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

1st Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3030



Introduced by Hon. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II

#### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

As we all know, food is one of the most vital human necessity that every person should have access to. But despite this, millions of people are still starving and are dying of starvation. In fact, a 2017 study conducted by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research states that the wide spread hunger problem in the world has reached astronomical proportions. Each and every day, hunger kills 21,000 people around the world, that's 1 death every 4 seconds, and most of the victims are children.

The Philippines, despite being a country that thrives on agriculture, is facing serious levels of hunger. In fact, as of 2018, the Philippines' Global Hunger Index (GHI) is currently at 20.2, which immediately classifies the country under the "serious" category as stated by the GHI.

Malnutrition as a result of hunger poses as a threat not only to children but also to adults. As the problem pursues, children are at risk to various diseases and mental illnesses. Moreover, malnutrition contributes to the lowered productivity and stunted growth amongst adolescence. According to the 2018 report by Save the Children, the shortness of Filipino adults is attributed to stunted growth which leads them susceptible to various health risks such as heart disease, stroke, malnutrition, pulmonary tuberculosis and cancer.

With this, the problem on malnutrition should be addressed tenfold at its very core and it requires an integrated approach aiming to address the issue. This

is where the Barangay Integrated Development Approach to Nutrition Improvement comes in.

The Integrated Development Approach is an active research initiative by participating colleges and universities aiming to address the nutritional gaps and amongst the poor. This would then lead to the proper maintenance of a person's diet and nutrition.

With this, the Integrated Development Approach aims to put nutrition at the forefront of research and development in order to further improve national nutrition. As a result, it would then lead to more opportunities for the youth towards a bright future.

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

ATTY WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II

1<sup>st</sup> District, Zamboanga Slbugay

## Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City, Philippines

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.

### Introduced By HON. WILTER "SHARKY" WEE PALMA II

#### **AN ACT**

# APPROACH FOR NUTRITION IMPROVEMENT (BIDANI) OF THE RURAL POOR AS A LINKAGE PROGRAM FOR ALL STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES (SUCs) AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

**SECTION 1.** Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) Act".

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SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to recognize nutrition as a basic human right. Towards this end, the State shall vigorously promote the importance of nutrition as a public good and a public concern that can be satisfactory achieved through a multisectoral support. It shall work towards the provision of the nutritional needs of the poor sector of the Filipino society who are deprived of said right. Further, the State shall give utmost support to programs and projects that are responsive to the nutritional needs of the people.

SEC. 3. Objectives. – This Act shall have the following objectives:

- (a) To encourage the cooperation and participation of academic institutions and local government units (LGUs) in promoting the nutritional well-being of the people;
- (b) To develop among state universities and colleges (SUCs) and community colleges an effective research-action network program that will improve the nutrition and general well-being of the rural poor; and
- (c) To enhance the productivity and employability of the rural poor by improving their nutrition and life status.
- SEC. 4. Establishment of the Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement Program. The Barangay Integrated Development Approach for Nutrition Improvement (BIDANI) is hereby established as a nutrition-in-development research program involving SUCs and community colleges which aims to assist the national government in improving the nutrition and general well-being of the poor.

It is a comprehensive model for countryside development programs which makes nutrition as an entry point, an ultimate goal and objective, and an indicator and a measure of development. It is a strategy to combat malnutrition, insufficiency of food, social deprivation and poverty alleviation.

It is one of the enabling mechanisms in the implementation of the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) and an indispensable growth strategy of the National Nutrition Council (NNC).

- **SEC. 5.** *BIDANI Goals.* The BIDANI Program shall promote nutrition-in-development through community and other stakeholders' participation in an integrated management system facilitated by SUCs. The Program aims to:
- (a) Require all SUCs and community colleges to assist towards the achievement of the nutrition-in-development objectives of the NNC;
- (b) Engage the SUCs and community colleges in the conduct of training and capacity-building activities for all BIDANI stakeholders on the BIDANI strategies

and innovative practices to ensure that in-planning nutrition shall be integrated in all areas of local governance;

- (c) Promote the best nutrition practices of successful LGUs through the participation of local nutrition management teams; and
- (d) Build partnerships among SUCs/community colleges and other stakeholders to support the citizenry towards self-help and self-reliance; encourage citizen action through the involvement of various stakeholders; and coordinate with government organizations (GOs), nongovernment organizations (NGOs), private organizations (POs) and private sectors in linking the community with existing resources.
- **SEC. 6.** *BIDANI Structural/Organizational Linkages.* The BIDANI partners and stakeholders shall work at different levels as follows:
- (a) State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)/Community Colleges A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) shall formalize the partnership between the University of the Philippines Los Banos, as the national coordinator of the Program, represented by its Chancellor, and the President of the concerned SUCs/community colleges. Upon approval of the partnership, the BIDANI Program shall be implemented and attached to the Office of the Vice President for Research and Extension (OVPRE) in each partner SUC or community college. A BIDANI SUC or community college shall then choose and coordinate with its LGU partners.
- (b) City/Municipal Local Government Units The implementation of the BIDANI as a development strategy in the LGUs will commence upon the approval of the city or municipality of the nutrition plans formulated by the SUC concerned through a MOA or city/municipality resolution. Each city or municipality shall create a City/Municipal Organizational Machinery, composed of heads and representatives of different city/municipal line agencies who shall be responsible for the implementation, monitoring, evaluation and replication of the BIDANI strategy in the locality;

(c) Barangay Units — The realization of the BIDANI as a development strategy shall be accomplished at the barangay level. The Barangay Development Council (BDC) shall be enhanced through an expansion of BDC membership that shall be called the Program Planning and Implementation Committee. The Committee shall be composed of representatives from the Sangguniang Barangay, BDC, Purok and other community leaders who shall be trained on the BIDANI strategy to ensure that the processes for planning and management of development programs, projects and activities will be participative and responsive to the needs of the members of the barangay; and

- (d) Other Stakeholders The participation and inputs of the NGOs, other government agencies and offices, and POs shall be sought in the formulation of plans by the members of the barangay.
- **SEC. 7.** *BIDANI Innovative Strategies.* To facilitate the local implementation of the BIDANI, the Program shall be implemented using the following innovative strategies:
- (a) Formulation of the Barangay Integrated Development Plan (BIDP) Upon approval of this Act, each barangay shall formulate its BIDP which shall include the barangay's plans and programs relative to nutrition, which plans shall be integrated to the municipal development plan;
- (b) Development of a Barangay Management Information System (BMIS) In the conduct of its research activities, the concerned SUC/community college shall develop a people-based information system which shall focus on the identification of the needs of the barangay through efficient and effective data collection. The data shall be the basis for program planning, management and implementation of various projects and activities in the barangay; and
- (c) Implementation of a Participative Nutrition Enhancement Approach (PNEA) The NNC and participating SUCs/community colleges shall utilize the life cycle approach in the formulation of food production policies and programs and promote market-driven livelihood activities among the households in order to prevent malnutrition among preschool children and nutritionally-at-risk families.

**SEC. 8.** *Funding.* – The amount necessary for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program shall be included in the budget of the participating SUCs in the annual General Appropriations Act. The LGUs shall provide funding to the participating community colleges for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program.

Participating SUCs/community colleges may also get funds, donations and other forms of financial support from the foreign and local persons, institutions and governments for the implementation of the BIDANI linkage program.

- SEC. 9. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act, the NNC, in coordination with the participating SUCs/community colleges shall prepare and issue the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.
- **SEC. 10.** Separability Clause. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.
- **SEC. 11.** *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, other issuances, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.l
- **SEC. 12.** *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.

119 Approved,