

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 10661



Introduced by 2nd District of Iloilo Representative
HON. KATHRYN JOYCE F. GORRICETA, M.D.

AN ACT
REQUIRING THE DISCLOSURE OF NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION IN MENUS
OF FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS TO PROMOTE HEALTHY DIETARY
CHOICES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A growing body of evidence shows that the Philippines faces a dual burden of malnutrition, where undernutrition persists alongside a rapidly increasing prevalence of overweight, obesity, and diet-related noncommunicable diseases (NCDs). Several studies note that rising prevalence of obesity and related chronic diseases alongside persistent undernutrition presents a complex public health challenge. This evolving nutritional landscape calls for urgent and comprehensive policy action.

During this year's World Obesity Day, the National Nutrition Council (NNC), UNICEF, and World Health Organization urged stronger policies to prevent childhood overweight and obesity and to promote healthier food environments. These calls reflect a growing global consensus that structural interventions—particularly those improving food information transparency—are essential in addressing obesity and diet-related risks.

Obesity, now recognized as a chronic and relapsing disease, is strongly linked to diabetes, cardiovascular disease, and other long-term conditions. Its prevalence has tripled in recent decades, with nearly one (1) in ten (10) children and almost four (4) in ten (10) adults in the Philippines classified as overweight or obese, levels considered high by global standards. This trend is further driven by unhealthy dietary patterns, increased consumption of calorie-dense foods, and limited access to clear nutritional information.

Cardiovascular diseases remain among the leading causes of death among Filipinos, largely due to unhealthy diets and sedentary lifestyles. Excess calorie intake—particularly from meals consumed outside the home—significantly contributes to weight gain. Public health research shows that when calorie intake exceeds recommended levels based on Body Mass Index (BMI), the risk of obesity and related diseases increases substantially.

Despite these realities, a critical gap persists while prepackaged food products are required to disclose nutritional information, meals sold in food service establishments are not subject to similar transparency standards. As a result, consumers are often left to estimate the nutritional content of their meals, placing both health-conscious individuals and the general public at risk of excessive intake of calories, sodium, and unhealthy fats.

Misleading or unclear nutrition claims further worsen the problem, making it difficult for families to identify healthier options. Health advocates consistently emphasize that inadequate labeling contributes to poor dietary decisions, underscoring the need for stronger policies that promote transparency, informed decision-making, and healthier consumption patterns.

This proposed measure seeks to address these gaps by mandating the disclosure of calorie content and nutritional information in menus of food service establishments. By requiring such information to be clearly displayed at the point of food selection, this bill empowers consumers to make informed choices, promotes greater awareness of dietary intake, and encourages healthier eating habits.

Providing nutritional information at the point of purchase has been shown to:

1. Enable consumers to make more informed and healthier food choices;
2. Promote greater public awareness of proper nutrition;
3. Support individuals managing chronic conditions such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease; and
4. Encourage food establishments to improve the nutritional quality of their offerings.

This measure is firmly anchored on Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, which provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

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


KATHRYN JOYCE F. GORRICETA, M.D.
Representative
2nd District of Iloilo

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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 “*Food Nutritional Information Disclosure Act.*”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of the people and to instill health consciousness among them. Consistent with this policy, the State recognizes that access to accurate, clear, and relevant nutritional information is essential in empowering consumers to make informed dietary choices that contribute to the prevention of disease and the promotion of overall well-being.

The State further acknowledges that the increasing prevalence of diet-related noncommunicable diseases, including obesity, cardiovascular diseases, and diabetes, is closely linked to unhealthy dietary patterns and lack of awareness regarding the nutritional content of commonly consumed food and beverages. In this regard, the State affirms its duty to adopt measures that ensure transparency in the provision of food-related information, particularly in food service establishments where a significant portion of the population obtains daily meals.

Towards this end, it is imperative for the State to require food service establishments to disclose nutritional information in a manner that is accessible, understandable, and useful to consumers, thereby enabling them to make healthier choices and fostering a culture of accountability within the food industry.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- a. “Calorie content information” refers to the total number of calories per standard menu item, as that item is usually prepared and offered for sale;
- b. “Covered food service establishment” refers to one of a group of fifteen (15) or more food service establishments doing business nationally or through online food delivery

applications, offering for sale substantially the same menu items, in servings that are standardized for portion size and content, that operate under common ownership or control, or as franchised outlets of a parent business, or do business under the same name;

c. “Drive-thru” refers to an area where a customer may provide an order for and receive standard menu items while occupying a motor vehicle;

d. “Food” refers to a unit serving of ready-to-eat food or beverage for sale in a restaurant or food service establishment;

e. “Food-on-display” refers to food offered for sale that is visible to a customer before making selection, and needs no further preparation before consumption;

f. “Menu” refers to a printed list or pictorial display of food items and their corresponding prices that are available for sale from a covered food service establishment, and shall include menus distributed or provided outside of the establishment, whether in physical or digital form;

g. “Menu board” refers to any list or pictorial display of food items and their prices posted in and visible within or outside of a covered food service establishment for the purpose of ordering, including those used in drive-thru areas;

h. “Nutritional information” refers to, but is not limited to, all of the following, per menu item:

