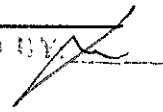


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Senate Bill No. 2839

Introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The challenges in food animal production and health over the last decade have been enormous. Impeding the full development of the animal industry, and consequently posing real threats to our food security, are a myriad of factors including new and emerging animal diseases especially those that are transmissible to humans; climate change effects; demands of globalization; growing population; and pervasive rural poverty.

In 2009, the agricultural sector contributed 18 percent to the country's gross domestic product. About 26 percent to 28 percent of this – or P340 billion – came from the livestock and poultry subsector, which is overseen by the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI).

The BAI was established by law in 1930 as a line bureau mandated to increase food animal production and maintain the health of food animals. However in 1987, its regional line functions were decentralized in line with Executive Order 292 (Administrative Code of 1987). Furthermore, when the Local Government Code was enacted and implemented in 1991, most of the veterinary field services were devolved to the local government units (LGU's).

With regard to its domestic activities, the BAI has been relegated to a staff bureau without control over the regional and local veterinary services, animal production and animal welfare. This contributed to the BAI's inability to immediately and effectively institute measures to prevent, control and eradicate harmful zoonotic animal diseases on both national and international scales. At the same time, this has affected the effective implementation of national policies and standards on animal production and welfare.

For instance, the BAI should be able to effectively prevent the entry of exotic animal diseases, as well as control and eradicate domestic animal and zoonotic diseases such as Avian Influenza, Mad Cow, Rabies, Leptospirosis and Ebola Reston Virus in pigs.

The Philippines officially recognizes the international health guidelines of the World Organization for Animal Health and the Sanitary-Phytosanitary measures set by the World Trade Organization in matters of trade facilitation. However, problems remain with regard to their implementation. Major health-related concerns that now face the animal industry include the acceptable level of drug residues in animal products; lack of

enforcing authority on confiscating and destroying animals and animal products which are contaminated or suspected to be infected; farm accreditation; animal traceability; and establishment of disease-free areas.

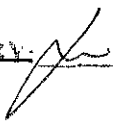
Global developments and challenges pertaining to the food animal industry are more complex and multifaceted now than they were when the BAI was created 81 years ago. Hence, we now need an expanded but limited line authority to take charge of the delivery of functional and efficient veterinary services. It is imperative that the present BAI be transformed into the National Livestock and Veterinary Services Authority, which will have greater capability to improve our country's animal industry and strengthen its veterinary services.

Therefore, the approval of the Animal Industry and Veterinary Services Act of 2011 is earnestly sought.


EDGARDO J. ANGARA

'11 MAY 23 P6:26

Senate Bill No. 2839

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE ANIMAL INDUSTRY AND
VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE PHILIPPINES

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

Chapter I

INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

Section 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Animal Industry and
Veterinary Services Act of 2011."

Section 2. Declaration of Policy. - It shall be the policy of the State to
promote and protect animal health and welfare, recognize the importance of
efficient delivery of sanitary measures, establish a modern and responsive
national veterinary authority, encourage the participation of various
veterinary service providers, and secure the development of the animal
industry in the attainment of greater safeguards and food security for the
country's animal and human populations, improved public health and
environment, and enhanced global trade competitiveness.

Section 3. Coverage. - This Act shall apply to all programs, activities and
undertakings of persons, corporations, associations, organizations, small-
hold farmers, entities, or government agencies that, directly or indirectly,
deals on the following:

1. Animal health related matters such as but not limited to:

- (a) Animal and zoonotic disease diagnosis, treatment,
prevention, control and eradication;
- (b) Early detection systems and compulsory reporting of
important animal diseases and zoonoses;
- (c) inspection and monitoring of (i) animals, animal products
and by-products (ii) animal facilities, premises, equipment,
means of transportation and other inanimate things in contact
with animals and/or animal products (iii) animal feeds, feed

1 ingredients, supplements and additives, (iv) veterinary drugs,
2 biologicals, immunological products, cosmetics and devices;

3
4 2. Animal welfare;

5
6 3. Training and research on animal health and welfare, marketing and
7 extension services, and product development;

8
9 4. Rational and judicious use of veterinary drugs, biologicals and
10 diagnostic reagents in animals;

11
12 5. Management, genetic improvement and operations of beef cattle,
13 poultry and small ruminant farms of the government for conservation
14 of native domestic breeds.

15
16 **Section 4. Objectives.** - The State shall endeavor to achieve the following
17 objectives:

18
19 1. To protect human and environmental health from hazards caused by
20 animal diseases and zoonoses;

21
22 2. To establish a modern and responsive veterinary services;

23
24 3. To formulate, promote, enforce, implement rules, policies and
25 programs for the promotion of animal health, animal welfare and
26 environment-friendly animal production processes;

27
28 4. To institutionalize inter-agency, multi-sectoral and local
29 government cooperation on animal health and veterinary service
30 programs;

31
32 5. To ensure animal food production safety and food security in
33 support of poverty alleviation;

34
35 6. To guarantee compliance and harmonization of sanitary and
36 phytosanitary (SPS) measures and other veterinary protocols with
37 international standards;

38
39 7. To promote an environment of global livestock trade
40 competitiveness.

41
42 8. To establish nucleus and multiplier livestock breeder and
43 production farms in support of the government's modernization
44 programs in agriculture.

45
46 **Section 5. Definition of Terms.** - For the purposes of this Act, the following
47 terms shall be defined as follows:

- 1 a. Accreditation – refers to the procedure by which government agency
2 having jurisdiction formally recognizes the competence of an
3 inspection and/or certification body to provide inspection and
4 certification services.
5
- 6 b. Agribusiness – refers to the various businesses involved in food
7 production, including farming, breed and feed supply, agrichemicals,
8 farm and processing machinery, wholesale and distribution,
9 processing, marketing and retail sales. It also means making a “simple
10 farmer” or “small backyard operator” into an “entrepreneur,” by
11 legalizing their business venture with distinct identity and by
12 developing their own competitive edge in the industry group where
13 they belong.
14
- 15 c. Animal - refers to vertebrate and invertebrate species whether
16 domestic or wild (exotic or indigenous) animals which maybe food
17 producing, companion, aquatic, laboratory including birds, worms,
18 bees and butterflies. The term excludes human and non-mammalian
19 aquatic species.
20
- 21 d. Animal facility – refers to structures or premises generally used for
22 the purpose of caring, breeding, rearing, holding, gaming, training,
23 trading, treating and exhibition such as but not limited to, farms, zoos,
24 aviaries, apiaries, kennels, racetracks, cockpits, pet shops, pounds,
25 animal rescue centers, airport and seaport quarantine stations, animal
26 holding facilities, stables, livestock markets, slaughterhouses,
27 veterinary clinics, and veterinary hospitals.
28
- 29 e. Animal Health - refers to the over-all physical condition and well-
30 being of animal(s).
31
- 32 f. Animal Identification - refers to the combination of the identification
33 and registration of an animal individually, with a unique identifier, or
34 collectively by its epidemiological unit or group, with a unique group
35 identifier.
36
- 37 g. Animal Identification System - refers to the inclusion and linking of
38 component such as identification of establishments, owners, person or
39 persons responsible for the animal(s), animal movements and other
40 records with an animal identification.
41
- 42 h. Animal Industry – refers to any activity relating to the production,
43 breeding, caring, rearing, holding, trading, transporting and use of all
44 animals; animal processing, marketing and feed milling;
45
- 46 i. Animal Health Technician - refers to any person who is authorized by
47 the Professional Regulations Commission to carry out certain
48 designated and delegated tasks under the responsibility and
49 supervision of a duly licensed veterinarian.

