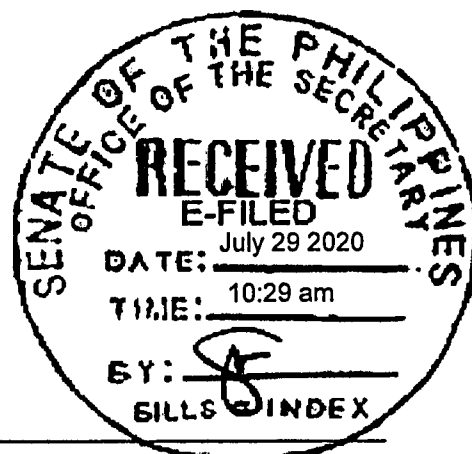


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

S. No. 1752



Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

AN ACT
MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY
STOCKPILE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

One of the crucial activities of disaster preparedness recognized by Republic Act No. 10121 or the "Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010" is the "stockpiling of equipment and supplies".¹ A stockpile is defined as "an accumulation of some desired material created to ensure future supply."² The goal of stockpiling, in a national scale, is to reduce the country's vulnerability to unforeseeable production and supply-chain disruptions and over-dependence on the foreign supply of goods and materials which may be upset and rendered unavailable because of disasters and emergencies. The current COVID-19 pandemic presents a cautionary tale on the need for the country to institutionalize a system for the stockpiling of essential goods and materials. At the start of the pandemic, the Philippines is hounded by the looming shortages of medical supplies such as face masks³ and personal protective equipment(PPE)⁴. Worse, five months into the public health emergency, shortages in PPE continue to cripple our healthcare workers, exacerbating their risk of exposure to the disease.⁵ Even in disasters that are not of a global scale, the need for

¹ Sec. 3(j), R.A. No. 10121

² <https://web.mit.edu/12.000/www/m2016/finalwebsite/solutions/stockpiling.html>

³ <https://news.mb.com.ph/2020/02/19/dti-looks-for-face-mask-suppliers-to-reduce-shortage/>

⁴ <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1242616/hospitals-appeal-for-face-masks>

⁵ <https://mb.com.ph/2020/07/19/healthcare-workers-still-struggling-with-ppe-shortage/>

stockpiling is evident, especially during the 2020 Taal Volcano eruption when a shortage or even outright non-availability of face masks occurred, albeit due to unmitigated panic-buying.⁶

This proposed measure aims to address this stockpiling problem. Under this bill, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) shall establish the National Emergency Stockpile which shall be the central repository and supply reserve of medicines, vaccines, antidotes, and other critical medical supplies, food items, basic commodities, essential raw materials and other emergency-related articles, facilities and equipment. Utilization of the Stockpile is limited to Instances of a declared national or local state of calamity or emergency and with prior approval of the NDRRMC. The locations for the Stockpile will be equitably distributed among the different regions and will be made safe and secure from any man-made and natural disasters such as fires, earthquakes, robbery and looting. The actual locations will also be kept strictly confidential and not be publicly disseminated. The bill also provides for the monitoring of the quantity, volume and the dates of expiration and shelf lives of the items and materials included in the Stockpile. To avoid wastage and decay, items and materials that will be near their expiration dates or the end of the shelf lives shall be donated and transferred to appropriate government agencies and institutions such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Health, government hospitals, and local government units.

If passed into law, this measure will serve to strengthen our country's response and emergency management capabilities to any kinds of disasters or calamities.

In view of this, early passage of this bill is sought.

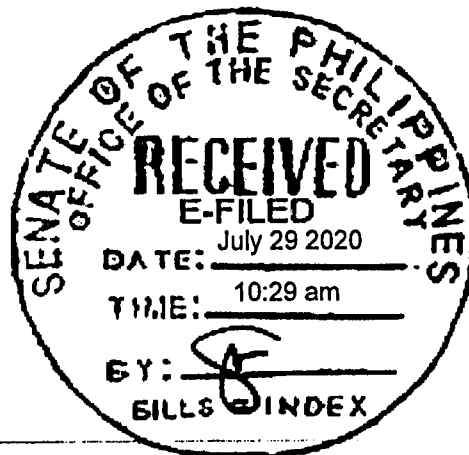

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator 

⁶ <https://rappler.com/nation/face-masks-out-of-stock-stores-taal-volcano-ashfall-spreads-january-2020>

