

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 11 P3:49

SENATE
S. No. 244

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION OF
PHILIPPINE CULINARY HERITAGE**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Culinary tradition has been part of the Philippines' cultural heritage. Food is an essential part of Filipino identity and culture as it conveys the story of the country and unites the spirits of Filipino people despite the unique differences in food traditions in every region.

The stakeholders of Filipino culinary heritage encompass the sectors of agriculture, tourism, and the culture and arts.

To preserve our culinary heritage and promote sustainable food security in the country, this bill seeks to provide the necessary support for agriculture and fisheries, especially for small farmers and urban gardeners, to promote traditional cooking methods using heirloom ingredients, as well as to conduct food heritage and regional culinary identity mapping alongside identifying and recording tangible culinary resources using geographic tools.

The proposed measure will also establish the Committee on Philippine Gastronomy and Culinary Heritage, which will be responsible for the formulation and promulgation of policies, plans, and programs to ensure the further development, enrichment, propagation, promotion, and preservation of Filipino cuisine, Filipino culinary heritage, heirloom food, and gastronomy.

Ultimately, the bill seeks to strengthen and deepen the understanding and appreciation of our cultural identity through food heritage.

For the aforementioned reasons, the urgent passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



LOREN LEGARDA

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**AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESERVATION OF
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Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 Section. 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Philippine Culinary*
2 *Heritage Act of 2022.*"

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to instill patriotism and
4 nationalism among the people, especially through the educational system, and to
5 celebrate the culture and heritage of the country through the adoption of measures
6 that will elevate its value and prestige.

7 Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - As used in this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- 8 a. *Filipino cuisine* - refers to the cuisines of the different ethnolinguistic groups
9 or regions in the country.
- 10 b. *Culinary heritage* - refers to the recipes or dishes that forefathers or ancestors
11 used to cook or make, incorporating the origins of food-related activities of
12 a cultural group or region
- 13 c. *Heirloom* - refers to a valuable object that has belonged to an entity
14 for several generations.
- 15 d. *Heirloom food* - refers to a horticultural variety that has survived for several
16 generations. May refer to a vegetable, fruit, or legume that was commonly

1 grown during earlier periods in human history, but which is not widely
2 cultivated in large-scale agriculture.

- 3 e. *Gastronomy* – refers to the study of the relationship between food, culture,
4 and tradition of a certain area, the art of preparing and serving rich or
5 delicate and appetizing food, the cooking styles of particular regions, and
6 the science of good eating.
- 7 f. *Regional cuisine* – refers to a specific cuisine based on local regions. Regional
8 cuisines may vary based upon food availability and trade, varying climates,
9 cooking traditions and practices, and cultural differences.
- 10 g. *Ethnolinguistic regions* – refer to certain geographical areas where particular
11 groups of people speak a common language or culture.
- 12 h. *Disciplines* – refer to various fields of learning.
- 13 i. *Culinary mapping* – refers to a systematic approach of identifying and
14 recording culinary resources and the food needs of geographical areas or
15 communities, using geographic information systems to support a more
16 rigorous evidence-based approach to planning culinary heritage
17 preservation and gastronomic tourism.
- 18 j. *Gastro diplomacy* – refers to concerted and sustained campaigns of public
19 relations and investment by the government often in collaboration with
20 non-state entities, to increase the value and standing of their nation’s brand
21 through food.

22 *Sec. 4. Establishment of a Committee on Philippine Gastronomy and Culinary*
23 *Heritage.* – The Committee on Philippine Gastronomy and Culinary Heritage shall be
24 established under the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

25 The Committee under the NCCA, pursuant to the pertinent provisions of the
26 Constitution, shall have the following powers, functions, and duties:

- 27 a. Formulate policies, plans, and programs to ensure the further
28 development, enrichment, propagation, promotion, and
29 preservation of Filipino cuisine, Filipino culinary heritage, heirloom
30 food, and gastronomy;