- 1 j. Animal Production Food Safety and Security - refers to measures
2 taken in farms and production areas to safeguard the health of the
3 consuming public and ensure that the food derived therefrom is safe
4 and of sufficient quantity or supply. This includes measures taken to
5 regulate and control the introduction of non-food animals to the food
6 chain.
7
- 8 k. Animal Products and By-Products - refer to any meat, fat, milk whey,
9 cream, butter, cheese, egg or other food or foodstuffs derived from an
10 animal; or any part of the viscera of an animal, hide, skin, hair, wool,
11 feathers, shell, horn or hoof; or any article or substance derived from
12 dung, urine, feces, bone, or blood of an animal; or any secretion of an
13 animal or any product or biological preparation made or derived from
14 any animal tissue or animal secretion; or any article or substance
15 derived from an animal such as semen, whether or not in combination
16 with any article or substance; or any article or substance or thing that
17 is declared by order to be an animal product for the purposes of this
18 Act.
19
- 20 l. Animal Registry – refers to the list of information on animals (such
21 identification, animal health, movement, certification, epidemiology,
22 establishments) collected, recorded, securely stored and made
23 appropriately accessible and able to be utilized by the NLVSA and its
24 stakeholders.
25
- 26 m. Border Post - refers to any airport, or seaport, railway station or road
27 check-point open to domestic and international trade of commodities,
28 where veterinary inspections are performed.
29
- 30 n. Buffer Zone - refers to an area established to protect the health status
31 of animals in a disease free country or disease free zones, from those
32 in a country or zone of a different animal health status, using
33 measures based on the epidemiology of the disease under
34 consideration to prevent spread of the causative pathogenic agent into
35 a free country or free zone. These measures may include, but are not
36 limited to, vaccination, movement control and an intensified degree of
37 disease surveillance.
38
- 39 o. Certification- refers to the procedure by which official certification
40 bodies or officially recognized certification bodies provide written or
41 equivalent assurance that animal control systems conform to
42 requirements.
43
- 44 p. Chief Veterinary Officer - refers to a veterinarian who has the
45 responsibility and competence of ensuring and supervising the
46 implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international
47 veterinary certification and other standards and guidelines in the
48 Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the World Organization for Animal

- 1 Health or *Organization International des Epizooties (OIE)* in the
2 entire country.
3
- 4 q. Compartment - refers to one or more establishments under a common
5 biosecurity management system containing an animal subpopulation
6 with a distinct health status with respect to a specific disease or
7 diseases for which required surveillance, control, biosecurity
8 measures have been applied for the purpose of international trade.
9
- 10 r. Competent Authority – refers to the NLVSA which is the official
11 authority charged by the government in the control of animal health,
12 welfare, animal production food safety and veterinary services.
13
- 14 s. Confiscation - refers to taking into custody of animals, animal parts
15 and/or products, and/or of animal effects by the competent authority
16 for its proper disposal for having been the subject of violation of rules
17 and regulations or posing risk to general human and animal welfare.
18
- 19 t. Control Area or Zone - refers to an area around the infected area
20 where restrictions will reduce and/or limit the chance of further
21 spreading the disease.
22
- 23 u. Diseases - refer to the impairment of normal state of living animals
24 showing sub-clinical, clinical/pathological manifestation with
25 infectious and non-infectious condition.
26
- 27 v. Early Detection System - refers to a system for the timely detection
28 and identification of animal and zoonotic diseases which includes the
29 following characteristics, namely; (a) representative coverage of target
30 animal populations by veterinary field services; (b) ability to
31 undertake effective disease investigation and reporting; (c) access to
32 laboratories capable of diagnosing and differentiating relevant
33 diseases; and (d) training program for veterinarians and animal health
34 technicians for detecting and reporting unusual disease occurrence.
35
- 36 w. Emerging Disease - refers to a new infection resulting from the
37 evolution or change of an existing pathogenic agent, a known
38 infection spreading to a new geographic area or population, or a
39 previously unrecognizable pathogenic agent or disease diagnosed for
40 the first time and which has a significant impact on animal or public
41 health.
42
- 43 x. *Epidemiology* - refers to the science concerned with the study of
44 factors determining and influencing the frequency and distribution of
45 disease, injury and other health-related events and their causes in a
46 defined population.
47
- 48 y. Equivalence of Sanitary Measures - refers to the state wherein the
49 sanitary measure(s) proposed by the exporting country as an

- 1 alternative to those of the importing country achieve(s) the same level
2 of protection
3
- 4 z. Eradication - refers to the elimination of a pathogenic agent or disease
5 from the country or zone/area/region.
6
- 7 aa. Establishment - refers to entities engaged in the manufacture,
8 production, preparation, handling, importation, exportation, sale,
9 storage, offer for sale, distribution, transfer, use, testing, promotion,
10 advertising or sponsorship of animals, animal products and by-
11 products, veterinary drugs and biological products, feeds and feed
12 ingredients, cosmetics, and devices.
13
- 14 bb. Exporting Country - refers to the country of origin of commodities
15 which are sent to another country.
16
- 17 cc. Feed - refers to a mixture or combination of feed ingredients,
18 supplements and additives, in any form, by specific formula to be fed
19 directly as a sole ration to animals which is capable of furnishing the
20 nutritional needs or requirements of the animal in order to maintain
21 life, promote growth, production and reproduction without any
22 additional substance except water.
23
- 24 dd. Feed Ingredients - refer to all articles, in any form, that are added or
25 mixed into the composition or which are used as raw materials in the
26 formulation of a feed or ration, base feed, base mix, concentrate, feed
27 supplement, feed additive, specialty feed and/or special feed
28 preparation purporting to supply additional nutrients, such as but not
29 limited to, proteins, carbohydrates, fats, minerals, vitamins, growth
30 promoting factors and/or correcting nutritional disorders.
31
- 32 ee. Free Zone - refers to an area which the absence of the disease under
33 consideration has been complied in accordance with the requirements
34 specified in the Terrestrial Code of the OIE for free status being met.
35 Within the zone and at its borders, appropriate official veterinary
36 control is effectively applied for animals and animal products, and
37 their transportation.
38
- 39 ff. Governance – refers to the process by which the Philippines
40 government (national, regional and local), private sector, industry
41 associations and other stakeholders collectively solve the problems,
42 needs and concerns of the animal industry.
43
- 44 gg. Hazard - refers to a biological, chemical or physical agent in, or a
45 condition of an animal or animal product with the potential to cause
46 an adverse health effect.
47

- 1 hh. Indemnification - refers to the payment for any loss of animals or
2 damage to its by-products in accordance with the guidelines
3 established by the Veterinary Authority.
4
- 5 ii. Infected Zone - refers to an area in which the disease under
6 consideration is present.
7
- 8 jj. Livestock - refers to food animals including poultry.
9
- 10 kk. Livestock Agribusiness Marketing - refers to the critical roles
11 marketing plays in the successful operation of an agribusiness firm by
12 focusing on the six major parts of agribusiness marketing system such
13 as: 1) the agricultural input industries; 2) the impact of technology-
14 induced changes on production practices and the need for marketing
15 awareness on the part of farmers as a way to achieve greater
16 profitability; 3) the commodity processing and food manufacturing
17 industries; 4) the food wholesaling and retailing industries; 5) the food
18 service industry; and 6) cooperative agribusiness.
19
- 20 ll. Livestock Marketing System – refers to livestock economics system
21 that relies upon the markets and market forces to allocate resources
22 and goods, to determine prices and quantities of each product that will
23 be produced.
24
- 25 mm. Marketing – refers to the process of planning the conception,
26 pricing, promotion and distribution of goods and services to create
27 exchanges that satisfy individual and organizational objectives.
28
- 29 nn. Market Infrastructure – refers to facilities including, but not limited to
30 livestock “oksyon” market, wet/public market buildings, weighing
31 scale center, holding pens, warehouses, market information centers,
32 slaughterhouses, connecting roads, transport and communication and
33 cold storage used by the livestock farmers in marketing their produce.
34
- 35 oo. Marketing Information System - refers to an information system
36 concerned with the collection, storage, and analysis of information
37 and data for marketing decision making purposes. Information for use
38 in marketing information systems is gathered from customers,
39 competitors and their products, and from the market itself.
40
- 41 pp. Marketing Intelligence - refers to data/information obtained both
42 publicly & privately by market players that reflect a myriad of factors
43 regarding prices, stocks, trends, government policies affecting supply
44 or demand, production and consumption of products, by-products and
45 allied products in an industry, e.g. animal industry, to achieve a
46 marketing or business-related competitiveness.
47
- 48 qq. Market Research - refers to the identification of a specific market and
49 measurement of its size and other characteristics collected from direct

