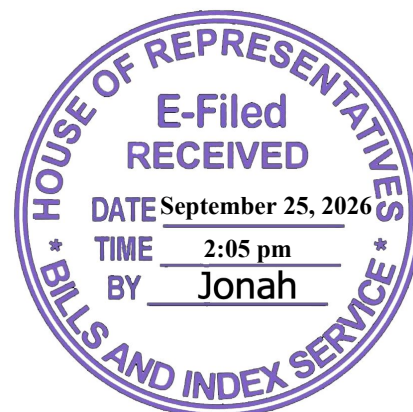


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 11481



Introduced by Representative Timothy Joseph Cayton

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Backyard and small- hog raising provides livelihood and income to thousands of Filipino families, including many households in Nueva Vizcaya. Small-hold farms accounted for **70.0 percent of the country's swine inventory as of 1 January 2023**, underscoring their importance to the domestic pork supply and rural economy.¹ Yet local hog raisers remain particularly vulnerable to low farmgate prices, rising production costs, weak bargaining power, and an increasingly complex livestock marketing chain. The Department of Agriculture has acknowledged that farmgate prices had fallen sharply without corresponding relief to consumers.² Even the existing law provides significant resources for animal industry development, including repopulation, disease response, credit, and related support,³ the core market is still facing challenges as local producers remain largely unresolved.

The measure is anchored on the constitutional policies promoting agricultural support, reduction of economic inequalities, preferential use of locally produced goods, and regulation of unfair competition.⁴

For these reasons, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


ATTY. TIMOTHY JOSEPH E. CAYTON, PhD.
Representative
Lone District of Nueva Vizcaya

¹ Philippine Statistics Authority, *Swine Annual Situation Report 2023*.

² Department of Agriculture, "DA, hog farmers set pork floor price at P210 per kilo," 4 November 2025.

³ Republic Act No. 12308, *Animal Industry Development and Competitiveness Act*.

⁴ 1987 Constitution, particularly Article XIII, Sections 1 and 5; Article XII, Sections 12, 13 and 19; and Article VI, Section 28(2).

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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Twentieth Congress
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AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE PROTECTION OF LOCAL HOG RAISERS,
ENSURING FARMGATE PRICE TRANSPARENCY AND FAIR TRADING
PRACTICES, 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 “Local Hog Raisers Protection and Fair Pricing Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to promote comprehensive rural development, to provide support to agriculture through adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services, to promote the preferential use of locally produced goods, and to prohibit combinations in restraint of trade and unfair competition, consistent with Sections 1 and 5 of Article XIII, Sections 1, 6, 12, 13, and 19 of Article XII, and Section 21 of Article II of the Constitution. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize the fixing of the purchase or selling price of any animal or animal product.

SEC. 3. Coverage. This Act shall apply to farmgate transactions in swine throughout the country.

SEC. 4. Livestock Transaction Reporting System. The Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) shall establish and maintain a Livestock Transaction Reporting System. Every buyer covered by the implementing rules shall report the date, location, volume, price, and terms of payment of each farmgate transaction, without disclosing the identity of the selling raiser without the raiser's written consent. Reported information shall be published only in aggregate form and shall not be used as the sole basis for any tax assessment or admitted in evidence against the reporting party, except in a proceeding for violation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Reference Farmgate Price. The Department of Agriculture (DA), in coordination with the Philippine Statistics Authority, shall compute and publish weekly a reference farmgate price for hogs, at the national and regional levels, derived from data collected under Section 4. The reference price shall be published on official websites and disseminated to local agriculture offices and accredited raisers' associations, and shall be clearly identified as an administrative indicator distinct from official statistical series.

SEC. 6. Standard Weighing and Receipts. All farmgate transactions shall be on a liveweight basis using weighing instruments calibrated and sealed in accordance with existing law. Every buyer shall issue the selling raiser, upon delivery, a receipt stating the number of heads, recorded liveweight, agreed price per kilogram, total consideration, and agreed date of payment.

SEC. 7. Prohibited Unfair Trading Practices. It shall be unlawful for any buyer, in a farmgate transaction with a small livestock raiser or accredited association, to:

(a) pay later than fifteen (15) days from delivery, absent a prior written agreement providing otherwise;

(b) unilaterally deduct from the agreed price or recorded weight after delivery without a documented and disclosed basis;

(c) refuse to issue the receipt required under Section 6 or to execute a written supply agreement upon the raiser's request;

(d) refuse without justifiable cause, and on unreasonably short notice, to accept delivery of animals already accepted for purchase;

(e) retaliate against a raiser or association for a complaint filed or information given under this Act; or

(f) collude with other buyers to fix, depress, or allocate the purchase price of hogs, or to allocate raisers or areas of purchase among themselves, without prejudice to the application of the Philippine Competition Act.

SEC. 8. Adjudication. A complaint for violation of Section 7 may be filed with the BAI by the aggrieved raiser, an accredited association on the raiser's behalf, or the DA motu proprio.

The BAI shall resolve the complaint within sixty (60) days from filing of the answer, with notice and opportunity to be heard, and its decision shall be appealable to the Secretary of Agriculture and thereafter in accordance with the Rules of Court. The BAI shall offer mediation at the provincial level, not exceeding thirty (30) days, before adjudication.

SEC. 9. Local Sourcing Preference. Meat and meat products procured for any government food distribution program shall be sourced from domestic producers, preferably small livestock raisers and accredited associations, through negotiated procurement under existing procurement law. Not less than fifty percent (50%) of the total volume procured for such programs in any calendar year shall be of domestic origin, phased in at not less than thirty percent (30%) in the first year and forty percent (40%) in the second year of effectivity.

Imported meat may be allocated to such a program only upon a written certification by the Secretary of Agriculture, published and valid for not more than six (6) months, that domestic supply is insufficient.

SEC. 10. Penalties. After notice and hearing, the BAI shall impose upon an erring buyer:

(a) a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (PhP 10,000.00) to One Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP 100,000.00) for failure to report, or for late reporting, under Section 4;

(b) a fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (PhP 50,000.00) to Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP 500,000.00) for false reporting or violation of Section 6; and

(c) a fine of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP 100,000.00) to One Million Pesos (PhP 1,000,000.00), plus restitution to the aggrieved raiser, for violation of Section 7.

A second violation shall double the fine; a third shall carry suspension of registration for up to one (1) year; and a fourth shall carry revocation. These sanctions are without prejudice to criminal liability under existing law.

SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within ninety (90) days from effectivity, the Secretary of Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Trade and Industry, the Philippine Competition Commission, accredited associations, and consumer groups, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations, including reporting thresholds, forms, aggregation parameters, and the schedule of fines. Failure to promulgate the rules within this period shall not suspend the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 12. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged against the current appropriations of the DA, the BAI, and other concerned agencies. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 13. 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. 14. Repealing Clause. All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, rules, and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended, 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,