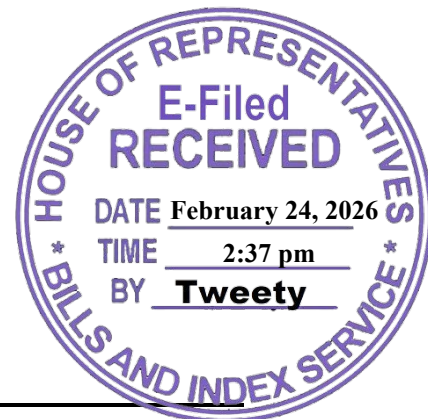


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 129

Submitted by the Special Committee on Food Security on February 24, 2026

Re: House Bill No. 8043

Recommending its approval in substitution of House Bills Numbered 849, 1313, 2196, 2556, 4405, 4725, 4937, 5118 and 5893.

Sponsor: Representative Raymond Adrian E. Salceda

Mr. Speaker:

The Special Committee on Food Security to which were referred House Bill No. 849, introduced by Rep. Jesus "Bong" C. Suntay, entitled:

**"AN ACT
REDUCING FOOD WASTE THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS, FOOD WASTE RECYCLING, AND SOURCE REDUCTION, ESTABLISHING NATIONAL TARGETS AND INCENTIVES, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES";**

House Bill No. 1313, introduced by Rep. Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, entitled:

**"AN ACT
REDUCING FOOD WASTE THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS AND FOOD WASTE RECYCLING"**

House Bill No. 2196, introduced by Rep. Brian Poe, entitled:

**"AN ACT
REDUCING FOOD WASTE THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS AND FOOD WASTE RECYCLING"**

House Bill No. 2556, introduced by Rep. Janice Degamo, entitled:

**"AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF REDISTRIBUTING AND RECYCLING FOOD WASTE TO PROMOTE FOOD SECURITY"**

House Bill No. 4405, introduced by Rep. Raymond Adrian E. Salceda, entitled:

**“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE REDUCTION OF
FOOD LOSS AND FOOD WASTE TO IMPROVE FOOD SECURITY,
PROVIDING FOR MEASUREMENT, TARGETS, STANDARDS,
PROGRAMS, AND INCENTIVES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 4725, introduced by Reps. Rufus B. Rodriguez and Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., entitled:

**“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FOOD WASTE REDUCTION AND
REDISTRIBUTION PROGRAM, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 4937, introduced by Rep. Agatha Paula Aguilar Cruz, entitled:

**“AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING FOOD STEWARDSHIP, ESTABLISHING A
NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR FOOD WASTE REDUCTION, RECOVERY,
AND REDISTRIBUTION, PROVIDING INCENTIVES AND SUPPORT
MECHANISMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”**

House Bill No. 5118, introduced by Rep. Audrey Kay T. Zubiri, entitled:

**“AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR A SYSTEM OF REDISTRIBUTING AND RECYCLING
FOOD WASTE TO PROMOTE FOOD SECURITY”;**

and House Bill No. 5893, introduced by Rep. Salvador A. Pleyto, entitled:

**“AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR FOOD SURPLUS
REDISTRIBUTION AND FOOD WASTE RECYCLING TO PROMOTE FOOD
SECURITY AND ACHIEVE ZERO FOOD WASTE, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES”;**

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Bill No. **8043**, entitled:

**“AN ACT
REDUCING FOOD SURPLUS THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS AND FOOD
WASTE RECYCLING”**

be approved in substitution of House Bills Numbered 849, 1313, 2196, 2556, 4405, 4725, 4937, 5118 and 5893 with Reps. Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Brian Poe, Janice Degamo, Raymond Adrian E. Salceda, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., Agatha Paula Aguilar Cruz, Audrey Kay T. Zubiri, Salvador A. Pleyto, Jose Manuel “JM” F. Lagdameo,

Timothy Joseph E. Cayton, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., MD, FPSO-HNS, Rebecca Maria Alcantara Ynares, Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Arlyn P. Ayon, Robert Nazal and Sarah Jane I. Elago as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,



RAYMOND ADRIAN E. SALCEDA
Chairperson
Special Committee on Food Security

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **8043**

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 849, 1313, 2196, 2556, 4405,
4725, 4937, 5118 and 5893)

Introduced by Representatives Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Brian Poe, Janice Degamo, Raymond Adrian E. Salceda, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., Agatha Paula Aguilar Cruz, Audrey Kay T. Zubiri, Salvador A. Pleyto, Jose Manuel “JM” F. Lagdameo, Timothy Joseph E. Cayton, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., MD, FPSO-HNS, Rebecca Maria Alcantara Ynares, Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Arlyn P. Ayon, Robert Nazal and Sarah Jane I. Elago

**AN ACT REDUCING FOOD SURPLUS THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS
AND FOOD WASTE RECYCLING**

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the "Food Waste Reduction
2 and Prevention Act".

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State recognizes every person’s right to an
4 adequate standard of living, including sufficient, safe, and nutritious food. It shall be the
5 policy of the State to attain food security, end hunger, promote the efficient use of the
6 country’s food resources, and protect the environment by reducing food waste and its
7 greenhouse gas emissions.