- 1 observation of the consumers (such as in retail stores), mail surveys,
2 telephone or face-to-face interviews, and from published sources
3 (such as demographic data).
4
- 5 rr. Notifiable Disease - refers to disease listed by the Veterinary
6 Authority, and that, as soon as detected or suspected, must be brought
7 to the attention of the Veterinary Authority, in accordance with
8 national regulations.
9
- 10 ss. Notification - refers to the procedure by which the Local Veterinary
11 Authority informs the National Veterinary Authority, of the
12 occurrence of an outbreak of disease or infection.
13
- 14 tt. *Office Internationale des Epizooties (OIE)* or the World Organization
15 for Animal Health - is the intergovernmental organization responsible
16 for improving animal health worldwide. It is recognized as a reference
17 organization by the World Trade Organization (WTO).
18
- 19 uu. Quarantine - refers to the act of isolating animals from other animals
20 with no direct or indirect contact with other animals, to prevent the
21 transmission of specified pathogen(s) while the animals are
22 undergoing observation, and, if appropriate, testing and treatment, for
23 a specified length of time and/or to determine their freedom from
24 disease.
25
- 26 vv. Production processes - refer to the transformational steps in the
27 conversion of raw materials to finished products.
28
- 29 ww. Poultry – includes chickens, turkeys, guinea fowl, gamefowls,
30 ducks, geese, quails, pigeons, pheasants, partridges, and ratites reared
31 or kept in captivity for breeding, production of meat or eggs for
32 consumption or for re-stocking supplies of game.
33
- 34 xx. Professional Regulation Commission - Board of Veterinary Medicine
35 (PRC-BVM) - refers to an autonomous authority regulating
36 veterinarians and animal health technicians.
37
- 38 yy. Quarantine Station - refers to a facility under the control of the
39 veterinary services where animals are under quarantine/isolation for
40 observation.
41
- 42 zz. Risk - refers to the likelihood of the occurrence and the likely
43 magnitude of consequences of an adverse event to animal or human
44 health in the importing country during a specified time period, as a
45 result of hazardous elements.
46
- 47 aaa. Risk Analysis - refers to the process composed of hazard
48 identification, risk assessment, risk management, and risk
49 communication.

- 1
2 bbb. Risk Assessment - refers to the evaluation of the likelihood and
3 the biological and economic consequences of entry, establishment, or
4 spread of a pathogenic agent within the territory of an importing
5 country.
6
- 7 ccc. Risk Communication - refers to the interactive exchange of
8 information on risk among risk assessors, risk managers and other
9 interested parties.
10
- 11 ddd. Risk Management - refers to the process of identifying,
12 selecting and implementing measures that can be applied to reduce the
13 level of risk.
14
- 15 eee. Sanitary Measure - refers to any scheme or strategy applied to
16 protect animal or human health or life within the territory of the
17 country from the risks arising from the entry, establishment or spread
18 of a hazardous element.
19
- 20 fff. Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures - refers to the set of legal
21 framework for international trade of animals, animal products and by-
22 products, veterinary biologics, drugs, products and devices, animal
23 feeds and feed ingredients that is safe for public, animal and plant
24 health with important provisions on harmonization, equivalence,
25 assessment of risk and appropriate level of protection, regionalization,
26 transparency and notification.
27
- 28 ggg. Shipping Permit - refers to the document issued by the NLVSA
29 authorizing the person indicated therein to ship or transport the stated
30 items to their indicated destination(s).
31
- 32 hhh. Third Party Certification or Independent Certification – refers
33 to the process wherein a firm requires that its suppliers meet a certain
34 standard and requests an independent organization that is not involved
35 in the business relationship to control the compliance of the suppliers.
36
- 37 iii. Traceability - refers to the ability to follow or monitor the
38 history/record of an animal or group of animals during all stages of its
39 life.
40
- 41 jjj. Vaccination - refers to the successful immunization of susceptible
42 animals through the administration of appropriate immunizing agents
43 comprising of antigens or bacterins or any agent appropriate to the
44 disease to be controlled.
45
- 46 kkk. Veterinarian - refers to a person who has been registered and
47 issued a valid certificate of registration and professional identification
48 card by Professional Regulatory Commission Board of Veterinary
49 Medicine of the Philippines.

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lll. Veterinary Authority - refers to the government authority, comprising of duly licensed veterinarians, having the responsibility and competence of ensuring or supervising the implementation of animal health and welfare measures, international veterinary certification and other standards and guidelines in the Terrestrial Code of the OIE (World Organization for Animal Health).

mmm. Veterinary Biological Products - refer to all microorganisms (viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa, etc.), components or products of microorganisms, antigens, antisera, bacterins, immunoglobulins and analogous products of natural or of synthetic origin, including genetically modified organisms, diagnostic kits and reagents, serums, toxins and antitoxins intended for use in the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of animal diseases and for research purposes.

nnn. Veterinary Cosmetics - refer to any substance or preparation intended to be placed in contact with the various external parts of the animal body or with the teeth, mucous membranes of the oral cavity, with a view exclusively or mainly to cleaning them, perfuming them, changing their appearance and/or correcting the body odor, and/or protecting the body or keeping the same in good condition.

ooo. Veterinary Device - refers to any instruments, apparatuses, implements, machines, appliances or contrivances, including their components, parts and accessories intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment and prevention of animal diseases or to affect the structure or any function of the body or animals.

ppp. Veterinary Drug - refers to articles for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of diseases of animals.

qqq. Veterinary Products – as use in this Act shall collectively refer to veterinary biologicals, drugs, devices, and cosmetics as defined herein and to other substances applied to animal facilities such as but not limited to disinfectants, insecticides, and substances that modify or extend physiological functions, behaviors or availability such as but not limited to hormones, growth promotants, probiotics and acidifiers.

rrr. Veterinary Inspector - refers to any duly-licensed veterinarian employed by the national or local government unit primarily tasked to diagnose, investigate and control animal diseases and other such duties stipulated in this Act.

sss. Veterinary Personnel – refers to an employee working in a veterinary office.

1 ttt. Veterinary Services - refer to the activities in the implementation of
2 animal health, welfare, feeds and animal production food safety by
3 government and non-government organizations.
4

5 uuu. Zone / Region - refers to a clearly defined part of the country
6 containing an animal subpopulation with a distinct health status with
7 respect to a specific disease for which required surveillance, control
8 and biosecurity measures have been applied for the purpose of
9 international trade.
10

11 vvv. Zoonosis - refers to any disease or infection which is naturally
12 transmissible from animals to human.
13
14

15 Chapter II

16 STRUCTURE, POWERS AND FUNCTIONS 17 18

19 ***Section 6. The National Livestock and Veterinary Services Authority.*** - The
20 Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) shall be renamed as the “National
21 Livestock and Veterinary Services Authority (NLVSA)”, an attached line
22 agency up to the regional level under the Department of Agriculture, chiefly
23 responsible for overseeing and promoting the health, welfare and
24 productivity of the national animal population for food safety, food security
25 and rural development.
26

27 The NLVSA shall be headed by a Director General, with the rank of
28 undersecretary, who must possess a minimum experience of ten (10) years in
29 practice as a duly licensed veterinarian. He shall be assisted by a Deputy
30 Director General for Regulatory Services and a Deputy Director General for
31 Research, Development and Extension Services, who, likewise, must both
32 possess a minimum experience of ten (10) years practice as a duly licensed
33 veterinarian.
34

