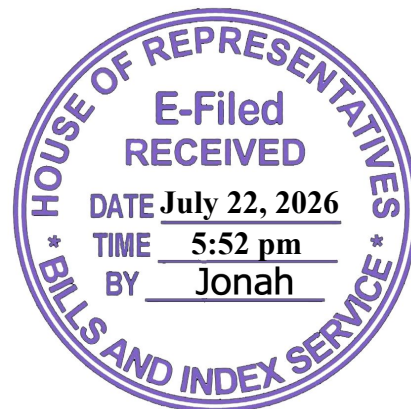




Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **10200**



---

**Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre**

---

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE OFW FAMILIES ENTERPRISE FUND TO**  
**SUPPORT COMMUNITY-BASED LIVELIHOOD AND ENTERPRISE**  
**PROJECTS LED BY OFW FAMILIES THROUGH A MATCHING**  
**INVESTMENT SCHEME, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) play a vital role in sustaining the Philippine economy through their remittances, which support millions of Filipino families and contribute significantly to national development. However, sustained dependence on overseas employment and remittance inflows has also led to limited opportunities for long-term, sustainable livelihood and local enterprise development among OFW households.

This bill seeks to establish the OFW Families Enterprise Fund (OFEF), a special financing mechanism designed to transform remittances into productive investments through matching support for OFW family-led and community-based enterprises. The Fund aims to promote job creation, inclusive local economic development, and long-term financial resilience by enabling OFW families to transition from remittance dependency to sustainable entrepreneurship.

To ensure the viability and sustainability of supported enterprises, the measure institutionalizes capacity-building and enterprise development programs in partnership with TESDA, LGUs, and the Department of Trade and Industry

(DTI), including entrepreneurship training, business mentorship, and market access support.

The OFEF shall operate as a blended and development-oriented financing mechanism, complemented by institutional safeguards such as transparency reporting, monitoring, and performance evaluation to ensure accountability and effective use of public resources.

This proposal reinforces State policy recognizing the significant contribution of OFWs and their families to national development and builds upon the principles of Republic Act No. 7111 (Overseas Workers Investment Fund Act of 1991) by expanding its framework through a matching fund mechanism integrated with structured enterprise development support.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly requested.



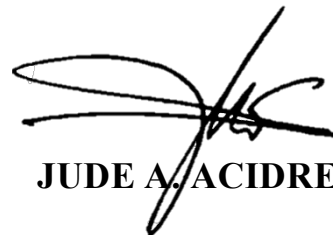
**FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ**



**YEDDA MARIE K. ROMUALDEZ**



**ANDREW JULIAN K. ROMUALDEZ**



**JUDE A. ACIDRE**



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress  
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10200

---

**Introduced by Representatives Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Yedda Marie K. Romualdez, Andrew Julian K. Romualdez and Jude A. Acidre**

---

**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE OFW FAMILIES ENTERPRISE FUND TO**  
**SUPPORT COMMUNITY-BASED LIVELIHOOD AND ENTERPRISE**  
**PROJECTS LED BY OFW FAMILIES THROUGH A MATCHING**  
**INVESTMENT SCHEME, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 “OFW Families Enterprise Fund Act.”

**SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize and harness the contribution of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and their families to national development by promoting productive, sustainable, and inclusive utilization of remittances.

The State shall institutionalize mechanisms for economic reintegration, entrepreneurship development, and enterprise financing for OFW families to

reduce long-term dependency on overseas employment and strengthen local economic growth.

**SEC. 3. *Objectives.*** – This Act aims to:

- a) Establish a sustainable financing mechanism for OFW family-led enterprises through a blended finance and matching support facility;
- b) Promote economic reintegration of OFWs and their families through entrepreneurship and livelihood development;
- c) Encourage job creation, local value addition, and community-based enterprise development;
- d) Strengthen financial inclusion, productivity, and resilience of OFW households;
- e) Support distressed, returning, and vulnerable OFW families in rebuilding sustainable livelihoods.