8 To this end, the State shall: (a) mandate the donation of edible food surplus to
9 accredited food banks for distribution to food-insecure beneficiaries; (b) require covered
10 establishments to adopt food waste prevention measures; (c) promote the recycling of
11 inedible surplus into useful products such as compost, fertilizer, or energy; and (d)
12 integrate food waste reduction into climate mitigation strategies and sustainable
13 development planning.

1 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Act:

2 a) *Edible food surplus* refers to excess food or surplus food in the retail and
3 consumption stages, fit for human consumption based on standards set by the National
4 Nutrition Council (NNC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA);

5 b) *Food banks* refer to non-profit, charitable or social mission-oriented organizations
6 that distribute food to the food insecure, accredited under this Act;

7 c) *Food insecure* refers to persons or groups with no means and/or have difficulty
8 producing or purchasing sufficient food;

9 d) *Food surplus management hierarchy* refers to the preferred order of managing
10 surplus: (1) prevention at source; (2) redistribution for human consumption; (3) use as
11 animal feed; (4) recycling; (5) disposal as last resort;

12 e) *Food surplus reduction* refers to the decrease in surplus generation through
13 prevention, redistribution to the food insecure, or recycling into useful products;

14 f) *Food waste prevention plan* refers to a documented strategy by a food-related
15 business detailing actions to avoid generating food surplus at the source, including
16 overproduction reduction, improved inventory management, demand forecasting, and
17 staff training;

18 g) *Food-related business* refers to entities engaged in food manufacturing,
19 processing, wholesaling, retailing, food service, or culinary education;

20 h) *Inedible food surplus* refers to food unfit for consumption as determined by NNC
21 and FDA standards, including expired prepackaged food; and

22 i) *Waste management and recycling enterprises* refer to organizations converting
23 inedible food waste into compost, fertilizer, animal feed, or energy.

24 **SEC. 4. Covered Establishments.** – This Act applies to: (a) Food manufacturers,
25 exempt from existing restrictions when donating surplus; (b) Restaurants, cafes, diners,
26 fast food chains, and hotels; (c) Supermarkets with at least five hundred (500) square
27 meters of selling space; and (d) Culinary schools with at least fifty (50) students, and
28 similar businesses, as may be determined in the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

29 **SEC. 5. Determination of Food Insecure Individuals or Groups.** – The Department
30 of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in coordination with local government units
31 (LGUs), shall set criteria to identify food-insecure individuals or groups.

32 **SEC. 6. National Food Surplus Campaign and Consumer Awareness.** – The NNC,
33 with the DSWD, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of
34 Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Education (DepEd),
35 Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health, Department of Agriculture
36 (DA), FDA, and LGUs, shall conduct a nationwide campaign to raise awareness on food
37 waste, its impacts, and reduction strategies starting at household level.

38 The DepEd shall include in its curriculum:

39 a) Current global and national food waste situation;

40 b) Methods to minimize surplus;

41 c) National and local prevention programs;

- d) Food recovery; and
- e) Pertinent provisions of this Act.

The DTI and DepEd shall require clear “best before” and “use by” date labeling on packaged food and educate consumers on their difference to prevent avoidable household waste.

SEC. 7. *Edible Food Surplus Distribution.* – In an effort to reduce food waste and support the food insecure, specific guidelines have been established for the distribution of edible food surplus. The following enumerations outline the responsibilities of covered establishments in managing and donating surplus food. Covered establishments shall:

- a) Segregate edible and inedible food surplus;
- b) Food manufacturers may opt to segregate at supermarkets;
- c) LGU health inspectors shall certify edible surplus fit for consumption;
- d) Certified surplus shall be donated to accredited food banks designated by the DSWD;
- e) Food banks shall distribute to food-insecure beneficiaries; and
- f) Food banks shall maintain storage, hygiene, and handling standards, and keep donation records for six (6) months for traceability.

SEC. 8. *Food-related Business Surplus Reduction Strategy.* – To promote sustainability and reduce food waste, specific responsibilities for businesses within the food industry are established. Covered businesses shall:

- a. Submit annual reports to the DSWD and DENR detailing amounts and disposal methods of surplus;
- b. Enter into contracts with accredited food banks;
- c. Ensure donated surplus is unadulterated and safe upon delivery;
- d. Submit and implement a Food Waste Prevention Plan; and
- e. Businesses achieving at least twenty percent (20%) annual reduction in edible surplus at source shall be entitled to a one hundred fifty percent (150%) tax deduction on documented prevention investments.

SEC. 9. *National Food Surplus Scheme and Food Bank Certification.* – In response to the increasing need for food security and efficient resource management, the DSWD, as the coordinating agency between covered businesses and food banks, shall:

- a. Issue guidelines for collection, storage, and distribution;
- b. Ensure that food businesses have entered into contracts with food banks and issue acceptance certificates;
- c. Promote partnerships with LGUs for community-based distribution;
- d. Develop a Self-Sufficiency Program for skills and livelihood training; and
- e. Accredite food banks through a certification program with annual inspections.