35 The Director General, and Deputy Directors General shall be
36 appointed by the President of the Philippines, while, the Center Directors,
37 Regional Directors and Director for Administrative Support Services shall
38 be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. All personnel below the
39 Director and Regional Director levels shall be appointed by the Director
40 General.
41

42 ***Section 7. Powers and Functions*** - The NLVSA shall have the following
43 principal powers through the Director General or his duly designated
44 representative:
45

46 1. Regulatory Authority. - The NLVSA shall have authority to regulate
47 animal health, animal welfare, animal production food safety and matters
48 connected or pertaining to, but not limited to general sanitary measures, risk
49 analysis, animal quarantine, diagnosis of diseases, animal feeds and feed

1 ingredients, veterinary drugs and biological products, and other
2 pharmaceuticals and products used on animals and the environment, animal
3 facilities, equipments, devices and cosmetics, veterinary research, animal
4 production and international certification procedures.
5

6 2. Technical Assistance and Supervision. – The NLVSA shall provide
7 technical training for the capacity building and strengthening of livestock
8 and veterinary services related functions of all national government agencies
9 and Local Government Units (LGUs). It shall exercise technical supervision
10 over veterinary offices and veterinary related functions of all national
11 government agencies and LGUs. This includes oversight authority to require
12 mandatory notification and coordination, submission of reports and other
13 pertinent data regarding animal disease situations, within the respective
14 areas or jurisdictions of other government agencies and local government
15 units.
16

17 3. Assumption of Control. – The NLVSA is authorized, subject to the
18 approval of the Secretary of Agriculture and in coordination with the
19 concerned LGU and regional officials of other agencies, to assume full
20 control and direction in the management of local and regional outbreaks of
21 dangerous communicable and zoonotic animal diseases, where the animal
22 and/or human health status of the country, as recommended by the hereunder
23 described National Advisory Committee on Animal Diseases and
24 Emergency (NAC-ADE), is in actual or imminent danger.
25

26 4. Visitorial Power – The NLVSA, through its duly authorized veterinary
27 officers, upon presenting appropriate credentials or authority to the owner,
28 manager, operator, agent or any person within the premises, shall have the
29 power to enter and inspect anytime but following down time requirements of
30 livestock and poultry farms and other animal establishments, conduct
31 collection of laboratory specimens and samples with proper description and
32 receipt of those taken, and when required by circumstances and as
33 authorized by the Director General or his representative, impose preventive
34 and control measures therein, in coordination with, and as may be necessary,
35 subject to biosafety entry requirements of concerned owners and caretakers.
36

37 5. Declaration of Quarantine - The Director General through a written order
38 of quarantine shall cause the immediate holding or detention for thirty (30)
39 days or for such longer period, if necessary, for observation and testing of
40 animals, animal parts, products, and by-products, feeds, feed ingredients,
41 feed supplements and feed additives, veterinary biologics, drugs, products
42 and devices, and such other materials or substances which are found or
43 deemed to be infected or carriers of dangerous animal diseases.
44

45 6. Seizure and Confiscation – The NLVSA shall have the authority to seize
46 and confiscate animals, animal parts, products, and by-products, feeds, feed
47 ingredients, feed supplements and feed additives, veterinary biologics, drugs,
48 products and devices, and such other materials or substances that are
49 undocumented, or of unknown source and conditions, and are showing signs

1 of dangerous animal diseases, or reasonably suspected to be infected with or
2 carriers of dangerous animal diseases, contaminated with toxic materials, or
3 posing an imminent danger, threat and injury to the overall animal health
4 situation in declared disease-free zones, areas or compartments, and border
5 posts of the country.

6
7 7. Animal Condemnation and Eradication Measures – The NLVSA shall
8 have the authority to institute condemnation and eradication measures on
9 animals that are diseased or reasonably suspected to be infected with
10 diseases, and are deemed a great risk to the livestock population and/or
11 public health.

12
13 8. Call for Assistance - The Director General may call upon any government
14 agency for any form of assistance consistent with its powers, duties, and
15 responsibilities for the purpose of ensuring the effective and efficient
16 implementation of this Act and the rules and regulations promulgated
17 hereunder.

18
19 9. Delegation – The NLVSA shall have the authority to deputize local
20 government and private veterinarians to perform disease control, measures
21 to obviate any animal welfare concerns and animal health matters for proper
22 implementation of national disease control policies and programs at all
23 levels. The DG shall deputize Animal Welfare Officers from Non
24 Government Organizations (NGOs), citizens groups, community
25 organizations and other volunteers who have undergone the necessary
26 training and accreditation for this purpose. As such, the Animal Welfare
27 Officers shall have the full authority to seize and confiscate affected animals
28 in violation of the provisions of the Act, subject to existing rules and
29 regulation on arrest and detention.

30
31 10. Emergency Response – In the event of natural and man-made disasters,
32 the NLVSA shall ensure the safety and protection of the animal population
33 following the quick response “Oplan Sagip Hayop” scheme. The NLVSA
34 shall administer and supervise the effective implementation of this Act and
35 its rules and regulations. It shall exercise such powers and perform such
36 functions as may be necessary to carry out its duties and responsibilities
37 under this Act.

38
39 **Section 8. Organizational Structure** – The technical, administrative, finance
40 and support services of the NLVSA shall be strengthened as may be
41 appropriate and necessary to carry out effectively the provisions of this Act.
42 Various Centers shall be established under the NLVSA and each Center
43 shall be headed by a Director, who must possess a minimum practice of five
44 (5) years as a veterinarian, with supervisory experience in any related field.
45 Each center shall include divisions which shall be headed by a division chief
46 with minimum management experience of three (3) years. The Centers
47 established are as follows:

1 1. Center for Animal Health and Welfare - The Center shall be responsible
2 for veterinary epidemiology, animal disease surveillance systems, animal
3 disease prevention, control and eradication programs, risk analysis, herd
4 health management, animal welfare and animal health information.
5

6 The center shall have the following divisions: (a) Veterinary
7 Epidemiology and Economics (b) Animal Disease Control and Veterinary
8 Public Health, (c) Animal Welfare and (d) Animal Health Information and
9 Communication.
10

11 2. Center for Veterinary Quarantine Services – The Center shall be primarily
12 responsible in issuing import and export certifications and conducting pre-
13 and post-border inspections and monitoring, accreditation, quarantine, and if
14 warranted by biosecurity procedures, instituting immediate seizure and/or
15 confiscation of animals, animal parts, products, and by-products, feeds, feed
16 ingredients, feed supplements and feed additives, veterinary biologics, drugs,
17 products and devices, and such other materials or substances posing threat or
18 harm to animal health. The Center shall also be responsible for the
19 maintenance of quarantine stations and enforcement of animal quarantine
20 and welfare rules and regulations in the various inland and offshore shipping
21 routes of the country.
22

23 The Center shall have the following divisions: (a) Sanitary and
24 PhytoSanitary Trade Facilitation (b) Veterinary Quarantine Inspection and
25 Monitoring, and (c) Biosecurity.
26

27 3. Center for Animal Disease Diagnosis – The Center shall primarily
28 conduct laboratory diagnosis of animal diseases and act as a repository of
29 data on disease diagnosis. It shall be responsible for the management of
30 regional veterinary diagnostic laboratories, including the monitoring of
31 certified/accredited private animal disease diagnostic laboratories. CADD
32 shall also be the National Reference Center for Animal Disease Diagnosis.
33

34 The Center shall have the following divisions: (a) Pathobiology, (b)
35 Bacteriology & Mycobiology, (c) Virology, (d) Laboratory Standards and
36 Compliance and (e) National Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory
37 Information Management and Coordination.
38

39 4. Center for Animal Feeds, Veterinary Products and Establishments
40 Regulation – The Center shall regulate the manufacture, production,
41 importation, exportation, distribution, handling, sale, offer for sale, transfer,
42 promotion, advertisement, the use and testing of premixes, animal feeds,
43 feed ingredients, feed supplements and feed additives, veterinary drugs,
44 biologicals, cosmetics and devices and all other types of veterinary products
45 and establishments. It shall likewise conduct assays on the quality, safety,
46 potency and efficacy of these products and veterinary drug residues in
47 animal products except meat.
48

1 The Center shall include the following divisions: (a) Registration,
2 Licensing, & Accreditation, (b) Inspection and Compliance and (c)
3 Laboratory Services.

