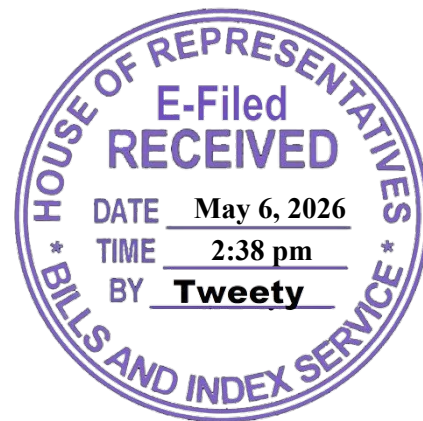


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
1st Regular Session

House Bill No. **9133**



**Introduced by Representatives OMAR VINCENT S. DUTERTE and
PAOLO Z. DUTERTE**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The right to free exercise and enjoyment of religious profession and worship without discrimination or preference is the one of the most fundamental of rights enunciated under Section 5, Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Historically, "Halal" has just been narrowly associated with dietary restrictions in the Philippines. However, apart from being a multi-trillion dollar opportunity for the Philippines, Halal industry covers a vast ecosystem including food, non-food products, and life choices that align with *Shariah* principles. In fact, in the Philippines, the market for the said products is estimated to be worth between ₱40 billion and ₱100 billion annually.

Despite this potential, the Philippine Halal sector faces significant hurdles, such as but not limited consumer awareness and a fragmented certification landscape. These inefficiencies have created substantial supply gaps such as, for example, in 2022, the Philippines was forced to import approximately \$120 million worth of Halal products to meet local demand. Many small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) lack the technical knowledge and financial resources required to navigate current certification processes, which were largely designed for export markets under Republic Act No. 10817 or the *Philippine Halal Export Development and Promotion Act of 2016*.

It is in this regard that a measure mandating Halal inclusivity to mandate the state of its constitutional duty to accommodate the religious practices of its citizens and ensuring that no Filipino is discriminated against in the marketplace or in the provision of healthcare due to their faith.

The proposed measure seeks to transform the Philippine Halal industry from a fragmented, export-oriented sector into a unified, inclusive, and mandatory domestic standard. By establishing the Bureau of Halal Industry (BHI) and mandating Halal availability in food establishments, healthcare, and logistics, the proposed Bill intends to ensure religious freedom, achieve economic sovereignty, and standardize the purity of Halal.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


HON. OMAR VINCENT S. DUTERTE


HON. PAOLO Z. DUTERTE

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TWENTIETH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **9133**

Introduced by Representatives **OMAR VINCENT S. DUTERTE** and
PAOLO Z. DUTERTE

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE BUREAU OF HALAL INDUSTRY, MANDATING THE
INCLUSIVITY OF HALAL CERTIFICATIONS IN FOOD, CONSUMER
PRODUCTS, HEALTHCARE, AND SERVICES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS
THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "*Comprehensive Halal Industry Development and Inclusivity Act of 2026.*"

SEC 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the right to the free exercise of religion and shall protect the beliefs, customs, and traditions of Muslim Filipinos. Toward this goal, the State shall establish a unified, credible, and efficient system for Halal certification to ensure the integrity of products and enhance competitiveness in local and international markets.

SEC 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

- a. ***Certification*** refers to the attestation of conformance to standards and guidelines related to products, processes, systems, or persons.
- b. ***Halal*** refers to lawful or permissible under Islamic law.
- c. ***Processes*** refer to a set of interrelated or interacting activities which transforms inputs to outputs.
- d. ***Products*** refer to food and non-food items produced by human or mechanical effort, or by a natural process, and marketed or sold as a commodity.
- e. ***Services*** refer to an intangible result of at least one (1) activity performed by a supplier or provided for a customer.

SEC 4. *Establishment of the Bureau of Halal Industry (BHI).* – A Bureau of Halal Industry (BHI) under the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is hereby created. The BHI shall be the primary agency responsible for the domestic regulation, market expansion, and certification oversight of the Halal industry, coordinating with the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF), Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM),

and other relevant agencies.

SEC 5. *Halal in the Healthcare and Wellness Sector.* – The BHI, in coordination with the Department of Health (DOH), shall mandate that essential medicines and vaccines clearly disclose the use of porcine-derived stabilizers or gelatin. The State shall prioritize the procurement of Halal-certified pharmaceutical alternatives for public health facilities.

SEC 6. *Strengthening Accreditation.* – The Philippine Accreditation Bureau (PAB) shall remain the technical body for accrediting Halal Certifying Bodies (HCBs). However, no HCB shall operate in the Philippines without a Certificate of Authority issued by the BHI, ensuring they meet both Shari'ah and technical standards.

SEC 7. *Incentives for Halal Compliance.* – To encourage widespread adoption of Halal standards, the following incentives are established:

- a. Large-scale food establishments and manufacturers that achieve and maintain full Halal certification for their domestic product lines shall be entitled to a 10% tax credit on costs directly related to kitchen retrofitting, segregated storage, and certification fees.
- b. Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) that successfully undergo Halal certification for the first time shall be granted a one-time 50% rebate on certification fees.
- c. All certified entities shall receive priority access to "Halal Lane" financing programs and credit facilities in LandBank and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP).

SEC 8. *Prohibited Acts and Penalties.* – The following prohibited acts shall be penalized as follows:

- a. The unauthorized use of Halal Logo shall have a penalty of a fine of five hundred thousand Pesos (₱500,000.00) to two million Pesos (₱2,000,000.00) and permanent revocation of business license.
- b. The acts of Halal-Contamination, which means a failure to maintain segregated storage for Halal products in a commercial setting, shall have a penalty of a fine of one hundred thousand Pesos (₱100,000) per occurrence.
- c. The obstruction of BHI Inspection shall have a penalty of fine of fifty thousand Pesos (₱50,000.00) and temporary suspension of operations.

SEC 9. *Appropriations.* – The initial sum of five hundred thousand Pesos (₱500,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the establishment and initial operations of the BHI. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in consultation with the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos (NCMF) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 11. *Transitory Provisions.* – All certification activities and records from previous

accreditation functions under Republic Act No. 10817 or the *Philippine Halal Export Development and Promotion Act of 2016*, shall be transferred to the Bureau of Halal Industry (BHI). Entities previously granted certification shall undergo recertification in accordance with a transition plan to be developed by the BHI.

SEC. 12. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder thereof not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,