

HONORABLE WILFRIDO MARK M. ENVERGA

Chairperson
Committee on Agriculture and Food
House of Representatives
Quezon City

Dear Representative **ENVERGA**,

The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) supports **House Bills Numbered 440, 2328, 3139, 3570, 3777, and 6057** that seek to promote, develop, and enhance the competitiveness of the livestock, poultry, and dairy industries, introduced by Representatives Joey Salceda, Robert Raymund M. Estrella et al., Nicanor B. Briones, the Chairperson, PM Vargas, and Luis Raymund “Lray” F. Villafuerte, Jr., respectively.

The DSWD respectfully submits the following comments and recommendations:

1. General Comments

1.1 To consolidate the bills into one.

1.2 The bills are complementary to existing legislative proposals to create the “**Trabaho sa Oras ng Pagbangon Program**” institutionalizing and expanding the **National Employment Recovery Strategy (NERS)**, and **Rural Employment Assistance Program (REAP)**.

1.3 A mechanism is highly recommended to ensure that these livestock, poultry, and dairy products are sourced out from the authorized suppliers and imposition of the prevailing farm gate price as determined by Philippine Livestock Poultry Authority (PLPA).

2. On HBN 2328 or the “Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Development and Competitiveness Act for 2022”

2.1 SEC. 4. Creation of the National Livestock Council (NLC)

To state in the Section if the program is under the supervision of the Office of the President (OP) or the Department of Agriculture (DA).

2.2 SEC. 5. Philippine Livestock, Poultry and Dairy Value Chain Development Roadmap (Framework)

2.2.1 Republic Act (RA) No. 8749 or the “Clean Air Act 9275 “and other related laws will be violated in the establishment of backyard livestock and/or

poultry raisers. Recommending instead to focus on developing clustered livestock and poultry production in every LGU.

2.2.2 To state the roles and functions of the different government agencies under this section. In addition, to collaborate with National Economic Development Fund (NEDA) in the formulation of the roadmap to secure the strategic planning or under the thrust and directions of the present administration.

2.3 SEC. 7. Rationalization of developmental Functions of the Livestock and Poultry Support Agencies

To consider construction of stock farms and research centers especially in the region with wide agricultural land in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

2.4 SEC. 14. Beneficiaries of the Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (LPDCEF)

To include in the Implementing Rules and Regulations the process to apply as beneficiaries of LPDCEF.

3. On HBN 3139 or the “Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy (LPD) Competitiveness and Enhancement Act”

3.1 SEC. 3. Sec. 12 of Republic Act (RA) No. 8178, Otherwise Known as the “Agricultural Tariffication Act”

3.1.1 Change Section 12 to Section 8 as it seeks to amend Section 12 of RA No. 8178 of law inclusive of eleven (11) sections only. Provision on Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund may be found under section 8 of RA 8178; and

3.1.2 Include in this Section the identification of beneficiaries for the LPDCEF.

3.2 SEC. 4. Livestock, Poultry and dairy Competitiveness Enhancement Fund

The DSWD may be included in the agencies concerned to provide assistance to the community for the implementation of programs for the livestock, poultry, and dairy industries.

4. On HBN 3570 or “An Act Strengthening the Local Swine and Poultry Industries, Creating for the Purpose the Swine and Poultry Competitiveness Enhancement Fund, Thereby Amending Republic Act No. 8178 Otherwise Known as “An Act Replacing Quantitative Import Restrictions on Agricultural Products, Except Rice, with Tariffs, Creating the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund, as Amended”

4.1 SECTION 1. Swine and Poultry Competitiveness Enhancement Fund

- 4.1.1 To establish a monitoring and oversight committee under the Department of Agriculture (DA), and to include an allocation plan for the SPCEF to avoid misappropriations between loans and grants.
- 4.1.2 To add in the last paragraph of Section 17 of RA 8178, to read as follows:

“The State recognizes the need for support programs that will address the concerns of swine poultry industries, particularly on local production to ensure food safety and security”

- 4.1.3 To include DSWD among agencies concerned to facilitate assistance to the community for the implementation of programs for hog and poultry raisers. The Micro-Enterprise Development Track of the Sustainable Livelihood Program of DSWD provides the following: (1) one-time financial assistance to fund a start-up micro- enterprise, (2) grant for the acquisition of knowledge and skills needed in the management of the micro-enterprise, and (3) cash for work assistance.