SEC. 10. Responsibilities of Local Government Units. – LGUs play a crucial role in promoting sustainable waste management practices within their communities. To effectively address the challenges of waste disposal and recycling, LGUs shall:

- a. Submit annual reports on recyclable inedible surplus to the DENR;
- b. Conduct household-level segregation campaigns;
- c. Shoulder transport costs to recycling sites;
- d. Contract waste management enterprises;
- e. Maintain inedible waste levels within DENR targets; and
- f. Support community composting and animal feeding.

SEC. 11. Liability Protection. – Food donors are exempt from civil or criminal liability once donations are accepted by accredited food banks or farms.

SEC. 12. Prohibition on Resale. – Reselling donated edible or inedible surplus is strictly prohibited and punishable by *prision mayor*. If the offender is a juridical entity, its responsible officers shall be liable.

SEC. 13. Penalties. – A fine of Five hundred thousand pesos (₱500,000.00) shall apply to anyone who renders edible surplus unfit for consumption or obstructs redistribution. The same penalty is applicable to anyone who prevent the redirection of edible food surplus to food banks or inedible food surplus to waste management and recycling enterprises. Fines shall escalate per offense:

Second offense	One million pesos (P1,000,000.00)
Third offense	One million five hundred thousand pesos (P1,500,000.00)
Fourth offense	Two million pesos (P2,000,000.00)
Fifth and subsequent	Three million pesos (P3,000,000.00)

SEC. 14. National Food Waste Reduction Target and Climate Reporting. – The DA shall, in consultation with the Department of Economy, Planning, and Development, DSWD, and DENR, set a national target to reduce food waste by at least fifty percent (50%) by 2030. The NNC shall publish annual inventories and the DENR shall report estimated greenhouse gas emissions avoided.

SEC. 15. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days after the effectivity of this Act, the NNC, in coordination with all concerned agencies, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations.

SEC. 16. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid, or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

1 **SEC. 17. *Repealing Clause.*** – All other laws, presidential decrees or issuances,
2 executive orders, letters of instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulations
3 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified,
4 or amended accordingly.

5 **SEC. 18. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
6 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

FACT SHEET
HOUSE BILL NO. 8043

(In substitution of House Bills Numbered 849, 1313, 2196, 2556, 4405, 4725, 4937, 5118 and 5893)

AN ACT
REDUCING FOOD SURPLUS THROUGH FOOD DONATIONS AND FOOD WASTE RECYCLING

Introduced by Representatives Jesus “Bong” C. Suntay, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, Brian Poe, Janice Degamo, Raymond Adrian E. Salceda, Rufus B. Rodriguez, Maximo B. Rodriguez, Jr., Agatha Paula Aguilar Cruz, Audrey Kay T. Zubiri, Salvador A. Pleyto, Jose Manuel “JM” F. Lagdameo, Timothy Joseph E. Cayton, Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr., MD, FPSO-HNS, Rebecca Maria Alcantara Ynares, Atty. Jennifer “Karen” A. Lagbas, Lani Mercado-Revilla, Eulogio “Leo” R. Rodriguez, Arlyn P. Ayon, Robert Nazal and Sarah Jane I. Elago

Committee Referral:	Special Committee On Food Security
Committee Chairperson:	Rep. Raymond Adrian E. Salceda

OBJECTIVES:

- To achieve food security and end hunger by ensuring access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food for all;
- To promote efficient use of food resources by donating edible surplus and recycling of inedible food waste;
- To protect the environment by reducing food waste and greenhouse gas emissions;
- To mandate the donation of edible food surplus to accredited food banks to support food-insecure individuals;
- To require covered establishments to prevent food waste at the source;
- To set a national target to reduce food waste by at least 50% by 2030;
- To encourage recycling of inedible surplus into compost, fertilizer, energy, or animal feed; and
- To integrate food waste reduction into national climate strategies and sustainable development plans.

KEY PROVISIONS:

- Mandates the implementation of a National Zero-Food Waste Campaign to raise awareness on the impact of food surplus and strategies to reduce food waste in both food-related businesses and households;
- Establishes the linkages between food businesses, food banks and local government units to create a community-based food distribution system for the food insecure;
- Provides guidelines and standards for the collection, storage and distribution of edible food donated to food banks;

- Mandates the creation of a self-sufficiency program that provide skills training in managing food banks and livelihood programs to avoid dependence on donations solely;
- Requires local government units to enter into contracts with waste management and recycling enterprises to recycle inedible food waste into fertilizers or compost;
- Provides liability protection for certified food donors;
- Imposes penalties for selling food donations and for causing edible food surplus to be unfit for human consumption; and
- Requires the education of the youth on current global and national food waste situation; ways to minimize food surplus; and the national and local food surplus prevention programs.

RELATED LAWS:

- Republic Act No.11898, Extended Producer Responsibility Act of 2022
- Republic Act No. 10611, Food Safety Act of 2013
- Republic Act No. 9803, Food Donation Act of 2009
- Republic Act No. 9003, Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000