

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

7 JUL -4 110:07

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 983

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A nutrition survey conducted by the Department of Education revealed that 5 out of 10 Filipino children are suffering from varying degrees of malnutrition.

Milk has been identified as a complete and nutritious food. It supplies more of the essential nutrients in significant amounts than any other single food. Milk and milk products can play a vital role in providing the basic nutrition the Filipino citizenry needs, especially its growing child population.

This bill seeks to establish a milk feeding program for children 5-10 years old, to be sourced from locally produced milk. The funding for the program will come from tariff collections from the importation of milk and other dairy products as well as of dairy equipment and implements, and if insufficient, from the President's Social Fund. As an incentive to the supporters of the program, they will be given a tax credit equivalent to 100% of their contribution. Seventy percent (70%) of the fund shall be used for the milk feeding program and thirty percent (30%) shall be used for other dairy and dairy-related activities.

This bill will realize our hope for a better, healthier, and more productive population who will ultimately contribute to the development of our rural communities. Our dairy farmers will also benefit from the resulting expanded market base and greater funding assistance for the dairy industry.

In view of the above, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANNY VILLAR

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AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING THE NATIONAL MILK FEEDING PROGRAM AND
PROVIDING FOR MILKFEEDING FUND THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. *Title of the Act* – This Act shall be known as the MILKFEEDING
2 ACT.

3
4 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* - The State shall ensure the health and
5 welfare of the vulnerable children population and shall institute effective mechanisms to
6 carry out this policy. The State shall ensure the supply of regular food supplement for
7 children in order to create a future generation of physically and mentally developed
8 youth.

9
10 SECTION 3. *Milk Feeding Defined* – Milk feeding, as used in this Act, shall
11 cover contribution of locally produced milk from cows, carabaos and goats for direct
12 intake of children aged 5-10 years old nationwide. The milk shall come from the
13 produce of local dairy producers and processors at a price and quality acceptable to
14 both the local milk suppliers and milk feeding sponsors, private or government. No milk
15 intended for milk feeding shall be used for commercial sale.

16
17 SECTION 4. *Priority Coverage* – Priority shall be given to children who are in the
18 barangay day care centers, pre-schools and schools located in the rural areas of the

1 country and where prevalence of malnutrition is high. Second priorities are nursing
2 mothers, pregnant women and elderly persons who also reside in rural communities.

3
4 SECTION 5. *Milk Feeding Fund* - There is hereby allocated an initial amount of
5 FIVE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS (P500M) out of the tax collection of the National
6 Government from the importation of milk and dairy products as well as dairy equipment
7 and implements in order to enhance and augment the existing funds for the National
8 Milk Feeding Program of the National Dairy Authority. Said allocation shall constitute
9 the seed money for the Milk Fund. Annually, thereafter, the Milk Feeding Fund shall be
10 augmented by seventy-five percent (75%) of the annual tax collection of the National
11 Government from the importation of milk and dairy products as well as dairy equipment
12 and implements; Seventy percent (70%) of which shall be used for the National
13 Feeding Program and the balance of thirty percent (30%) shall be used for other dairy
14 and dairy-related activities.

15
16 SECTION 6. *Funding Alternatives* – In the event that the milk import tariff fund
17 allocation is insufficient, alternative funding shall be automatically sourced from the
18 President's Social Fund, equivalent to at least 10% thereof.

19
20 SECTION 7. *Allocation of Funding* – The Department of Budget and
21 Management and of Finance are hereby directed to set aside the amounts from the
22 taxes collected on the importation of milk and dairy products as well as dairy equipment
23 and implements, and/or secure the 10% automatic allocation from the President's
24 Social Fund.

25 SECTION 8. *Implementing Authority* – The National Dairy Authority, consistent
26 with its mandate under Republic Act No. 7884, is hereby authorized to utilize the afore-
27 said funds for the National Milk Feeding Program and other dairy and dairy-related
28 development activities. The NDA shall tap bonafide and reputable women's
29 organizations as milk feeding partners as well as other government agencies, people's
30 organizations and non-government organizations (NGOs) with a social reform, pro-poor
31 and pro-child agenda.

32
33 SECTION 9. *Milk Feeding Incentives* – Any private entity or benefactor, local or
34 foreign, who supports the Milk Feeding Program in whatever form, shall be given due
35 tax credit equivalent to 100% of the value of their contribution to the program.

36

1 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and
2 regulations and other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this
3 Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4

5 SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

6

7 Approved,

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