

TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BILL No. 6241



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVE CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM

**AN ACT MANDATING ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS TO PROVIDE
EMERGENCY GO BAGS FOR THEIR EMPLOYEES, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines is among the most disaster-prone countries in the world. Each year, millions of Filipinos are affected by typhoons, floods, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions. The recent 6.9-magnitude earthquake in Cebu Province and massive flooding across the country causing widespread damage and loss of lives, once again underscore the country's vulnerability to natural calamities and highlight the urgent need for a more systematic and proactive approach to disaster preparedness.

While national and local governments have strengthened their disaster response capabilities through the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), preparedness in institutions remains deficient. Many public and private offices still lack the basic tools and supplies necessary to ensure the safety and survival of employees during and immediately after a disaster.

This bill seeks to institutionalize the provision of "Go Bags" in all government offices and private institutions to ensure that workers and employees are equipped with essential emergency supplies that can sustain them for at least seventy-two (72) hours in the event of a disaster.

A Go Bag serves as a personal or institutional emergency kit that typically includes food, water, first aid items, flashlights, radios, and other survival tools. Such kits have been proven effective in disaster-prone countries like Japan, where preparedness culture has saved countless lives. Providing Go Bags across workplaces nationwide will help strengthen the country's resilience and reduce dependency on emergency responders during the critical hours following a calamity.

The measure mandates every government office and private institution to maintain Go Bags for their personnel, with regular inspection and replenishment. It also directs the NDRRMC, in coordination with the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), to

update the list of Go Bag contents in accordance with best practices and evolving risks.

The enactment of this measure will not only institutionalize a culture of preparedness but also protect lives, ensure workplace continuity, and uphold the welfare of employees across sectors. It is a modest but concrete step toward building a disaster-resilient Philippines.

In light of the increasing frequency and intensity of disasters that threaten lives, livelihoods, and economic stability, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


REP. CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM

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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 “Ligtas sa Trabaho Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect life, public welfare and property by strengthening disaster risk reduction and management, ensuring preparedness in all workplaces, and fostering a culture of safety in both the public and private sectors.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act:

1. *Go Bag* refers to a portable emergency kit containing essential survival supplies to sustain an individual for at least seventy-two (72) hours during a disaster or emergency.
2. *Institution* refers to all government agencies, government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), state universities and colleges (SUCs), local government units (LGUs), as well as private corporations, companies, businesses, and organizations operating in the Philippines.

SEC. 4. Mandatory Provision of Go Bags. – All institutions, public and private, shall be required to provide Go Bags for their employees, which must be stored in accessible areas within the workplace and regularly maintained.

SEC. 5. Minimum Contents. – The National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), shall prescribe the standard contents of Go Bags. These shall include, but not be limited to:

1. First aid kit;
2. Bottled water and ready-to-eat food good for at least seventy-two (72) hours;

3. Flashlight with extra batteries;
4. Whistle and multi-purpose tool;
5. Personal hygiene items;
6. Face masks and alcohol;

SEC. 6. Funding and Compliance. –

1. For government offices, the initial funding shall be charged against the current appropriations of the concerned offices. Thereafter, funds shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).
2. For private institutions, compliance shall form part of workplace safety standards under the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

SEC. 7. Monitoring and Enforcement. – The NDRRMC, DILG, and DOLE shall jointly monitor compliance with this Act. Failure of private institutions to comply shall be subject to penalties consistent with existing labor laws and occupational safety standards.

SEC. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR). – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC, DILG and DOLE, in consultation with stakeholders, shall issue the necessary IRR.

SEC. 9. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall remain in force and effect.

SEC. 10. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, or issuances inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 11. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.