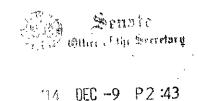
SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session)



SENATE S. No. **2491**

RE MINISTER	
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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT

TO CONDUCT A PILOT PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF PURCHASES OF LOCAL FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR SCHOOLS BY GIVING CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS THE OPTION OF RECEIVING A GRANT FROM THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15 provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them."

Noncommunicable diseases, especially cardiovascular diseases (CVDs), cancer, obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus, reportedly kill more people every year than any other cause of death. Four factors in the epidemiology of these diseases – poor diet, physical inactivity, tobacco and alcohol use – are of overwhelming importance to public health. Fruit and vegetables are an important component of a healthy diet and, if consumed daily in sufficient amounts, could help prevent major diseases such as CVDs and certain cancers.¹

Thus, there is a need for legislative policies to promote and support fruit and vegetable consumption.

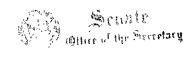
This bill seeks to conduct a pilot program in support of efforts to increase the amount of purchases of local fresh fruits and vegetables for schools and service institutions by giving certain administrative regions the option of receiving a grant from

¹ http://www.who.int/dietphysicalactivity/publications/fruit_vegetables_report.pdf.

the Secretary of Agriculture. With this bill, schools would be allowed to spend some of the government funding they receive to buy local food from local farmers.²

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

² This bill was originally filed during the Fifteenth Congress, Second Regular Session.



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

14 DEC -9 P2:43

SENATE S. No. **2491**)

i. Ji

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

1 2 3 4 5	AN ACT TO CONDUCT A PILOT PROGRAM IN SUPPORT OF EFFORTS TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF PURCHASES OF LOCAL FRESH FRUITS AND VEGETABLES FOR SCHOOLS BY GIVING CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE REGIONS THE OPTION OF RECEIVING A GRANT FROM THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
6,	SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as "Local School Foods Act."
7	SECTION 2. Pilot Program for Purchase of Fresh Fruits and Vegetables for
8	Schools and Service Institutions. –
9	(1) In General The Secretary of Agriculture (here called "Secretary") shall use
10	not more than Five Million Pesos (\$\mathbb{P}\$5,000,000.00) to conduct a pilot program under
11	which the Secretary will give not more than three participating administrative regions, as
12	listed the option of receiving a grant in an amount equal to the value of the commodities
13	that the participating region would otherwise receive under this Act for each of fiscal
14	years 2015 and 2016.
15	(2) Use of Grant Funds. – A participating region receiving a grant under this Act
16	may use the grant funds solely to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables for distribution to
17	schools in the region.
18	(3) Selection of Participating States The Secretary shall select participating
19	regions from applications submitted by the regions.

(4)) Reporti	ng Rec	uirements.	
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(A) School Requirement Schools in a participating region shall keep
records of purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables made using the grant funds and
report such records to the region.

- (B) Region Requirement. Each participating region shall submit to the Secretary a report on the success of the pilot program in the region, including information on the amount and value of each type of fresh fruit and vegetable purchased by the region; and the benefit provided by such purchases in conducting the school food service in the region, including meeting school meal requirements.
- SECTION 3. Separability Clause. If any provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, any other provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
- SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause*. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.
- SECTION 5. *Effectivity*. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/fldpnov2014