

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

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 115



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Introduced by Representative Ron P. Salo

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON HEALTH TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NUTRITION INTERVENTION PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, Malnutrition is a pathological state, general or specific, resulting from a relative or absolute deficiency or excess in the diet of one or more essential nutrients, which may be manifested clinically or detectable by physical, biochemical and/or functional signs;

**WHEREAS**, malnutrition covers two (2) broad groups of conditions: (a) 'undernutrition' — which includes stunting (low height for age), wasting (low weight for height), underweight (low weight for age) and micronutrient deficiencies or insufficiencies (a lack of important vitamins and minerals); and (b) overweight, obesity and diet-related non-communicable diseases (such as heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancer);

**WHEREAS**, malnutrition is a serious public health concern that needs to be immediately addressed as it denies the citizenry of achieving a healthy life expectancy and imperils their active participation in nation building;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines reported the following numbers and percentages of stunted and overweight children under five (5) years old from 2015-2020:

Year	Stunted children under 5		Overweight children under 5	
	Number	%	Number	%
2015	3,571,100	31.1	423,900	3.7
2016	3,496,600	30.5	436,600	3.8
2017	3,380,900	29.9	441,000	3.9
2018	3,302,200	29.9	441,600	4.0
2019	3,170,000	29.4	441,600	4.1
2020	3,045,300	28.7	443,600	4.2

**WHEREAS**, for nearly thirty years, there have been almost no improvements in the prevalence of undernutrition in the Philippines, with one in three children (29%) younger than five years old suffering from stunting in 2019, being small in size for their age;

**WHEREAS**, the country is ranked fifth among countries in the East Asia and Pacific region with the highest prevalence of stunting and is among the 10 countries in the world with the highest number of stunted children;

**WHEREAS**, the persistence of very high levels of childhood undernutrition, despite decades of economic growth and poverty reduction, could lead to a staggering loss of the country's human and economic potential;

**WHEREAS**, the National Nutrition Council formulated the Philippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN) to respond to the prevalence of malnutrition in the country;

**WHEREAS**, the PPAN provides the framework for improving the nutritional status of Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, as the Philippines celebrates the 48<sup>th</sup> Nutrition Month, the Department of Health (DOH), National Nutrition Council (NNC), Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Philippines through Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), and UNICEF Philippines jointly reaffirm their staunch collaboration and steadfast commitment towards strengthened nutrition interventions in the new normal; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOH calls for heightened interventions to improve the food system that will provide increased access to diverse foods that are safe and nutritious, and consequently improve the children's nutritional status.

**WHEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives Committee on Health conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the implementation of the nutrition intervention programs of the Department of Health and the National Nutrition Council to immediately address the challenge of reducing childhood malnutrition and protect the health of our people, especially our children.

*Adopted,*



**RON P. SALO**  
KABAYAN Partylist