4
5 5. Animal Genetic Resource Management and Improvement Center – This
6 Center shall be responsible for formulating policies and programs for
7 sustainable animal genetic resources of domestic animals. It shall prepare in
8 consultation with various stakeholders the national strategy and action plan
9 for the use, development and conservation of animal genetic resources in
10 particular the native food animals.

11
12 The Center shall have the following divisions: (a) Breed Registry and
13 Central Data Management (b) Gene Bank (c) Native Pigs (d) Native Poultry
14 (e) Native Cattle, Goat and Sheep (f) Native Horses.

15
16 6. Center for Animal Research and Product Development – This Center shall
17 address the national agenda for all researches on animal health, animal
18 welfare and animal production food safety and security in coordination,
19 collaboration and consultation with international and local agencies and
20 stakeholders.

21
22 It shall also be responsible for the generation of technology,
23 technology adaptation and demonstration necessary for maximum utilization
24 of available resources in accordance with the requirements of the national
25 animal research, production and development agenda and shall also serve as
26 repository of all animal research and scientific information.

27
28 This Center shall have the following divisions: (a) Animal Production
29 Research, (b) Veterinary Product Research and Standards Development and
30 (c) Animal Product Development.

31
32 7. Center for Livestock Trade Promotion and Development – This Center
33 shall be primarily responsible for the promotion of the National Agenda for
34 the development and implementation of sustainable livestock business
35 development, animal industry strategic management, animal supply chain
36 management, animal knowledge and information network, participatory
37 governance, animal market and post- production development and animal
38 market infrastructure and animal statistics and marketing intelligence,
39 animal marketing system programs and activities.

40
41 The center shall have following divisions: (a) Livestock Business and
42 Industry Strategic Development (b) Market and Post-production
43 Development (c) Socio-Economic and Marketing Research.

44
45 ***Section 9. Regional Livestock and Veterinary Services Offices (RLVSOs) –***
46 ***Regional Livestock and Veterinary Services Offices of the NLVSA shall be***
47 ***created at the regional level to be headed by the Regional Director, who***
48 ***must possess a minimum experience of five (5) years as a veterinarian. He***

1 shall be assisted by Chiefs of Divisions necessary in the performance of
2 regional operations.

3
4 All existing DA regional staff performing veterinary services and
5 functions are hereby transferred to the RLVSO.

6
7 **Section 10. Administrative Support Services** - The NLVSA shall be assisted
8 by an Administrative Support Services which shall be headed by Director
9 and Regional Chiefs of Division, who must possess a minimum management
10 experience of five (5) years and three (3) years in any related field,
11 respectively. It shall have the following divisions or units, as maybe
12 applicable, to wit: (a) Assets and Finance, (b) Human Resource
13 Development, (c) Property and Logistics Management (d) Legal Support
14 Services, (e) Monitoring & Evaluation, (f) Planning & International Desk,
15 and (g) Information and Communication Technology Management.

16 17 Chapter III

18 19 CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER, VETERINARY INSPECTORS AND 20 ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIANS

21
22 **Section 11. Chief Veterinary Officer.** – The Director General of the NLVSA
23 shall be the Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO) of the country. He shall be
24 primarily responsible in the formulation and implementation of national
25 policies, strategies, priorities and action plans on animal health, animal
26 welfare and animal production food safety. He shall also represent the
27 country in official international dialogue on animal health matters.

28
29 The CVO shall coordinate and, as much as possible, establish linkages
30 with allied government agencies, the private sector and academe in the
31 implementation of plans and programs in animal disease prevention, control
32 and eradication to ensure prompt mobilization of all essential personnel and
33 resources in the event of animal disease emergencies.

34
35 The CVO shall also endeavor to address current, recurring, new and
36 prospective national issues and concerns on animal health, animal welfare,
37 feeds and animal food production safety and security, with regional and
38 global impact through the help of other allied government agencies and
39 stakeholders.

40
41 **Section 12. Veterinary Inspectors (VI)** – The Secretary of Agriculture, upon
42 recommendation of the Director General of the NLVSA, may by instrument
43 in writing, appoint or deputize veterinarians as Veterinary Inspectors under
44 this Act. The appointment of the Regional Veterinary Inspectors shall be
45 made by the Regional Director with the concurrence of the Director General.
46 The Director General shall prescribe the duties and responsibilities of the
47 National and Regional Veterinary Inspectors.

1 The services of the Veterinary Inspectors shall be entitled to
2 incentives and overtime work when the interest of the service so requires
3 and the services performed outside of the office hours and other expenses
4 shall be chargeable to the parties served, at the rates to be prescribed by the
5 Secretary upon the recommendation of the Director General.

6
7 **Section 13. Animal Health Technician** – An Animal Health Technician is a
8 person who is authorized by the PRC to carry out certain designated tasks in
9 a country and delegated to them under the responsibility and direction of the
10 veterinarian. The tasks authorized for each category of veterinary para-
11 professional shall be defined by the PRC depending on qualifications and
12 training, and according to need.

13
14 **Section 14. Magna Carta for Public Health Workers-** Veterinarians,
15 Animal Health Technicians and other veterinary personnel performing
16 veterinary public health related activities employed under the National
17 Government Agencies (NGAs) and LGUs are public health workers and
18 shall be entitled to the provisions and compensations stipulated under RA
19 7305 (Magna Carta for Public Health Workers).

20 21 Chapter IV

22 23 ADVISORY COMMITTEES

24
25 **Section 15. National and Regional Advisory Committees for Animal**
26 **Diseases and Emergency.** – The existing National and Regional Advisory
27 Committees on Animal Disease Control and Emergency (NAC-
28 ADCE/RAC-ADCE), which were created in the advent of emerging diseases
29 are hereby renamed and institutionalized in this Act as the National and
30 Regional Advisory Committees on Animal Diseases and Emergency (NAC-
31 ADE/RAC-ADE) under the Office of the Secretary of Agriculture.

32
33 The Chairperson of the NAC-ADE shall be a duly licensed
34 veterinarian of good standing in the veterinary profession, a practicing
35 veterinarian for at least ten (10) years. He shall be designated as such by the
36 Secretary of Agriculture from the recommendation of the regular members
37 from the private sector. The manner in the filling up of the members of the
38 committee shall be prescribed and approved by the Secretary of Agriculture
39 upon recommendation of the Director General. The composition of the
40 committee shall be updated from time to time and as may be needed by
41 circumstances.

