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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 247

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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**Introduced by Representative Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.**

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#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill was previously filed by former Representative and now Vice President Maria Leonor G. Robredo during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress with the objective of institutionalizing the National Feeding Program, establishing government support to small scale producers, and creating a National Food Security Council where all pertinent sectors are duly represented.

Poverty, with its multifarious permutations, has long bedevilled the Philippines, spawning, in the process, innumerable initiatives aimed at alleviating, if not totally eradicating, it. Yet, it still persists and even threatens to undermine the strides the nation has made in strengthening democratic processes. This bill is an audacious attempt to address poverty at its core, taking into account the vulnerable sectors of the community and the vital services they provide to sustain national development and stability.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is urgently sought.



**Gabriel H. Bordado, Jr.**

Representative, Third District of Camarines Sur



1 **Sec. 6. *Supplementary Feeding Program*** – The DSWD shall ensure that children ages 2 – 5 receive the  
2 proper nutrients and diet while under their care. Beneficiaries shall be given meals that will meet their  
3 nutritional needs. The DSWD may consult with the National Nutrition Council (NNC) to meet the proper  
4 nutritional and dietary needs of the children. The following shall be the beneficiaries:

- 5  
6 a) Children 2 - 4 years old in the Supervised Neighborhood Play (SNP) Area;  
7  
8 b) Children 3 - 4 years old enrolled in Day Care Centers (DDC); and  
9  
10 c) Children 5 years old not enrolled in the Department of Education (DepEd) preschool system but  
11 enrolled in DDCs.  
12  
13

14 **Sec. 7. *Elementary Feeding School Program*** – The Department of Education (DepEd) shall ensure that  
15 students from Kindergarten to Grade 4 are given the proper meals during school hours. Such meals should  
16 contain the proper nutritional and dietary needs of students. The DepEd shall consult the NNC nutritional  
17 and dietary specifics.  
18  
19

## 20 Chapter II 21 Procurement 22 23

24 **Sec. 8. *Procurement of Produce*** – The Government is, hereby, mandated to ensure that 30% or more of  
25 the supplies needed to implement the National Feeding Program are procured from Small-Scale Producers.  
26  
27

28 **Sec. 9. *Registry of Small-Scale Producers*** – The Department of Agriculture (DA) shall keep and regularly  
29 update a list of Small-Scale Producers. It shall use Registry for Basic Sectors in Agriculture (RSBSA),  
30 Regional Field Office (RFO) list of beneficiaries, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources' National  
31 Program for Municipal Fisher folk Registration (BFAR FishR) for fisherfolk, and any other list it may deem  
32 necessary to keep the registry up to date. *Furthermore*, the DA is required to coordinate with the DSWD to  
33 cross-match and compare the registry with the DSWD's National Household Targeting System for Poverty  
34 Reduction (NHTS-PR) to avoid duplication and redundancy.  
35  
36

37 **Sec. 10. *Procurement process for Small-Scale Producers*** – For the purposes of this act, procurement  
38 from Small Scale producers shall be exempted from the procurement process as stated in Republic Act  
39 No.9184, otherwise known as the Procurement Law. Provided, small scale producers shall undergo  
40 Negotiated Procurement Participation under the guidelines of the Government Procurement Policy Board  
41 (GPPB) and specified under this act.  
42  
43

44 **Sec. 11. *Negotiated Procurement Participation*** – Small Scale Producers shall enter a Negotiated  
45 Procurement with the government under the guidelines of the GPPB when the following conditions are met:

- 46 a) DA Validation – certification from the DA and/or any of its tasked agency that the individual or family  
47 is indeed included in the Registry of Small scale farmers.  
48  
49 b) Produce/Product Sustainability – when participants have the ability to continue to meet the demand  
50 for their produce or product for prolonged periods of time, with or without government intervention.

- 1 c) Community Enrichment – when there is a viable means of improving the well-being of the community  
2 where the small scale farmers are situated. This seeks to extend the benefits that may arise from the  
3 contract between the small scale farmers and the government. The goal is to achieve positive  
4 outcomes such as like poverty reduction, access to education, equitable distribution and management  
5 of natural resources, climate change adaptation/mitigation, disaster risk reduction, gender equality,  
6 disease reduction, and job generation, among others.  
7  
8

9 **Sec. 12. Support Services for Small-Scale Producers under the Department of Agriculture** – The DA  
10 shall institute the following benefits for Small-Scale Producers as contained in their registry:

- 11 a) Training on Production, Harvesting, Procurement Process of this Act, and any other topic the DA  
12 sees fit;  
13  
14 b) Subsidized Farm Equipment  
15  
16 c) Facilities for storage and harvesting  
17  
18 d) Capacity Building for Small-Scale Farmer  
19  
20 e) Access to Crop Insurance  
21  
22 f) Access to credit/low interest rates  
23  
24

25 **Sec. 13. Support Services for Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries who are Small-Scale Producers** - The  
26 Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) shall institute the following benefits for Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries  
27 who are Small-Scale Producers as contained in their list of beneficiaries:  
28

- 29 a) Training on Production, Harvesting, Procurement Process of this Act, and any other topic the DAR  
30 sees fit;  
31  
32 b) Subsidized Farm Equipment;  
33  
34 c) Facilities for storage and harvesting;  
35  
36 d) Capacity Building for Small-Scale Farmer;  
37  
38 e) Access to Crop Insurance;  
39  
40 f) Access to credit/low interest rates.  
41  
42

### 43 Chapter III 44 Food Council 45

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47 **Sec. 14. National Food Security Council** - A National Food Security Council, hereafter referred to as  
48 Council, is hereby created as an attached and independent agency to the Office of the President.  
49  
50

1 **Sec. 15. *Mandate of the Council*** - The Council is mandated to act as the check and balance organization  
2 for the food security system. It shall oversee the effective distribution, procurement, and targeting of  
3 beneficiaries as mandated in this Act. It shall also serve as a coordinating body for the different departments  
4 involved in the implementation of this Act.

5  
6  
7 **Sec. 16. *Chairperson of the Council*** - The Chairperson of the Council shall be appointed to a six year  
8 term by the President of the Philippines. No person may be Chairperson if he has not met the following  
9 criteria:

- 10  
11 a) Ten (10) years of work experience in a CSO involved in Food Security;  
12  
13 b) Has no relatives, to the second degree of consanguinity, in the government  
14  
15 c) Has good moral character  
16  
17 d) No pending cases

18 **Sec. 17. *Membership of the Council*** - The Council shall consist of the following members:

- 19 a) Representative from the Department of Agriculture;  
20  
21 b) Representative from the Department of Agrarian Reform  
22  
23 c) Representative from the Department of Social Welfare and Development  
24  
25 d) Representative from the Department of Interior and Local Government  
26  
27 e) Representative from the Department of Education  
28  
29 f) Representative from the Department of Health  
30  
31 g) Representative from the National Nutritional Council  
32  
33 h) Representative from the Department of Science and Technology - Food and Nutrition  
34 Research Institute  
35  
36 i) Four (4) Representatives from Civil Society involved in Food Security or Hunger alleviation  
37  
38 j) Four (4) Representatives from Small-Scale Producers group  
39  
40

41 **Sec. 18. *Representatives from Civil Society involved in Food Security or Hunger Alleviation*** - The  
42 Representatives for Civil Society shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the  
43 recommendation of the National Anti-Poverty Commission. No Representative may be appointed or  
44 recommended if he has not met the following criteria:

- 45  
46 a) Five (5) years of service under a Civil Society Organization involved in Food Security or  
47 Hunger Alleviation;  
48  
49 b) Has no position in any government agency or office;  
50

- 1 c) Has no relatives, to the second degree of consanguinity, in the government;  
2  
3 d) Has good moral character;  
4  
5 e) No pending cases.  
6  
7

8 **Sec. 19. *Representatives from Small-Scale Producers group*** - The Representatives for Small-Scale  
9 Producers shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines upon the recommendation of the  
10 Department of Agriculture. No Representative may be appointed or recommended if he has not met the  
11 following criteria:

- 12 a) Five (5) years as a practicing Small-Scale Producer;  
13  
14 b) Has no position in any government agency or office;  
15  
16 c) Has no relatives, to the second degree of consanguinity, in the government;  
17  
18 d) Has good moral character; and  
19  
20 e) No pending cases  
21  
22

23 **Sec. 20. *Appropriations*** – The funds needed to implement this Act shall be included in the annual General  
24 Appropriations Act.

25 **Sec. 21. *Implementing Rules and Regulations***. – Within sixty (60) days from the appointment its  
26 members, the Council shall promulgate such rules and regulations necessary for the effective  
27 implementation of this Act.

28 **Sec. 22. *Separability Clause***. – If any provision of this Act is subsequently declared invalid or  
29 unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

30 **Sec. 23. *Effectivity***. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official*  
31 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.