are safe, reliable, and fit for purpose; measurements are accurate and internationally recognized; businesses operate on a level playing field built on trust and technical competence. Without a strong NQI, even the most innovative industries cannot achieve global competitiveness.

Countries worldwide have strengthened their national quality infrastructures to integrate into international value chains and comply with trade agreements under the World Trade Organization and the ASEAN Economic Community. The Philippines must follow suit. This bill proactively harmonizes the country’s fragmented quality systems and institutions, provides clear policy direction, and aligns with global best practices and standards.

To accomplish this, the bill creates the Philippine National Quality Infrastructure Coordinating Council, co-chaired by the Secretaries of the Department of Trade and Industry and the Department of Science and Technology, with participation from key national agencies, local governments, industry representatives, and the academe. This council will serve as the central body responsible for formulating the National Quality Policy, guiding national standardization and accreditation strategies, and ensuring the country’s metrology and testing systems are accurate, credible, and internationally traceable.

A key feature of this measure is the institutionalization of a National Quality Policy, which will be the government's principal tool to ensure Philippine products and services meet or exceed consumer needs and expectations, and are designed and produced safely, reliably, and sustainably. The Policy also promotes a culture of quality that fosters continuous improvement, ethical business practices, and the pursuit of excellence across society.

The bill affirms the vital role of the private sector in building a competitive and quality-driven economy. Strengthening collaboration between government and industry ensures quality standards become enablers of innovation, market access, and consumer trust rather than mere regulatory requirements.

Importantly, this measure embraces a whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach, recognizing that quality is a shared responsibility. It brings together public agencies, industry groups, consumer organizations, and research institutions to uphold standards that protect citizens, boost industrial competitiveness, and promote sustainable development.

This bill is not just about compliance; it is about confidence. It does not oppose business; it champions competitiveness. It envisions a Philippines where every product, process, and service reflects integrity, precision, and pride; where Filipino industries can compete and thrive globally; and where consumers are assured of safety, fairness, and value.

In a world that increasingly rewards excellence and trust, the Philippines must meet the challenge. This measure offers a forward-looking, coherent, and inclusive framework that ensures the country's quality infrastructure becomes a true foundation for inclusive and sustainable national progress.

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



**REP. NATHANIEL "ATTY. NAT" M. ODUCADO**  
1Tahanan Party List

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**AN ACT TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL QUALITY POLICY DEFINING THE  
PHILIPPINE NATIONAL QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE (NQI) THEREOF,  
CREATING FOR THIS PURPOSE, THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL QUALITY  
INFRASTRUCTURE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

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

1       **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** —This Act shall be known as the “*National Quality*  
2       *Infrastructure Development Act.*”

3       **SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** —It is hereby declared the policy of the State to adopt a  
4       culture of quality among its citizens to encourage competitiveness among firms, to facilitate trade,  
5       and to promote consumer welfare in accordance with good regulatory practices. The State shall  
6       adopt and strengthen its quality infrastructure network that would support national policies and  
7       strategies on economic development, industrialization, trade and investments, ease of doing  
8       business, consumer protection, and environmental protection, while adhering to international best  
9       practices and international standards. The State recognizes the critical role of the private sector in  
10      the national quality infrastructure, and shall promote a transparent, participatory, coherent, and  
11      efficient mechanism to enable businesses to effectively comply with market requirements and  
12      consumer needs. Pursuant thereto, the State shall also develop a National Quality Policy (NQP)  
13      that will further strengthen the Philippine National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) to provide the  
14      necessary institutional apparatus so that the country’s private sector can produce products and  
15      services of a prescribed national or international standard; and the verification of conformance to  
16      these standards can be achieved by internationally accepted means. It is hereby declared the policy  
17      of the State to harmonize the fragmented quality programs and policies, as well as institutionalize  
18      effective cooperation and coordination among the NQI institutions in the country, as well as with  
19      their regional and international counterparts. The NQI shall serve both the regulatory authorities  
20      and the marketplace in order to comply with the State’s constitutional mandate to protect consumer  
21      rights and encourage industries and other organizations to adopt quality improvements and best  
22      practices into their day-to-day activities.