42
43 **Section 16. Duties and Functions.** - The NAC-ADE and RAC-ADE shall
44 submit their recommendations directly to the Secretary of Agriculture and
45 perform the following duties and functions:

- 46
47 1. Recommend policies and measures on the following:
48

- 1 a. Risk analyses and import protocols, prevention, control, eradication
2 and monitoring of economically harmful animal diseases including
3 zoonotic diseases;
4
- 5 b. Procedures to be followed in times of emergencies, e.g., nationwide
6 epidemic of food animal and zoonotic diseases and during disasters,
7 either man-made or natural;
8
- 9 c. Verification of reports on emerging zoonotic animal diseases;
10
- 11 d. Support the CVO in sourcing funds from national and international
12 funding agencies.
13

14 2. The NAC-ADE shall coordinate the activities of the various Regional
15 Advisory Committee on Animal Diseases and Emergency (RAC-ADEs)
16 which is the regional counterpart and have similar function advising the
17 Secretary of Agriculture and the respective Regional Directors (RDs);
18

19 3. Create sub-committees to address special issues and concerns of the
20 NLVSA and other agencies.
21

22 4. Assist in the review of policies, programs, and projects for the
23 development of the National Veterinary Services.
24

25 5. Assist in the evaluation of the implementation, efficiency and
26 effectiveness of the programs and projects of the NLVSA.
27

28 ***Section 17. National Advisory Committee for the Welfare of Animals***
29 ***(NACWA)*** – The CAW created under RA 8485 shall be renamed the
30 NACWA which is a multi-agency/multi sectoral committee which shall be
31 chaired by a representative from any of the private sector subject to the
32 approval of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture. The Committee
33 shall be responsible for the formulation of rules and regulations for the strict
34 implementation of the provisions of this Act and RA 8485.
35

36 The Committee shall be composed of representatives from the following
37 agency/sector:

- 38 a. Department of Agriculture
39
- 40 b. Department of Environment and Natural Resources
41
- 42 c. Department of Interior and Local Government
43
- 44 d. Department of Education
45
- 46 e. Provincial, City and Municipal Veterinarians' League of the
47 Philippines
48
- 49 f. Philippines Veterinary Medical Association

1 g. Non-Government Organizations

2
3 h. Peoples' Organizations

4
5 i. Academe

6
7 **Section 18. Animal Feed Services Advisory Committee (AFSAC)** – The
8 Animal Feed Control Advisory Committee (AFCAC) created under
9 Republic Act No 1556, as amended by Presidential Decree No. 7, which
10 adopted into law Senate Bill No. 627, is hereby renamed Animal Feed
11 Services Advisory Committee with eleven (11) members, the composition of
12 which shall be modified to add three (3) more members as follows: one legal
13 representative from the NLVSA, one representative from the Legal Division
14 of DA and one from the Philippine College of Veterinary Feed Practitioners.

15
16 The AFSAC shall continue to exercise its functions in matters related
17 to the animal feed industry, except as provided in Section 66 of SB No. 627
18 hereof.

19
20 **Section 19. Mandatory Review and Evaluation** - The recommendations of
21 the NAC-ADE, NACWA, and AFSAC shall be subject to mandatory review
22 and evaluation by the Director General, before the same are submitted for
23 final approval by the Secretary of Agriculture.

24
25 **Section 20. Other Advisory Committees** – Other Advisory Committees may
26 be created to assist the NLVSA in the implementation of its various
27 programs and projects.

28
29 Chapter V

30
31 LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND LOCAL VETERINARY
32 OFFICERS

33
34 **Section 21. LGU Assistance and Cooperation** - Local Government Units
35 (LGUs) shall assist and closely cooperate with the NLVSA in the
36 implementation of the provisions of this Act. They shall extend any
37 available manpower, security, material and financial resources to any
38 national animal disease prevention and control measures, animal welfare and
39 other national programs being undertaken by the NLVSA within their
40 respective jurisdictions.

41
42 **Section 22. Creation of Municipal Veterinary Positions** – The position of
43 municipal veterinarian shall be mandatory in all first class municipalities and
44 optional in other municipalities.

45
46 **Section 23. Responsibilities of Provincial, City and Municipal**
47 **Veterinarians**- In addition to the duties of a veterinary officer as provided in
48 Section 489 of Republic Act No. 7160, also known as the “Local

1 Government Code of 1991”, it shall be the duty of veterinary officers, as the
2 case maybe, to:

3
4 1. Ensure the implementation of policies, rules and regulations issued by
5 NLVSA and other coordinating agencies in accordance with the provisions
6 of this Act and its related laws, rules and regulations towards the
7 enforcement of animal disease prevention, control measures and animal
8 welfare regulations.

9
10 2. Extend assistance, as may be necessary, to the NLVSA in the
11 implementation or enforcement of animal disease prevention and control
12 measures, and animal welfare within their area of responsibility.

13
14 3. Comply with all reportorial and documentary requirements needed by the
15 NLVSA in the implementation of this Act.

16
17 **Section 24. Issuance of Mayor’s Permit** – No LGU shall issue any Mayor’s
18 Permit to operate any farm, clinic, animal facility, kennel or any other
19 veterinary establishment unless the owner/operator has secured clearance
20 from the provincial, city or municipal veterinarian attesting to the fact that
21 the establishment has complied with all the requirements prescribed under
22 NLVSA rules and regulations.

23 24 Chapter VI

25 26 ROLE OF ALLIED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND NON- 27 GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

28
29 **Section 25. Allied Government Agencies** – Allied government agencies that
30 are performing veterinary services and related functions shall continue to do
31 so. The DG of the NLVSA as the national competent authority shall call
32 upon other allied government agencies and academe in the implementation
33 of this Act.

34
35 **Section 26. Other Agencies and Sectors** – The NLVSA shall establish
36 agreements with other government sectors, private sectors, academe and
37 other relevant agencies and stakeholders in the implementation of plans and
38 programs in animal disease prevention, control, eradication and to ensure
39 prompt mobilization of all essential personnel and resources in the event of
40 animal disease emergencies.

41
42 **Section 27. Responsibilities** – All government agencies and private entities
43 performing veterinary and related functions shall cooperate fully with the
44 Director General as CVO and comply with the set policies and technical
45 standards for veterinary services.

46 47 Chapter VII

1 ANIMAL HEALTH, WELFARE AND ANIMAL PRODUCTION FOOD
2 SAFETY
3

4 ***Section 28. Duty to Report Notifiable Diseases*** – All animal and livestock
5 producers, owners, operators, farm managers, farm veterinarians, animal
6 facility operators and farm consultants who have in their possession or care,
7 animals or animal products infected or suspected to be infected, or have
8 reasonable grounds to believe that the animal or animal product is infected
9 with a Notifiable Disease are duty bound to report to the concerned Local
10 Government Unit –Veterinary Office or to the NLVSA or to the RLVSO
11 immediately within 24 hours by the quickest means possible.
12

13 These notifiable diseases are, but not limited to, Foot and Mouth
14 Disease (FMD), Classical Swine Fever (CSF, Hog Cholera), Highly
15 Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI), Newcastle Disease (ND) or Avian Pest,
16 Rabies, Anthrax and Hemorrhagic Septicemia. The NLVSA shall provide a
17 complete list of Notifiable Diseases and their reporting guidelines which
18 shall be updated from time to time.
19

20 ***Section 29. Proper Disposal of Dead Animals and Potentially Infective***
21 ***Materials*** – Dead animals, manure, and other potentially infective materials
22 from regular operations of farms, clinics, animal facilities shall be disposed
23 in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations and guidelines set by
24 NLVSA.
25

26 ***Section 30. Animal Disease Surveillance and Epidemiology*** – All agencies
27 performing veterinary services shall be responsible in monitoring animal
28 disease situation by conducting regular surveillance of the animal and
29 livestock population in their respective jurisdiction and are required to report
30 periodically to the NLVSA.
31

32 ***Section 31. National Registry, Animal Identification and Traceability of***
33 ***Livestock*** – A national registry of animal facilities and establishments shall
34 be established by the NLVSA. An animal identification system shall also be
35 developed to be able to trace the origin of each animal or groups of animals.
36 The NLVSA in consultation with livestock stakeholders shall also establish
37 farm classification system in accordance with accepted standard and
38 parameters.
39

40 ***Section 32. Mandatory Vaccination*** – To prevent, control, and eradicate
41 emerging or re-emerging, communicable and exotic diseases, all animals
42 shall have to be vaccinated in accordance with the implementing rules and
43 regulations of this Act.
44

45 ***Section 33. Emergency Preparedness*** – The NLVSA shall draft the National
46 Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Plans in response to animal health,
47 welfare and animal production food safety. Measures shall also be developed
48 to mitigate the effect of climate change in the livestock industry.
49

1 **Section 34. Animal Welfare Practices** - All animal producers, owners,
2 operators, farm managers, farm veterinarians, animal facility operators and
3 farm consultants who have in their possession or care, animals shall adopt
4 and observe animal welfare regulations and practices.

