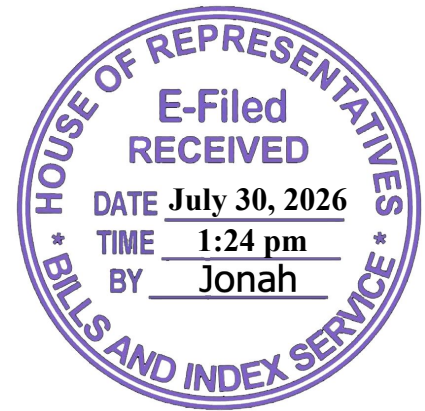


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10447



Introduced by Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Local farmers and agricultural producers are often at the mercy of seasonal calamities, economic crises, pressure from middlemen, and other pain points in the agricultural supply and value chain. As such, these important producers are often confronted with having to sell their harvest at below-market prices or to throw it away altogether, resulting in large-scale food loss. Most of such losses happen post-harvest, where the lack of post-harvesting facilities and handling result in losses up to fifty percent (50%) for crops such as rice, wheat, and cereal grains which makes up a staggering seventy percent (70%) of all calories consumed in the country¹.

These figures indicate that roughly forty percent (40%) of all food being produced are going to waste, with around twenty percent (20%) of all carrots, bananas, cabbage, calamansi, eggplant, mangoes, sweet potatoes, rice and tomatoes going to waste². With such a pressing need to divert food loss, support farmers and producers, and strengthen food security, a clear mandate is needed to allow government institutions and food service establishments to prioritize the purchase of locally grown harvest and produce.

The Philippines, with its growing population and aging harvest and food chain infrastructure, is especially vulnerable to worsening climate impacts and unpredictable economic swings. By prioritizing the purchase of food from local suppliers and growers, the country is not only empowering its own agricultural workers; helping food security; and contribute towards our Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)³, an important action point under the Paris Agreement and an active agenda of the Climate Change Commission (CCC), the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and the country's National Climate Change Action Plan (NCCAP).

It is for these pressing needs that the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

¹ The Global Foodbanking Network, "Agricultural Recovery: Rise Against Hunger Philippines," available at <https://www.foodbanking.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2025-GFN-RAHP-Case-Study-v2.pdf>

² ibid

³ Climate Change Commission, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, "Implementation Plan for the Republic of the Philippines Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) 2020-2030," available at <https://www.climate.gov.ph/public/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Knowledge/The%20Philippines'%20NDC%20Implementation%20Plan%20-%2020072024.pdf>



ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS

Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party List

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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AN ACT
MANDATING GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS AND FOOD SERVICE
ESTABLISHMENTS TO PURCHASE THE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE OF LOCAL
FARMERS OR PRODUCERS FOR THEIR FOOD PREPARATION AND PRODUCTION

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 “Pagkaing Pilipino Act of 2026.”

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared a policy of the State to ensure local food security and spur the development of the Filipino agriculture industry. As such, the government must give priority to the produce of local farmers and producers in terms of the purchases of government institutions and food service establishments intended for food preparation and production.

SECTION 3. Mandatory Purchase. - Government Institution and Food Service Establishments, such as hotels, restaurants, and catering services, shall prioritize the purchase of local agricultural produce of local farmers for their food preparation and production.

Moreover, the produce of local farmers within the territorial jurisdiction of the local government unit (LGU) wherein the government institution and food service establishment is located shall take precedence over produce outside their respective LGUs to lower transportation or other hauling costs in the delivery of such produce.

Nothing in this Act shall be construed as prohibiting the government institution and food service establishment to purchase local produce in different political subdivisions, provided that the requirement herein set forth is complied by the food service establishment.

SECTION 4. Exceptions. - Section 3 of this Act shall not be applicable in any of the following cases where the local produce is:

- a) No longer fit for human consumption;

- b) Insufficient in quantity;
- c) More costly and impractical compared to imported or foreign sources of produce; and
- d) Inferior in quality.

SECTION 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), in coordination with Department of Agriculture (DA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), the Department of Health (DOH), and other relevant government agencies and non-government organizations, shall formulate and promulgate the implementing rules and regulations and other issuance as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from the approval thereof. The implementing rules and regulations issued pursuant to this section shall take effect (30) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation.

SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – Such amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriation for the concerned agencies. Thereafter, the funds necessary for this Act's continuous and effective implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, and proclamations, rules, and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act, are hereby amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,