1       **SEC. 3. Coverage.** —This Act shall apply to activities, processes programs, and to public  
2 and private institutions relevant to standards, accreditation, metrology, conformity assessment, and  
3 other matters incidental thereto.

4       **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** —For purposes of this Act, the following terms are defined  
5 as follows:

- 6       a. Accreditation refers to a third-party attestation conveying a formal demonstration  
7       of the competence of a conformity assessment body to carry out specific conformity  
8       assessment tasks. It provides a basis for uniform technical policy and conditions for  
9       mutual recognition at the international level;
- 10      b. Calibration refers to the operation that is used to establish that the measuring  
11      instruments used remain accurate within specified parameters;
- 12      c. Certification refers to a third-party attestation of conformance to standards,  
13      technical regulations, other specified requirements or guidelines related to  
14      products, processes, systems or persons. This can be accomplished by conducting  
15      inspection, verification, audit and/or testing;
- 16      d. Conformity Assessment refers to the demonstration that specified requirements  
17      relating to a product, process, system, person or body are fulfilled;
- 18      e. Conformity Assessment Body refers to a body that performs conformity assessment  
19      activities and that can be the object of accreditation;
- 20      f. Culture of Quality refers to the set of group values that guide how improvements  
21      are made to everyday working practices and consequent outputs;
- 22      g. Inspection refers to the examination of a product, process, service, or installation,  
23      or their design and determination of its conformity with specific requirements or,  
24      on the basis of professional judgment with general requirements;
- 25      h. Metrology refers to the science of measurement and its application, which includes  
26      all theoretical and practical aspects of measurement;
- 27      i. National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) refers to policy, legal, regulatory, and  
28      administrative frameworks, and the institutional arrangements, public and private,  
29      to implement standardization, accreditation, and totality of the testing, certification,  
30      and measurement necessary to provide acceptable evidence that products and  
31      services meet the defined government and market standards.
- 32      j. National Quality Policy (NQP) refers to the basic government instrument for  
33      establishing and overseeing the quality infrastructure system;
- 34      k. Philippine National Standard (PNS) refers to a document established by consensus  
35      and promulgated by the Bureau of Philippine Standards, which provides, for  
36      common and repeated use, rules, guidelines, or characteristics for activities or their  
37      results which aim at the achievement of the optimum degree of order in a given  
38      context;
- 39      l. Quality refers to the degree to which a set of inherent characteristics fulfill  
40      requirements;
- 41      m. Standard refers to the document approved by a recognized body that provides for  
42      common and repeated use, rules, guidelines, or characteristics for products or  
43      related processes and production methods, with which compliance is not

- 1 mandatory. It may also include terminology, symbols, packaging, marking, or  
2 labeling requirements as they apply to a product, process, or production method;
- 3 n. Standardization refers to the process of developing technical specifications of  
4 standards based on consensus among all interested parties, consumers, trade  
5 associations, manufacturers and providers of goods and services, non-  
6 governmental organizations (NGOs), and government agencies and  
7 instrumentalities;
- 8 o. Testing refers to the determination of product's characteristics against the  
9 requirements of the standard;

10 **SEC. 5. *Philippine National Quality Policy.***—a Philippine National Quality Policy shall  
11 be developed to ensure that Philippine products and services are globally accepted; earn a  
12 reputation of highest quality in terms of safety, standards, and acceptability; promote a  
13 national culture of quality among the citizenry; and that Philippine goods and services are  
14 designed, manufactured, and supplied in a manner that fully matches or exceeds the needs,  
15 expectations, and requirements of the retailers, purchasers, consumers, and regulatory  
16 authorities in the local, regional and international markets. The National Quality Policy  
17 shall define the National quality Infrastructure in accordance with the objectives set forth  
18 in this Act.