1. Total number of calories;
2. Total number of grams of carbohydrates;
3. Total number of grams of saturated fat;
4. Total number of grams of protein; and
5. Total number of milligrams of sodium;

i. “Reasonable basis” refers to any reasonable means recognized by the Department of Health or the National Nutrition Council in determining nutritional information and calorie content information for a menu item, as usually prepared and offered for sale, including but not limited to nutrient databases, laboratory analyses, and standardized recipes;

j. “Standard menu item” refers to any individual food item or combination of food items listed or displayed on a menu or menu board that is offered for sale for at least one hundred eighty (180) days per calendar year;

k. “Online food delivery platform” refers to any digital or mobile-based platform that facilitates the ordering, payment, and delivery of food from food service establishments to consumers;

l. “Point of sale” refers to the location, whether physical or virtual, where a consumer places an order for food or beverages.

SEC. 4. *Menu Labeling.* Covered food service establishments shall disclose, in a clear, legible, and conspicuous manner, the calorie content information for each standard menu item offered for sale.

- a. The calorie content information shall be displayed adjacent to the name or price of each standard menu item on menus and menu boards in such a manner that it is clearly associated with the item to which it pertains;
- b. In the case of display tags, the calorie content information shall be indicated directly on the tag corresponding to the food item;
- c. For food sold in self-service settings such as buffets, salad bars, or cafeteria lines, a sign shall be placed adjacent to each food item indicating the calorie content per serving;
- d. For combination meals, calorie content information shall include the minimum and maximum calorie range based on all possible combinations of included items;
- e. For menu items intended to serve more than one individual, the number of servings and the calorie content per serving shall be indicated;
- f. Covered food service establishments shall make available additional nutritional information for each standard menu item in a brochure, leaflet, digital format, or other accessible medium at the point of sale, prior to or during the placement of an order;
- g. The suggested daily caloric intake for an average Filipino, as determined by the DOH, shall be prominently displayed in menus, menu boards, or accompanying materials;
- h. All required disclosures shall be presented in a format that is easily readable and understandable by the general public.

SEC. 5. *Disclosure in Drive-thru and Digital Platforms.* Covered food service establishments that operate drive-thru facilities or offer digital ordering services shall ensure that nutritional information is equally accessible to consumers availing of such services.

- a. A notice stating “NUTRITION INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST” or a similar statement shall be conspicuously displayed at drive-thru points of sale;
- b. Nutritional information shall be made readily available upon request in printed or digital form;
- c. Online food delivery platforms shall display calorie content information and provide access to full nutritional information prior to the completion of an order.

SEC. 6. *Determination of Nutritional Information.* The nutritional information required under this Act shall be determined on a reasonable basis.

A reasonable basis determination shall be required only once per standard menu item, provided that portion sizes remain consistent and the establishment adheres to standardized recipes and preparation methods.

SEC. 7. *Non-Compliance with Menu Labeling Requirements.* The following shall constitute non-compliance with the provisions of this Act:

- a. The sale of any food or beverage item without the required calorie content information displayed;
- b. The failure to make available the required nutritional information upon request;
- c. The declaration of nutritional information without a reasonable basis;
- d. The misbranding or inaccurate disclosure of nutritional information.

SEC. 8. *Transitory Period and Compliance Certification.* Covered food service establishments shall have a period of one (1) year from the effectivity of this Act within which to comply with its provisions.

Thereafter, all covered establishments shall be required to secure a Nutritional Disclosure Compliance Certificate (NDCC) from the appropriate government agency, which shall be valid for a period of two (2) years and subject to renewal.

Failure to secure or maintain such certification shall constitute a ground for administrative sanctions.

SEC. 9. *Penalties.* Any violation of this Act shall subject the offender to the following penalties:

- a. A fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱100,000.00) for the first offense;
- b. A fine of not more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (₱500,000.00) for the second offense;
- c. A fine of not more than One Million Pesos (₱1,000,000.00) for the third offense;
- d. Suspension of business operations of the non-complying establishment or branch, as may be determined by the implementing agency.

Each non-complying branch shall be treated as a separate offense.

SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Health, in coordination with the National Nutrition Council and the Department of Trade and Industry, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 11. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 12. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 13. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,