4.2 SEC. 3. Grants Necessary Permits

- 4.2.1 To provide in this section or in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) the process and requirements of application for licensing and permits to observe the existing laws such as RA 11032 or “Ease of Doing Business” (EODB) and RA 10683 or “Customs Modernization and Tariff Act” (CMTA).
- 4.2.2 To include those eligible livestock raisers, poultry and dairy farmers in the identification of beneficiaries by the LPDCEF, as basis for funding allocation.

5. On HBN 3777 or the “Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Development and Competitiveness Act”

5.1 SEC. 4. Philippine Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Value Chain Development Roadmap (Framework)

- 5.1.1 To include animal protection to prevent abuse to animals by individuals who are directly implementing the law;
- 5.1.2 To include plans and regulations on agricultural land being converted into non-agricultural projects for food security; and
- 5.1.3 To provide that the DA and the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) must have their respective separate roadmaps, which shall be prepared One-Hundred-Twenty (120) days from the effectivity of this Act.

5.2 SEC. 5. Secretariat and Oversight

To have separate section emphasizing the functions of the Steering Committee.

5.2 SEC. 6. Rationalization of Developmental functions of the Livestock and Poultry Support Agencies

5.2.1 To include the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) which was created under Presidential Decree No.07 series of 1972 to be submerged in this rationalization, and

5.2.2 To provide an additional section for the structure of the Dairy Development Service (DDS) to determine the function of the program

5.3 SEC. 7. Inventory of Animals

To provide that the income derived from such sale or disposition shall be treated in accordance with government accounting and auditing rules and regulations

5.4 SEC. 8. Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Management Information System (LPDMIS)

To include in this Section, the monitoring of the inventory of the extended programs (livestock/Poultry) vis-à-vis fund allocation.

5.5 SEC. 11. Authority in Livestock, Poultry, and Dairy Pest and Diseases-related Emergencies

5.5.1 To clearly state the functions of the Animal and Livestock Emergency Response Task Force (ALERTF);

5.5.2 To require the deployment of competent team in the Local Government Units (LGUs) or Provincial Level to respond to any pest and diseases-related emergency; and

5.5.3 To provide a mechanism in replenishing loss of supply to prevent shortages and further avert the possible localized price escalation.

5.6 SEC. 18. Budget for the Procurement of Local Fresh Milk and Fresh Milk based products under the Milk Feeding Program of RA No. 11037

It is noted that the allocation of the budget for the National Feeding Program is not under the DSWD-Sustainable Livelihood program (SLP). DSWD-SLP focuses on the livelihood programs of the poor under the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), the Listahanan, and the beneficiaries under RA 11291 on the Magna Carta for the Poor and Vulnerable. **The National Feeding Program can be in partnership with the DSWD through other social service programs offered by DSWD.**

6. On HBN 6057 or the “Philippine Livestock Industry Development Act”

6.1 SEC. 5. *Rationalization of Livestock Support Agencies*

To provide that the DSWD can be the major partner of the Dairy Development Service to implement the National Feeding Program targeting families who are poor and marginalized communities.

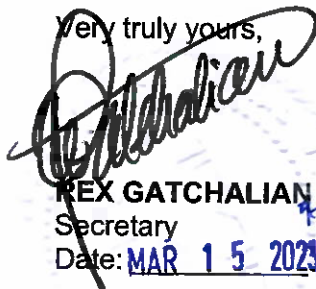
6.2 SEC. 6. *Authority in Livestock Pest-related Emergencies*

Change the Title from “**Authority in Livestock Pest-related Emergencies**” to “**Authority in Livestock Pest and Diseases-related Emergencies**”.

This is being submitted for the Chairperson’s consideration.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



REX GATCHALIAN
Secretary
Date: MAR 15 2023