19 **SEC. 6. *Scope of the NQI.*** —The NQI shall prescribe the policy, regulatory, and legal  
20 frameworks on Standardization, Accreditation, Metrology, and Conformity Assessment  
21 that shall be defined in the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

22 **SEC. 7. *Institutional Arrangements.*** —To achieve the objectives set forth in this act, there  
23 is hereby created a Philippine National Quality Infrastructure Coordination Council  
24 (PNQICC), herein referred to as the Council. The Council shall be composed of the  
25 following:

- 26 a. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary and Department of Science and  
27 Technology (DOST) Secretaries as Co-Chairpersons;
- 28 b. Representative of the private sector as Vice-Chairperson;
- 29 c. Secretary of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM);
- 30 d. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA);
- 31 e. Secretary of the Department of Energy (DOE);
- 32 f. Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);
- 33 g. Secretary of the Department of Information and Communications Technology  
34 (DICT);
- 35 h. Secretary of the Department of Finance (DOF);
- 36 i. Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH);
- 37 j. Secretary of the Department of Tourism (DOT);
- 38 k. Secretary of the Department of the Department of Public Works and Highways  
39 (DPWH);
- 40 l. Director-General of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA);
- 41 m. Representative of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP);

- 1 n. Four (4) members from the private sector who shall represent exporters,  
2 manufacturers, importers, and consumers; and  
3 o. Representative of the academe or research institutions;  
4 The DTI and DOST Secretaries may designate the appropriate Undersecretary as  
5 their alternate, and the other ex-officio members may designate an alternate with  
6 the rank not below the rank of Director.  
7

8 The President shall appoint the Vice-Chairperson from the nominees submitted by  
9 reputable business groups or associations. A permanent secretariat shall be  
10 organized by the DTI to assist the Council in the discharge of its functions.

11 **SEC. 8. *Functions of the Philippine National Quality Infrastructure Coordination***  
12 ***Council.*** The Council shall perform the following functions:

- 13 a. Formulate and adopt a Philippine National Quality Policy pursuant to Section 5 of  
14 this Act;  
15 b. Instill a culture of quality in all levels of society, at the individual and institutional  
16 levels, through an effective information, education, capacity building, and  
17 communication campaign to relevant regulatory bodies and to the public;  
18 c. Ensure the adoption of good regulatory practices and policy cohesion by NQI  
19 institutions and in the delivery of NQI services, as well as in the development and  
20 promotion of programs and projects;  
21 d. Create committees or technical working groups and request the participation,  
22 assistance and cooperation of government agencies, industry associations,  
23 consumers, the academe, and other stakeholders, if necessary for the performance  
24 of its functions and the attainment of the objectives of this Act;  
25 e. Identify the roles and contribution of government agencies, the private sector,  
26 industry associations, non-government organizations, and other stakeholders in  
27 attaining the vision and adhering to the principles prescribed in this Act;  
28 f. Coordinate and support programs, projects, and activities that will foster the  
29 development of a responsible and sustainable NQI, such as but not limited to  
30 improving and increasing the availability of experts, technical assessors,  
31 laboratories, calibration services, and product certification bodies, among others;  
32 g. Provide direction and order, and encourage the participation of the public and  
33 private sectors in conformity assessment activities and mechanisms as a means to  
34 demonstrate compliance with voluntary and mandatory requirements to public and  
35 private sectors;  
36 h. Promote the adoption of quality management practices and necessary training to  
37 those in charge of the production and commercialization of goods and services in  
38 the country;  
39 i. Promulgate rules to enable the NQI institutions under its direction to offer technical  
40 support to relevant industries;  
41 j. Ensure that standardization, accreditation, and metrological processes are in line  
42 with and comparable to international best practices;

- k. Ensure the proper promulgation of all standards created by other agencies and instrumentalities of the government, and perform standardization functions over conformity assessment bodies in the country;
- l. Direct the development of the National Standardization Strategy and the National Accreditation Strategy, with the involvement of all stakeholders;
- m. Ensure that the country participates in regional and international standardization efforts and accreditation activities, arrangements, and fora;
- n. Support the formation of cooperation and conclusion of mutual recognition arrangements and agreements with national, regional, and international organizations;
- o. Promote the recognition of accreditation among regulatory agencies by:
  - i. Requiring their testing and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies and certifying bodies to seek accreditation;
  - ii. Requiring government agencies to utilize the services of test and calibration laboratories, inspection bodies, certification bodies and other conformity assessment bodies that are accredited by the Accreditation Philippines or a signatory member of the Asia Pacific Accreditation Cooperation (APAC), International Accreditation Forum (IAF), International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC), and International Halal Accreditation Forum (IHAF);
  - iii. Establishing agreements, Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) with regulatory bodies, other accreditation bodies, signatory members and other interested parties
- p. Ensure the maintenance and continuous update of the national measurement standards in all relevant fields for the Philippine, guaranteeing that all metrological laboratories, infrastructure, equipment, instruments, artifacts, reference standards, and other similar articles are in good condition, internationally compliant, and reliant and other qualities that may be required in the future;
- q. Provide metrological traceability to the International System of Units (SI) for measurements used in regulations, trade, and manufacturing;
- r. Engage and coordinate research and development work with other local institutes/bodies having metrological responsibilities (radiation, standard time and dissemination, etc.);
- s. Exercise responsibility for legal metrological controls in the country through coordination with other executive branches of government;
- t. Ensure uniformity or metrological procedures in the same prescribed manner of their implementation; and
- u. Perform such other functions as may be necessary, incidental, or proper to its mandate.