5
6 **Section 35. Animal Health, Welfare and Animal Production Food Safety**
7 **Information System** – The NLVSA shall develop a more effective animal
8 health information system involving agencies and other stakeholders on
9 animal health, welfare and animal production food safety including
10 establishment of an effective information network.

11
12 **Section 36. Risk Analysis** – Principles of risk analysis shall be incorporated
13 in all policy formulation and standard setting.

14
15 **Section 37. Veterinary Public Health** - The NLVSA shall take the lead role
16 in the formulation and implementation of veterinary public health programs
17 and activities particularly in the prevention and control of zoonoses and food
18 safety.

19
20 **Section 38. Mandatory Engagement of the Professional Services of a**
21 **Veterinarian** – All animal establishments such as but not limited to farms,
22 zoos, kennels, apiaries, aviaries, livestock markets, animal race tracks and
23 cockpits shall engage the professional services of a veterinarian based on
24 minimum number of animals and other parameters to be prescribed by the
25 NLVSA, in consultation with concerned sectors.

26
27 **Section 39. Farm Inspection and Certification** – The NLVSA in
28 consultation with stakeholders shall establish standards and parameters on
29 farm inspection and certification.

30
31
32 Chapter VIII

33
34 COMPENSATION TO SUPPORT DISEASE ERADICATION

35
36 **Section 40. Creation of a Disease Compensation and Eradication Trust**
37 **Fund** – A Disease Compensation and Eradication Trust Fund shall be
38 provided for in the General Appropriations Act annually and be held by the
39 Authority. It shall not be reduced and shall not revert to the General Fund
40 even if the same is not used for a current fiscal year. An initial amount of
41 Five Hundred Million Pesos (P 500,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated to
42 start the seed fund for the Disease Compensation and Eradication Trust Fund.

43
44 **Section 41. Fund Utilization** - The Fund shall be applied for the payment of
45 compensation to the owner of animals. It shall also be utilized for the
46 payment of expenses directly connected with controlling, eradicating or
47 preventing, the spread of any animal disease that is notifiable or emerging or
48 re-emerging, exotic and zoonotic including administrative expenses.

1 **Section 42. Coverage of Compensation** - Only those animals that were
2 stamped out pursuant to the Depopulation Order issued by the Director
3 General, as recommended by NAC-ADE and as approved by the Secretary
4 of Agriculture, to prevent further spread of the disease should be
5 indemnified. Dead animals due to notifiable and emerging or re-emerging,
6 exotic and zoonotic diseases are not compensable.
7

8 **Section 43. Compensable Amount** -The amount of compensation payable
9 shall not be more than Sixty Percent (60%) of the market value of the
10 identified animals that are ordered depopulated on account of a disease.
11

12 **Section 44. Issuance of Compensation Guidelines** – Guidelines for the
13 payment of compensation shall be prescribed by the NLVSA in consultation
14 with stakeholders.
15

16 Chapter IX

17 QUARANTINE MEASURES

18
19
20
21
22 **Section 45. Border Post Entry** – The importation of animals, animal
23 products, animal by-products, animal feeds and feed ingredients, veterinary
24 drugs, biologicals, cosmetics and devices, and other potential vectors of
25 animal diseases shall be subjected to close veterinary inspection, quarantine
26 and test as may be deemed appropriate and necessary, and examination of
27 required document such as, but not limited to, (1) an Authority to Import
28 duly issued by the NLVSA and secured prior to the importation, and (2) a
29 Veterinary Health Certificate and/or Sanitary Phytosanitary (SPS) Clearance,
30 or its equivalent, and such other documents as may be required by the
31 NLVSA to be obtained from the proper authorities of the country of origin.
32

33 **Section 46. Release from Customs Zone** - The Bureau of Customs or its
34 representative shall not allow the release of any article of importation that is
35 subject to veterinary inspection, quarantine and examination procedures
36 unless the NLVSA or its duly authorized representative has issued a
37 Veterinary Quarantine Compliance Certificate or Lifting of Quarantine for
38 the particular shipment, as the case may be.
39

40 **Section 47. Prohibited Importation** - No importation of animals, animal
41 products, animal by-products, animal effects and other related products such
42 as but not limited to fodder crops and forage shall be allowed from countries
43 known or declared to be infected with a dangerous communicable animal
44 disease or diseases which has been banned to export the said products to the
45 Philippines and where there is a possible danger of spreading or introducing
46 such disease or diseases into the Philippines by the importation of such item.
47 All in-transit shipments at the time of the occurrence of the foreign disease
48 or contagion shall be subjected to strict quarantine and laboratory testing, or
49 automatically denied entry and/or confiscation and disposal, and as the

1 NLVSA may determine, in the overriding interests of protecting the animal
2 and public health of the country.

3
4 **Section 48. Wildlife and Endangered Species** – In accordance with Section
5 2 of Article 14 of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered
6 Species (CITES) on effect on domestic legislation and international
7 conventions, all kinds of wildlife that are subject to veterinary quarantine
8 regulations shall be under NLVSA jurisdiction.

9
10 **Section 49. Exportation Clearance or Certificate** - No animals, animal
11 products, animal by-products animal effects, animal feeds, veterinary
12 drugs/products and biologics shall be allowed to be exported and loaded on
13 board ships and airplanes or any vehicle unless it is accompanied by a
14 Veterinary Health Certificate and/or Commodity Clearance duly issued by
15 the NLVSA and it has complied with the quarantine requirements of the
16 country of destination.

17
18 **Section 50. Transshipment-** In the transshipment of live animals, animal
19 products, animal by-products, animal effects, animal feeds, and veterinary
20 products, all importer/shippers shall comply with the health and welfare
21 rules and regulations prescribed by the NLVSA.

22
23 **Section 51. Domestic Shipping** – All inland and inter-island shipments of
24 animals, animal products, animal by-products, animal effects, veterinary
25 drugs and biologics from one province or region to another shall be
26 accompanied by a Veterinary Health Certificate or Shipping Permit duly
27 issued by the Director General or his duly-authorized representatives.

28
29 **Section 52. Illegal or Unauthorized Shipments** - Shipments of animals,
30 animal products, by-products, veterinary drugs, biologics and feeds which
31 are found to be in violation of this Act or rules and regulations issued
32 thereunder, or orders of the Director General or his veterinary quarantine
33 officers shall be confiscated and disposed of in a manner prescribed by the
34 Director General.

35
36 **Section 53. Registration of Commercial Livestock Traders and Shippers** -
37 All commercial livestock trader and shippers or handlers who are engaged in
38 the inter-provincial and regional shipment/transportation of livestock shall
39 register with the RLVSO in order to maintain disease free areas and achieve
40 safe, clean and orderly handling of commodities through the various stages
41 of marketing or distribution channels.

42
43 **Section 54. Prescribing Standard Operating Procedures for Veterinary**
44 **Quarantine Services in all Seaports and Airports** - The NLVSA shall
45 establish a standard operating procedure for the Veterinary Quarantine
46 Services at the different seaports and airports in the country

47
48 **Section 55. Rendering of Underguarding and Overtime Services** -
49 Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors and other duly designated

1 personnel are authorized to render underguarding and overtime work when
2 the interest of the service so requires and the services performed outside
3 office hours and other expenses shall be chargeable to the party or parties
4 served at the rates to be prescribed by the Director General and approved by
5 the Secretary of Agriculture.

6
7 **Section 56. Declaration of Infected Areas, Premises or Zones** - If the
8 Director General has reasonable grounds to believe that any premises, place
9 or area is infected with a Notifiable Disease, he may, by a written order,
10 declare an area to be infected. In case of an outbreak of communicable
11 animal and zoonotic diseases, the Director General has the power to declare
12 the area, region, province or specific farm or establishment under quarantine.

