

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 0544



*Introduced by Rep. Wilfrido Mark M. Enverga*

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Filipino children up to six (6) years of age deserve the best care and attention at the family and community levels. Towards this end, Republic Act No. 6972 was enacted in 1990 which mandates the establishment a day care center in every barangay.

Day Care Centers provides support programs that ensure total development and protection of children. Day Care workers provide intellectual and mental stimulation to the children, as well as supervised wholesome recreation, with a balanced program of supervised play, mental stimulation activities, and group activities. They are utilized to assist in the care of children and provide consultative services for medical, educational, and other needs of the children.

Twenty-six (26) years after its passage, out of 42,026 barangays in the country, 4,570 barangays had yet to establish their own day care center. Moreover, many of the day care centers existing in the country are in very deplorable conditions. Most of these Centers are in need of renovation or rehabilitation.

Lack of funds has been the perennial problem in our day care system. The government has not been able to provide enough resources (i.e., building, materials, medicines, children books, tables and chairs) and nutrition to support the ever increasing number children in the day care program.

The present budgetary allocation of the Department of Social Welfare and Development and the LGUs cannot address the deficiency in the day care program due to other priorities.

This bill seeks to address pressing problems in the implementation of day care program nationwide i.e., shortages of center, day care materials and equipments, dilapidated centers and others by providing for a one-time appropriations to address such deficiencies.

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

  
WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA

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**AN ACT PROVIDING FOR DAY CARE CENTERS REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, CREATING DAY CARE CENTERS REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT FUND, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION. 1. Title** – This Act shall be known as “Day Care Centers Rehabilitation and Improvement Act of 2019”

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** - It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and to provide them with special protection against all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development. Filipino children up to six (6) years of age deserve the best care and attention at the family and community levels. Towards this end, the State shall endeavor to provide Filipino children in every barangay facilities that are adequate, safe and conducive to enable the children achieve their holistic development. Accordingly, the State shall ensure a continuing effort towards rehabilitation and improvement of all day care centers nationwide.

**SEC. 3. Objective.** – There shall be established a comprehensive and continuing Day Care Centers Rehabilitation and Improvement Program, hereinafter referred to as the “Program” which shall have the following objectives:

- (a) To address the inadequacy of day care centers in the country;
- (b) To rehabilitate/improve and renovate dilapidated centers;
- (c) To improve the delivery of day care services;
- (d) To foster an environment in the center conducive for barangay level total development and protection of children.



**SEC. 4. Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Council.** – There is hereby created a Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Council in the Department of Social Welfare and Development which shall be headed by the Department Secretary as Chairperson and representatives of various national leagues in the provinces, cities and municipalities as member.

The council shall formulate and adopt a comprehensive program and guidelines to resolve the shortages of day care Centers, its rehabilitation and improvement of centers, deficiencies in day care materials, equipments and furniture and fixtures.

**SEC. 5. Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund.** – There is hereby created a trust fund, to be known as Day Care Rehabilitation and Improvement Fund for which the sum of Fifty Billion Pesos (P50,000,000,000.00) shall be appropriated. The total amount allocated herein shall be used exclusively for the construction, rehabilitation and/or repair, renovation of day care centers in the country, the procurement of day care materials, equipment, furniture and fixtures pursuant to the program and guidelines as determined by the Council.

Provided, that all unexpected balance, after the completion of the work and/or procurement authorized for each fiscal year, shall at once revert to the National Treasury to the credit of the appropriation provided for under this Act and shall not be withdrawn from it nor expended except for the purpose indicated herein. Such unexpended balance for any fiscal year shall be added to the appropriation for the next fiscal year and expended accordingly.

**SEC. 6. Bidding.** – Any provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, funds allocated under the provision of this Act shall be executed through public bidding in accordance with the existing government rules and regulations.

**SEC. 7. Appropriation.-** The amount needed to implement this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year.

**SEC. 8. Separability.** - Should any provision of this Act be found unconstitutional by a court of law, such provision shall be severed from the remainder of this Act, and such action shall not affect the enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Act.

**SEC. 9. Effectivity.-** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

APPROVED,