

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

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7659



Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The livestock and poultry sector remains a critical pillar of Philippine food security and rural livelihoods. In recent years, backyard raisers who comprise a significant portion of the sector have faced recurring challenges arising from animal disease outbreaks, market volatility, rising input costs, and the increasing frequency of natural calamities. These disruptions have exposed structural vulnerabilities in the sector, particularly among small-scale and unorganized producers who often lack access to institutional support, financing, and risk mitigation mechanisms.

In response to these challenges, the Department of Agriculture (DA), through its National Livestock Program (NLP), implemented an expanded livestock and poultry production and livelihood project aimed at supporting organized and clustered backyard raisers. Under this program, qualified beneficiaries are provided with initial stocks of livestock and poultry for broiler production, egg production, and livestock raising, including chickens, ducks, swine (in ASF-free areas), goats, sheep, cattle, and carabaos, as well as animal feed and, in selected cases, farm tools and equipment.

While this initiative represents a positive step toward strengthening the livestock and poultry sector, its structure necessarily limits participation to organized and clustered raisers. As a result, unorganized backyard livestock and poultry raisers, who constitute a substantial segment of the sector, remain particularly vulnerable, especially during crises affecting animal health, market access, or household income. Unlike their organized counterparts, these smallholders often rely solely on their own limited resources and lack access to institutional support, credit, or safety nets.

The Philippine Livestock Promotion Fund (PLPF), established under Republic Act No. 1578, was intended to conserve and develop the Philippine livestock industry and to promote efficiency and economy in services connected therewith. However, since its enactment in 1956, the law has not been substantially updated to respond to the evolving needs of the livestock

sector. Notably, the statute does not expressly provide for direct assistance or targeted support to backyard livestock raisers, nor does it empower the implementing authority to extend financial or livelihood aid to small-scale and unorganized producers in times of need.

Given the recurring challenges faced by the livestock and poultry industry—ranging from animal disease outbreaks to economic disruptions and natural calamities—there is a clear policy gap in the existing legal framework. Without legislative reform, a significant portion of backyard raisers will continue to be excluded from government assistance programs, despite their critical role in food security and rural livelihoods.

This bill therefore seeks to amend Republic Act No. 1578 to modernize the utilization of the Philippine Livestock Promotion Fund, expressly authorizing its use to support and protect backyard livestock and poultry raisers, including the provision of direct assistance when warranted. By doing so, the measure aims to ensure that government support extends beyond organized beneficiaries and reaches even the most vulnerable smallholders, particularly during periods of crisis.

It is for the foregoing premises that the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS
Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party-List

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**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BACKYARD
LIVESTOCK RAISERS AFFECTED BY MAJOR ANIMAL DISEASE,
EPIDEMIC, OR TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1578,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 1578 is hereby amended to
read as follows:

“Section 2. The funds collected under the acts mentioned in the
preceding section shall likewise be consolidated into a special
[reimbursable] **ACCOUNT IN THE GENERAL** fund to be known
as “Philippine Livestock Promotion Fund,” which shall be used
for the following purposes:

- a) For the introduction, propagation, production, and
distribution of purebred and improved breeding animals;
- b) For the establishment, equipment, maintenance, and
operation of stock farms, breeding stations, breeding centers,
fixed or ambulatory, and slaughterhouses, in such places as
may be deemed appropriate therefor and beneficial to the
livestock industry; *Provided, however,* That no
slaughterhouse shall be established in the City of Manila **AND
OTHER LOCATIONS TO BE IDENTIFIED BY THE
RESPECTIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS IN THE
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION;**
- c) For the manufacture of biological products needed in the
control, eradication, and treatment of animal diseases and
parasites;
- d) For conducting experiments on the manufacture,
preservation, utilization, and industrialization of animal
products, including milk and milk derivatives;

- e) **FOR THE PROVISION OF DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BACKYARD LIVESTOCK RAISERS ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY MAJOR ANIMAL DISEASE EPIDEMIC OR TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES; PROVIDED, THAT THE AFFECTED BACKYARD LIVESTOCK RAISERS SHALL REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (DA) UNDER THE REGISTRY SYSTEM FOR BASIC SECTORS IN AGRICULTURE (RSBSA); and**
- f) For [~~such other purposes as may have for their object the stabilization, protection, and development]~~ **THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OTHER PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO IMPROVE THE PRODUCTIVITY** of the Philippine Livestock Industry **AND TO PROTECT THE WELFARE OF BACKYARD LIVESTOCK RAISERS.”**

SECTION 2. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 1578 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 3. The Director of Animal Industry, subject to the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture [~~and Natural Resources~~], is hereby authorized and empowered to make disbursements out of the fund herein created for salaries, wages, and traveling expenses of personnel; for the construction, maintenance, and repair of buildings, fences, and other necessary structures; for the purchase of large cattle and other domestic animals, furnishing the same to the public on economical terms for improved breeding, agricultural work, or consumption; for the purchase of apparatuses, instruments, chemicals, supplies, materials, and other needed equipment; **DIRECT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO BACKYARD LIVESTOCK RAISERS;** and for such other expenses as may be deemed necessary to carry out effectively and properly the purposes of this Act.”

SECTION 3. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 1578 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Section 4. In order to raise the necessary funds for the activities herein provided, there shall be collected for animals slaughtered in any public or private slaughterhouse and in private meatpacking establishments, including those in chartered cities, pre-slaughter fees at the following rates:

- a) For cattle, carabaos, buffaloes, horses, mules, and other animals of the bovine family [~~P0.90~~] **P120.00** per head;
- b) For swine [~~P0.60~~] **P80.00** per head; **AND**
- c) For sheep, goats, and deer [~~P0.30~~] **P40.00** per head.

The municipal treasurers shall, in addition to their regular duties, make such collections and shall, at the end of every

month, remit the same to the Treasurer of the Philippines to the credit of the "Philippine Livestock Promotion Fund" to be expended in accordance with the provisions of this Act. The provisions of this Section shall not be construed to deprive the municipalities of their present rights to impose and collect license fees for the slaughter of any animal or/and for the use of municipal slaughterhouses; *Provided*, That nothing in this Act shall be construed as amending or repealing existing regulations on the slaughter **OF** carabaos.

The DA shall review and adjust the rate of pre-slaughter fees once every three (3) years after the effectivity of this Act using the Consumer Price Index as published by the Philippine Statistics Authority."

SECTION 4. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 1578 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 5. The Director of Animal Industry may order the sale for agricultural, propagation, breeding, or meat purposes, or the renting or loaning for breeding purposes, or the slaughter and sale in the form of meat, of the animals which may not be needed by the Bureau of Animal Industry, subject to the existing regulations and to such as may hereafter be promulgated by the Director of Animal Industry with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture [~~and Natural Resources~~]; and all proceeds to be derived therefrom as well as all other income from the operation of this Act shall accrue to "Philippine Livestock Promotion Fund" herein created and may be expended by the Director of Animal Industry, with the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture [~~and Natural Resources~~], for the same purposes and in the same manner as provided in this Act."

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The DA shall, in coordination with the Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Department of Finance, (DoF) and other government agencies, promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations within sixty (60) days upon the approval of this Act.

SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions or parts unaffected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees or issuances, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules, and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,