

# **PRIORITY MEASURES FOR NUTRITION IN THE 17<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS**

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# Outline

1. Background/Context
2. What are the issues?
3. What are priority measures in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress?
4. What are our concerns?
5. What can we do, NAOs?

# Background/Context

- Actions needed on the policy level – need to pursue key policy measures in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress

# What are the issues?

1. Environment could be more supportive to desired nutrition-related behaviors
2. Services delivered in the first 1000 days not standardized; should be sustained
3. Inadequate human resources for nutrition services & coordination

# What are the issues?

4. Limited support to nutrition workers, including lack of security of tenure
5. Limited funding for nutrition and related programs and projects



# **LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

# Priority proposed measures

1. Regulation of the Marketing of Foods of Poor Nutritional Quality for Children
2. Amendment to PD 1569 Barangay Nutrition Scholar
3. Program Strengthening and Institutionalization of the First 1000 Days Program

# Priority proposed measures

4. Amendment of RA 8976 or the Food Fortification Act
5. Adoption of the Maternity Protection (Extended Maternity Leave)
6. Mandatory Plantilla Position for NAOs



# Priority proposed measures

7. Creating a system of food distribution addressing the nutritional needs of the people
8. An act imposing a 10% ad valorem tax on softdrinks and carbonated /sugar sweetened beverages


- I. Regulation of the Marketing of Foods of Poor Nutritional Quality for Children
  - Aims to protect children from exposure to marketing of foods high in energy, free sugars, saturated fats, trans-fats and salt by **banning** advertising and promotion of these products;

- I. Regulation of the Marketing of Foods of Poor Nutritional Quality for Children
  - Complemented with on-going development of DepED policy for healthier food options in schools

2. Amendment to PD 1569 (Barangay Nutrition Program Improvement)
  - Full-time BNS in barangays, would require a system for accreditation
  - Entitlement as civil servants -- salary and bonuses; GSIS, Philhealth, Pag-ibig coverage; security of tenure

### 3. Strengthening/Institutionalization of the First 1000 Days Program

- Define specific key services that should be in place for both maternal and child health and nutrition
- Ensuring adequate budget cover
- Strengthening of related structures, e.g. NNC

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4. Amendment of RA 8976 or the Food Fortification Act
- Refinements in mandatory fortification
  - Delist sugar
  - Limit vitamin A fortification for cooking oil
  - Addition of mandatory folic acid fortification (also NNC Governing Board action is possible)


4. Amendment of RA 8976 or the Food Fortification Act
  - Mandatory use of iron-fortified rice in feeding/food distribution programs
  - Change role of NNC Governing Board into policy-making body – may add or delist micronutrients and food vehicles,

5. Adoption of the Maternity Protection (Extended Maternity Leave)
  - Consistent with the ILO Maternity Protection Convention of 2000
  - Facilitate exclusive breastfeeding
  - Proposed legislative measure for maternity leave extension for 100 days
  - Need to define other maternal- protection related issues as well.



## 6. Mandatory Plantilla Position for NAOs

- Full-time plantilla position for NAOs for provinces, cities and municipalities
- To ensure and sustain the provision of technical guidance in the delivery of nutrition and related services and coordination related efforts for nutrition improvement

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7. An Act Creating A System of Food Distribution for Addressing the Nutritional Needs of the People
- Provide for a national feeding program to addressing hunger and undernutrition

## 8. An Act Imposing a 10% Ad Valorem Tax on Softdrinks and Carbonated Drinks

- Inserting a new section in the National Internal Revenue Code, as amended
- Intent is not mainly to impose taxes, but more so on controlling consumer behavior,
- Need to have local evidences to support claims re: increase in obesity due to consumption of SSBs

# What are our Concerns?

- Proposed measures have to be filed early
- With clear identification of fund source/s
- Need for concerted push for passage of priority measures

# What can we do NAO?

- Actively engage our legislators (Congressmen/  
Congresswomen and Senators)
- Signature campaign – Committee chairs,  
House Speaker, Senate President

# What can we do NAO?

- Actively engage our legislators (Congressmen/  
Congresswomen and Senators)
- Discuss with own legislator – provide  
evidence to influence the outcome of  
the proposed measures that we want to  
be enacted into law – submit our  
position papers



# What can we do NAO?

What else????

# Thank You!