- 1 b. Promulgate rules, regulations, and guidelines to implement its
2 policies, plans, and programs;
- 3 c. Undertake or contract research and other studies to promote the
4 evolution, development, and enrichment of Filipino culinary
5 heritage and gastronomy such as the implementation of culinary
6 mapping for the entire country;
- 7 d. Ensure the continuous conduct of the annual celebration of
8 Proclamation No. 469, s. 2018 or the Buwan ng Kalutong Filipino /
9 Filipino Food Month by being the focal implementing government
10 agency;
- 11 e. Formulate yearly implementation guidelines and standards for the
12 national celebration and activation of Presidential Proclamation No.
13 469 or the Buwan ng Kalutong Filipino / Filipino Food Month to
14 make sure that all activities are aligned to the purpose of the
15 national celebration;
- 16 f. Provide annual funding to government-approved regional and
17 national Buwan ng Kalutong Filipino or Filipino Food Month
18 activities as per Presidential Proclamation No. 469;
- 19 g. Encourage and promote, through a system of incentives, grants, and
20 awards, the writing, publication, and dissemination of gastronomic
21 research papers regarding culinary traditions, practices, heirloom
22 recipes and ingredients, and publication of textbooks and reference
23 materials in various disciplines;
- 24 h. Coordinate and establish a close relationship with the Department
25 of Education to formally integrate culinary heritage and Philippine
26 gastronomy into the primary and secondary education curricula
27 and/or subjects, such as but not limited to, science, civics, history,
28 arts, and home economics including textbooks, primers, and other
29 educational materials, basic & localized gastronomic principles and
30 concepts;

- 1 i. Call on any department, bureau, office, agency, or any
2 instrumentality of Government or any private entity, institution, or
3 organization for cooperation and assistance in the performance of
4 its functions, duties, and responsibilities;
- 5 j. Conduct, at the national, regional, and local levels, public hearings,
6 conferences, seminars, and other group discussions to identify and
7 help resolve problems and issues involving the development,
8 propagation, and preservation of Filipino culinary heritage,
9 heirloom food, and gastronomy;
- 10 k. Coordinate and establish a close relationship with the Department
11 of Foreign Affairs to increase the efficiency of gastro diplomacy
12 campaigns of the country;
- 13 l. Formulate and adopt guidelines, standards, and systems for
14 monitoring and reporting on its performance at the national,
15 regional, and local levels; and submit to the Office of the President
16 and Congress an annual progress report on the implementation of
17 its policies, plans, and programs;
- 18 m. Appoint, subject to the provisions of existing laws, its officials and
19 employees and such other personnel as are necessary for the
20 effective performance of its functions, duties, and responsibilities;
21 and dismiss them for a cause;
- 22 n. Organize and reorganize the structure of the Committee, create or
23 abolish positions, or change the designation of existing positions to
24 meet the changing conditions or as the need therefore arises;
25 Provided, that such changes shall not affect the employment status
26 of the incumbents, reduce their ranks, decrease their salaries or
27 result in their separation from the service; and
- 28 o. Perform such other activities which are necessary for the effective
29 exercise of the abovementioned powers, functions, duties, and
30 responsibilities.

1 Sec. 5. *Culinary Mapping.* – Concerned agencies, such as the Department of
2 Education, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Science and
3 Technology, and the Department of Tourism shall conduct food heritage mapping to
4 promote, preserve and raise the awareness among Filipino people of the importance
5 of culinary heritage and tradition preservation. To this end, the concerned agencies
6 shall identify and record tangible culinary resources making use of geographic tools.
7 It shall also conduct regional culinary identity mapping, taking into consideration
8 geography, the food culture of indigenous people; foods and cooking techniques; and
9 economic viability and providing evidence of regional cuisine.

10 Sec. 6. *Appropriations.* – The amount of Ten Million Pesos (Php 10,000,000.00) is
11 hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury for the initial
12 implementation of this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the
13 implementation of this Act shall be appropriated under the NCCA as a distinct and
14 separate item.

15 Sec. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the
16 effectivity of this Act, all concerned agencies shall promulgate the implementing rules
17 and regulations of this Act.

18 Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or
19 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected
20 shall remain valid and subsisting.

21 Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
22 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or
23 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended
24 accordingly.

25 Sec. 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
26 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,