**SEC. 9. *Role of NQI Institutions.*** —Under the direction of the Philippine National Quality Infrastructure Council, all existing NQI institutions involved in standards development, accreditation, metrology, and conformity assessment shall continue to perform the

mandates and functions assigned to them by their respective enabling laws, including but not limited to:

- a. Department of Agriculture (DA)
  - i. Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS) pursuant to Republic Act No. 8435;
  - ii. National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9296;
- b. Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), pursuant to Executive Order No. 192, series of 1987;
- c. Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT)
  - i. National ICT Planning Policy and Standards Bureau (NIPPSB), pursuant to Republic Act. No. 10844;
- d. Department of Energy (DOE)
  - i. Energy Research and Testing Laboratory (ERTL), pursuant to Administrative Order No. 38, series of 2002;
  - ii. National Renewable Energy Board (NREB), pursuant to Republic Act. No. 9513;
  - iii. Oil Industry and Management Bureau (OIMB), pursuant to Republic Act No. 8479;
- e. Department of Health (DOH)
  - i. Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9711;
- f. Department of Science and Technology (DOST)
  - i. Forest Products Research and Development Institute (FPRDI), pursuant to Executive Order No. 128, series of 1987;
  - ii. Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI), pursuant to Executive Order No. 128, series of 1987;
  - iii. Metals Industry Research and Development Center (MIRDC), pursuant to Republic Act No. 4724;
  - iv. National Metrology Laboratory (NML), pursuant to Republic Act No. 9236;
- g. Department of Tourism (DOT)
  - i. Office of Tourism Standards and Regulations, pursuant to Republic Act No. 9593;
- h. Department of Transportation (DOTr)
  - i. Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), pursuant to Executive Order No. 202, series of 1987
- i. Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH)
  - i. Bureau of Research and Standards (BRS), pursuant to Executive Order No. 292, series of 1987;
- j. Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
  - i. Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS), pursuant to Republic Act No. 4109;
  - ii. Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB), pursuant to Executive Order No. 802, series of 2009;

- 1 k. National Commission of Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), pursuant to Republic Act  
2 No. 9997;  
3 l. National Water Resources Board (NWRB), pursuant to Presidential Decree  
4 No. 1067, s. 1976; and  
5 m. Local Government Units, pursuant to Republic Act No. 7394

6 **SEC. 10. *Appropriations.*** —The amount necessary for the conduct of activities and  
7 projects of the Council to effectively perform its mandated functions under this Act, shall  
8 be sourced from the budgets of the different government departments tasked to implement  
9 the same.

10 **SEC. 11. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** —Within sixty (60) working days from  
11 the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and Department of  
12 Science and Technology (DOST), in consultation with the DBM, DOF, NEDA, and other  
13 relevant stakeholders shall issue the implementing rules and regulations of this Act.

14 **SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.*** —If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or  
15 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full  
16 force and effect.

17 **SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.*** —All provisions of other laws, presidential decrees,  
18 issuances, executive orders, letter of instructions, administrative orders, rules or regulations  
19 which are contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed  
20 repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

21 **SEC. 14. *Effectivity.*** —This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication  
22 in at least two (2) newspapers or general circulation in the Philippines, and the filing of  
23 three (3) certified copies hereof with the Office of the National Administrative Registrar  
24 (ONAR) of the University of the Philippines (UP) Law Center, Diliman, Quezon City,  
25 pursuant to Presidential Memorandum Circular No. 11 dated 09 October 1992.

26  
27 *Approved,*