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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AN ACT
MANDATING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY
STOCKPILE, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "*National Emergency*
2 *Stockpile Act.*"

3
4 Section 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared as the policy of the
5 State to protect the people from the adverse effects of calamities and emergencies by
6 ensuring a sufficient and adequate supply of essential items and materials and
7 preventing whenever possible the dangerous and costly dependence of the Philippines
8 upon foreign nations and organizations for supplies of such items and materials and
9 the country's vulnerability to production and supply-chain disruptions.

10
11 Section 3. *National Emergency Stockpile.* – The National Disaster Risk
12 Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) shall hereby establish the National
13 Emergency Stockpile (hereinafter referred to as the "Stockpile") which shall be the
14 central repository and supply reserve of medicines, vaccines, antidotes, and other
15 critical medical supplies, food items, basic commodities, essential raw materials and
16 other emergency-related articles, facilities and equipment. The specific items and

1 materials to be included in the Stockpile shall be determined by the NDRRMC, in
2 consultation with the Department of National Defense, Department of Health,
3 Department of Agriculture, Department of Social Welfare and Development and other
4 relevant government agencies: *Provided*, that such Items and materials shall be non-
5 perishable or shall have shelf-lives of at least two (2) years.
6

7 Section 4. *Location of the Stockpile.* – The NDRRMC shall determine the actual
8 locations of the Stockpile, taking into consideration equitable distribution among the
9 regions of the country, accessibility, safety and security from man-made and natural
10 disasters, and immediate release of the stockpile in case of disaster or emergency.
11 The actual locations shall be kept strictly confidential and shall not be publicly
12 disseminated.
13

14 Section 5. *Quantity and Replenishment of the Stockpile.* – The quantity and
15 volume of the Stockpile shall be strictly and regularly monitored and maintained.
16 Replenishment, replacement or addition to the Stockpile shall be done in an annual
17 basis or as oftener as may be deemed necessary. Pursuant to this, a computerized
18 system for the real-time monitoring of the dates of expiration and shelf lives of the
19 items and materials in the Stockpile shall be set up to avoid unnecessary wastage and
20 decay.
21

22 Section 6. *Utilization and Deployment of the Stockpile.* – The utilization and
23 deployment of the Stockpile shall only be done in case of a declared local or national
24 state of calamity or emergency and with the approval of the NDRRMC. Any order of
25 utilization and deployment shall be accompanied with a time-specific plan for the
26 replenishment and replacement of the withdrawn supplies.

27 A first-in, first-out system or any similar arrangement shall be adopted in the
28 utilization and deployment of the Stockpile. Items and materials that will be near their
29 expiration dates or the end of the shelf lives shall be donated and transferred to
30 appropriate government agencies and institutions such as the Department of Social
31 Welfare and Development, Department of Health, government hospitals, and local

1 government units, subject to immediate replenishment and replacement and/or
2 reservation for imminent calamities or emergencies.

3 Section 7. *Annual Report.* – The NDRRMC shall submit to the Office of the
4 President, the Senate and the House of Representatives, within the first quarter of
5 every year, an annual report relating to the progress of the implementation of this
6 Act. The confidentiality of the locations of the Stockpile shall be observed in the Annual
7 Report.

8 Section 8. *Appropriations.* - The amount necessary for the implementation of
9 this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations of the year following
10 its enactment into law and thereafter.

11
12 Section 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from
13 the effectivity of this Act, the NDRRMC in consultation with the Department of National
14 Defense, Department of Health, Department of Agriculture, Department of Social
15 Welfare and Development and other relevant government agencies, shall issue the
16 necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

17
18 Section 10. *Repealing Clause.* — All laws, presidential decrees, executive
19 orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or any part thereof, which are
20 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
21 accordingly.

22
23 Section 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act, or the
24 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held unconstitutional or invalid,
25 the remainder of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

26
27 Section 12. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
28 from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
29 circulation.

30
31 *Approved,*