**SEC. 4. *Creation of the OFW Families Enterprise Fund (OFEF).*** – There is hereby created a special fund to be known as the OFW Families Enterprise Fund (OFEF), to be administered by the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) in coordination with the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and accredited financial intermediaries such as cooperatives, microfinance institutions, and development finance organizations.

The OFEF shall operate as a blended finance, revolving development fund composed of grants, matching investments, concessional loans, and credit guarantee facilities.

**SEC. 5. *Fund Mechanism.*** – a) The OFEF shall provide support through:

1. Matching grants;
  2. Concessional financing; and/or
  3. Blended financing packages,
- equivalent to the counterpart investment of the OFW family, subject to a maximum of Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱200,000.00) per enterprise project;
- b. Disbursement shall be milestone-based, subject to verification of project implementation progress;
- c. Priority shall be given to:
1. Barangay-based or community-based enterprises;
  2. Micro and small enterprises owned or led by OFW families;
  3. Enterprises generating local employment;
  4. Enterprises utilizing local or indigenous resources;
  5. Distressed, returning, or low-income OFW households;
- d. The Fund shall adopt risk-sharing mechanisms to ensure sustainability and accountability.

**SEC. 6. *Eligible Beneficiaries.*** – Those covered under this Act are the following:

- a) Filipino families of active OFWs or returning OFWs within five (5) years;
- b) OFW households in distress, displacement, or economic vulnerability;
- c) Applicants must submit a viable business plan approved under guidelines issued by OWWA and DTI;
- d) Applicants must provide counterpart contribution in cash, remittance savings, or in-kind capital;

- e) Priority shall be given to vulnerable and low-income OFW households.

**SEC. 7. *Capacity Building and Enterprise Development Support.*** – The OWWA and DTI, in coordination with TESDA, LGUs, SUCs, private sector partners, and civil society organizations, shall provide:

- a) Entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and digital skills training;
- b) Business incubation, mentoring, and coaching programs;
- c) Market linkage assistance, including e-commerce and export facilitation;
- d) Continuous enterprise advisory and technical support;
- e) Reintegration support programs for returning OFWs transitioning to entrepreneurship.

**SEC. 8. *Implementation and Administration.*** – a) The Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) shall serve as the Fund Manager responsible for financial administration, disbursement, portfolio management, and financial reporting;

b) The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) shall serve as lead implementing agency responsible for beneficiary screening, eligibility validation, and social impact monitoring;

c) The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall provide enterprise development services, technical evaluation, and market access support;

d) Accredited cooperatives, microfinance institutions, and financial intermediaries may serve as implementing partners for localized delivery;

e) The Department of Finance (DOF) and Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) shall assist in ensuring fiscal compliance and sustainability of fund mechanisms.

**SEC. 9. *Transparency, Monitoring, and Evaluation.*** – a) The LBP and OWWA shall submit annual reports to Congress detailing:

1. Fund utilization;
2. Enterprise survival and performance rates;
3. Employment generated;
4. Geographic distribution of beneficiaries;
5. Repayment performance (for loan components);

b) A public transparency registry of funded enterprises shall be established, subject to data privacy laws;

c) The Commission on Audit (COA) shall conduct regular audits of the OFEF;

d) Independent third-party evaluations may be conducted every three (3) years.

**SEC. 10. *OFW Enterprise Guarantee and Sustainability Support.*** – The LBP, in coordination with government financial institutions, shall establish a credit guarantee facility to support OFW enterprise borrowers and reduce lending risks, particularly for startups and rural enterprises.

**SEC. 11. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the available funds of the concerned agencies, including the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), subject to applicable budgeting, accounting, and auditing laws, rules, and regulations.

Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

The OFW Families Enterprise Fund (OFEF) may likewise receive grants, donations, endowments, and development assistance from domestic or foreign sources, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations.

**SEC. 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the LBP, OWWA, and DTI, in coordination with LGUs, financial institutions, and stakeholders, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations.

**SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

**SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,