

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City



**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5519

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Introduced by **Rep. Christopher De Venecia**

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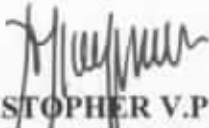
#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

From the root, trunk and branches to the leaves, flowers, fruits and seeds, all parts of the Malunggay tree are endowed with enormous nutritional and medicinal benefits. It has been found by biochemists and molecular anthropologists to be rich in vitamins C and A, iron, and high density lipoprotein or good cholesterol.

The Malunggay leaves alone contain a powerhouse of nutritional value: seven times the vitamin C in oranges, four times the calcium in milk, four times the vitamin A in carrots, two times the protein in milk and three times the potassium in bananas. Malunggay contains more than 90 nutrients and 46 types of antioxidants. It has 18 amino acids, plenty of omega 3 oils and chlorophyll, plus 45 compounds with antioxidant properties and 36 anti-inflammatory properties.

In effect, Malunggay is considered as an effective cure for illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension, inflammations, infections, cancer and aging issues. On top of that, Malunggay trees can also help stabilize the soil and contribute to the fight against deforestation.

In view of the enormous benefits that can be derived from Malunggay, this plant deserves a national recognition. Hence, I am filing this bill that seeks to declare Malunggay as the "National Vegetable of the Philippines".

  
**REP. CHRISTOPHER V.P DE VENECIA**  
Fourth District, Pangasinan

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**AN ACT**  
**DECLARING MALUNGGAY (*MORINGA*) AS "THE NATIONAL VEGETABLE OF THE PHILIPPINES"**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. Malunggay scientifically known as *Moringa* is hereby declared as the "National Vegetable of the Philippines".

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, Secretary of Health and the Chairman of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts shall promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this Act within sixty (60) days from approval thereof.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,