Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2662

Introduced by: “KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO

AN ACT
PROVIDING PROTECTION TO CONSUMERS BY EXPANDING THE DEFINITION
OF BASIC NECESSITIES AND PRIME COMMODITIES, AMENDING, FOR THE
PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 7581, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PRICE ACT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Price Act is a law which provides protection to consumers by stabilizing the prices of
basic necessities and prime commodities and by prescribing measures against undue price
increases during emergency situations, calamity and another similar situation.

The purpose of the Bill is to include other goods as to the definition of basic necessities
in order to address the growing demand for other products that are not covered under the existing
Price Act.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of the Bill is earnestly sought.

“KUYA” JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO
Representative
First District of Bulacan
Republic of the Philippines
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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 "Expanded Basic Necessities
and Prime Commodities Act".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is the policy of the State to protect and promote
welfare of the consumers by defining and enumerating what are basic necessities and prime
Commodities, ensuring their availability and price reasonability at all times, especially during
periods of Calamity and emergencies.

SECTION 3. Newly Defined Basic and Prime Commodities. - Section 3 (1) of Republic
Act No. 7581, otherwise known as the 'Price Act' is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 3. Definition of Terms. - For purposes of this Act, the term:

(1) 'Basic necessities' include rice, corn, bread, fresh, dried and canned fish and
other marine products; fresh pork, beef and poultry meat; fresh eggs; fresh and processed
milk; fresh vegetables; root crops, POTABLE WATER IN CONTAINERS; coffee;
sugar, NOODLES; cooking oil; laundry soap; detergents; firewood; charcoal; candles;
KEROSENE AND LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS, WATER CONTAINERS,
WATERPROOFED CANVASS OR "TRAPAL", drugs classified as essential by the
Department of Health, AND SUCH OTHER GOODS AS MAY BE INCLUDED
UNDER SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT."

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(5) 'Prime commodities' include fresh fruits; flour, dried, processed and OR canned
pork; beef and poultry meat; dairy products not falling under basic necessities; noodles;
onions, garlic, vinegar; patis, soy sauce; toilet soap; fertilizer; pesticides; herbicides;
poultry, swine and cattle feeds; veterinary products for poultry, swine and cattle; paper;
school supplies; nipa shingles; sawali; cement; clinker; GI sheets; hollow blocks; plywood;
ply-board; construction nails; batteries; electrical supplies; light bulbs; steel wire; and all
drugs classified as essential drugs by the Department of Health, AND SUCH OTHER
GOODS AS MAY BE INCLUDED UNDER SECTION 4 OF THIS ACT.

SECTION 4. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7581 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 4, Inclusion or Exclusion from the Coverage of this Act. - Upon petition of
the concerned parties OR BY MOTU PROPIO ACTION OF THE CONCERNEED AGENCY OF
"SECTION 4. Inclusion or Exclusion from the Coverage of this Act. - Upon petition of the concerned parties OR BY MOTU PROPRIO ACTION OF THE CONCERNED AGENCY OF THE PRICE COORDINATING COUNCIL and after public hearing, the implementing agency, with the approval of the President, MAY INCLUDE IN THE DEFINITION OF BASIC NECESSITIES OR OF PRIME COMMODITIES TYPES AND BRANDS OF GOODS OR may exclude from the coverage of this Act, types or brands of the goods included in the definition of basic necessities and prime commodities, which may be deemed as non-essential goods or luxury goods. Provided, that, any type or brand excluded may be reinstated by the implementing agency during occasions of acute shortage in the supply of the basic necessity or prime commodity to which the excluded type or brand used to belong OR IN TIMES OF AN OF THE CASES PROVIDED INSECTION 6 OR 7 OF THIS ACT."

SECTION 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - The Department of Trade and Industry, in consultation with the members of the Price Coordinating Council and stakeholders, shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the effective implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days from its effectivity.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. - If any provision of this Act, or any part thereof, is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other portions.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees, proclamation, rules, regulations, issuances and enactments of parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 8. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines, whichever comes earlier.