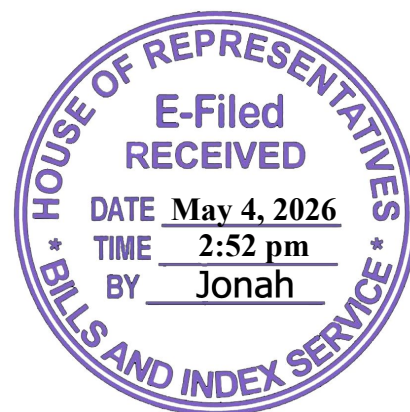


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9033



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Price Act (Republic Act No. 7581) was enacted to protect consumers against hoarding, profiteering, and cartels, particularly during periods of calamity or emergency. It classifies essential goods into two categories: Basic Necessities and Prime Commodities.

While the current law covers a wide range of goods—from rice and salt to plywood and school supplies—it notably excludes one of the most significant drivers of inflation, which is fuel. Gasoline and diesel are the lifeblood of the economy. When fuel prices spike, a domino effect ensues, raising the cost of transporting food, the operation of public utilities, and the manufacturing of nearly every consumer good.

Currently, petroleum products are regulated primarily under the Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act of 1998 (RA 8479), which favors market-driven pricing. However, this leaves the government with limited tools to intervene when fuel prices become unconscionable or when the public is subjected to "price shocks."

By classifying gasoline and diesel as Prime Commodities, this bill grants the government the authority to include fuel in the monitoring list of the Price Coordinating Council, impose price ceilings during emergencies or periods of abnormal price fluctuations, and strictly penalize price manipulation specifically related to fuel products.

This amendment is a proactive step toward economic stability and the protection of the Filipino people's purchasing power.

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


SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 9033

Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

**AN ACT INCLUDING GASOLINE AND DIESEL AS PRIME COMMODITIES,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7581, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS THE "PRICE ACT," AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO.
10623, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 "Fuel Price
Protection Act."

SEC. 2. *Amendment.* - Section 3, Paragraph (8) of Republic Act No. 7581,
otherwise known as the "Price Act," as amended by Republic Act No. 10623, is hereby
amended to read as follows:

"(8) 'Prime Commodities' are goods not considered as basic necessities
but are essential to consumers in times of any of the cases provided
under Section 7 of this Act such as, but not limited to, flour; dried,
processed or canned pork, beef and poultry meat; dairy products not
falling under basic necessities; onions, garlic, vinegar, patis, soy sauce;
toilet soap; fertilizer, pesticides and herbicides; poultry, livestock and
fishery feeds and veterinary products; paper; school supplies; *nipa*
shingles; *sawali*; cement; clinker; GI sheets; hollow blocks; plywood;
plyboard; construction nails; batteries; electrical supplies; light bulbs;
steel wire; **GASOLINE; DIESEL**; and all drugs not classified as essential
drugs by the Department of Health and such other goods as may be
included under Section 4 of this Act."

SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - Within sixty (60)
days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Trade and Industry
(DTI), in coordination with the Department of Energy (DOE) and the
Department of Agriculture (DA), shall promulgate the necessary rules and
regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,