13
14 **Section 57. Movement in Infected Areas** - Movement of animals, animal
15 products, animal by-products, animal effects, veterinary drugs, biologics,
16 and transport vehicles reasonably suspected to be exposed or contaminated
17 with a Notifiable Disease shall be restricted in areas, region, province or
18 specific farm or establishment that are declared infected, unless authorized
19 by the Director General or his duly-authorized representative. In the event of
20 a disease outbreak, zones shall be established to restrict the movement of
21 animals between zones. Notices declaring the areas under quarantine shall be
22 posted in a conspicuous place in the Municipal and/or Barangay Hall, as the
23 case may be.

24
25 **Section 58. Lifting of Order of Quarantine** - The Director General shall
26 issue an order lifting the quarantine where the areas, region, province or
27 specific farm or establishment declared to be infected are eventually
28 determined to be safe and out of danger from such infection. This shall
29 authorize the resumption of shipments within the affected places.

30
31 **Section 59. Duty of Owner or Holder** - A person who owns or is in charge
32 of, or has in his or her possession or control, an animal or animal product
33 which the person has reasonable grounds to suspect is infected with a
34 notifiable disease must as far as practicable, keep that animal or animal
35 product separate from non-infected animals or animal products.

36
37 **Section 60. Controlled Shipments** - It shall be unlawful for any person to
38 possess, administer or use infectious disease agents, for scientific, laboratory
39 or other purposes, unless duly authorized by a special permit by the Director
40 General to handle hazardous materials.

41
42 **Section 61. Depopulation Order** - The Director General or his duly
43 authorized representative may, by a written Depopulation Order require the
44 stamping out of healthy animals in declared infected areas, premises or
45 zones to prevent further spread of the disease.

46
47 **Section 62. Destruction Order** - The Director General or his duly authorized
48 representative may, by a written Destruction Order require the proper
49 disposal of (1) any animal, animal product, fodder which is infected, or

1 reasonably suspected to be infected with a Notifiable Disease; (2)
2 confiscated expired, banned, unregistered, counterfeit, veterinary biologics,
3 drugs and products.

4
5 **Section 63. Disinfection Order** - The Director General or his duly
6 authorized representative may, by a written Disinfection Order, likewise,
7 require the owner or person in charge or in apparent control of an area which
8 is infected, or reasonably suspected to be infected with a Notifiable Disease,
9 to clean and disinfect said area, including vehicles or any material found
10 therein.

11
12 **Section 64. Disease-Free Areas** - Declaration of any area as disease-free
13 shall be made by the NLVSA Director General upon the recommendation of
14 concerned animal health authorities of said office. The declaration of an area
15 as disease-free shall be subject to the guidelines set by concerned NLVSA.

16
17 **Section 65. Expenses of Quarantine and Authority to Auction** – The owner,
18 consignee or possessor of the animals placed under quarantine shall
19 reimburse the NLVSA for the expenses incurred during the quarantine
20 period of such animals. In case of his failure to do so after a Lifting Order of
21 Quarantine has been issued and duly served upon him, the NLVSA shall
22 have the right to auction off his animals to recover such expenses made.

Chapter X

QUARANTINE FACILITIES

23
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28
29 **Section 66. Establishment of Veterinary Quarantine Stations** – The
30 NLVSA shall establish and maintain quarantine stations for the detention,
31 treatment and observation of domestic animals in such places as may be
32 approved from time to time by the Secretary of Agriculture, and to place all
33 animals arriving from foreign and domestic ports or interior places in
34 quarantine for such time as he may deem necessary to prevent the
35 introduction and spread of dangerous communicable animal diseases.

36
37 **Section 67. National Veterinary Quarantine Station** – The pasture reserve
38 known as the Government Cattle Breeding/Grazing Reserve and
39 Experimental Station at Busuanga and Coron, Palawan pursuant to
40 Proclamation No. 1387, dated February 13, 1975 and Presidential Decree No.
41 1593 is hereby reclassified as alienable and disposable lands of the public
42 domain and hereby reserved for the National Veterinary Quarantine Station
43 and Busuanga Stock Farm of the NLVSA.

Chapter XI

SPS FACILITATION & HARMONIZATION

1 **Section 68. International Harmonization** - The NLVSA shall study and
2 review national standards on animal health, animal welfare and farm feed
3 and food safety, participate in international for a relative to formulation and
4 adoption of international standards and harmonize our national standards
5 with relevant international standards.
6

7 **Section 69. Certification Systems** - The NLVSA shall in consultation with
8 stakeholders develop certification systems including third party certifications
9 on animal health, animal welfare, farm feed and food safety products,
10 services and production in accordance with national and international
11 standards.
12

13 **Section 70. Equivalence and Other Types of Sanitary Agreements** - The
14 NLVSA in consultation with other agencies and stakeholders shall develop,
15 negotiate and implement appropriate level of protection (ALOP) in relation
16 to human and animal life and health in its territory, based on the principle of
17 equivalence and other types of sanitary and trade agreements with trading
18 partners such as but not limited to, the application of Sanitary and
19 Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures of the World Trade Organization (WTO).
20

21 **Section 71. Transparency** - The NLVSA shall have the responsibility to
22 notify the OIE and/or the WTO SPS Committee of the country's animal
23 health, animal welfare and animal production food safety sanitary and
24 phytosanitary status and other relevant matters and inform stakeholders on
25 the changes in the regulations and decisions.
26

27 **Section 72. Zoning** - The NLVSA shall have the authority to apply for
28 recognition to the OIE the disease free zones and shall implement relevant
29 measures and practices to establish and maintain these disease-free zones as
30 based on physical boundaries.
31

32 **Section 73. Compartmentalization** - The NLVSA shall establish and
33 maintain disease-free areas within its territory in accordance with OIE
34 recommendations.
35

36 Chapter XII

37 VETERINARY LABORATORIES

38
39
40
41 **Section 74. Certification/Accreditation** – The NLVSA shall be responsible
42 for controlling both government and non-government veterinary diagnostic
43 laboratories in the field through the Center for Animal Disease Diagnosis.
44 Only duly certified laboratory facilities are allowed to do diagnostic services.
45 The NLVSA shall develop guidelines and standards in the
46 certification/accreditation of various veterinary laboratory facilities and
47 establish quality systems towards international certification.
48

1 **Section 75. Biosafety and Biosecurity** – Standards and guidelines for
2 laboratory biosafety and biosecurity shall be established and practiced by
3 veterinary and feed analysis laboratories per national and international
4 recommendations.

5
6 **Section 76. Proficiency Testing** – A system of quality assurance shall be
7 developed and implemented to ensure continuing proficiency and
8 competency of certified/accredited diagnostic and assay laboratories.

9
10
11 Chapter XIII

12
13 REGULATIONS ON ANIMAL FEEDS AND VETERINARY PRODUCTS

14
15
16 **Section 77. Implementing Rules and Regulations** – In consonance with RA
17 1556, as amended by PD No. 7, RA 1071, and Act 3101, the NLVSA shall
18 provide the necessary rules and regulations on the manufacture, production,
19 handling, storage, sale and use of veterinary biological products, drugs and
20 products, devices, mixed feeds, feed ingredients, feed supplements, feed
21 additives, concentrates, base feeds, base mixes, specialty feeds, special feed
22 nutrient preparations, other feed products and their establishments which
23 have to be followed and complied with for registration.

24
25 **Section 78. Registration and Licensing** – Each class, type, brand or
26 trademark of veterinary biological products, drugs, devices, cosmetics,
27 mixed feeds, feed ingredients, feed supplements, feed additives, concentrates,
28 base feeds, base mixes, specialty feeds, special feed nutrient preparations,
29 and other feed products, inclusive of the establishments shall be registered
30 individually and shall be assigned separate registration numbers. A
31 permanent Book of Records on the registration number, codes assigned on
32 each product and indicated therein the class, type, brand or trade mark,
33 technical description and manufacturer/importer of each product registered
34 shall be kept.

35
36 **Section 79. Importation of Animal Feeds, Veterinary Biologics, Drugs and**
37 **Related Products** – Importation of Animal Feeds, Veterinary Biologics,
38 Drugs and Related Products without valid SPS and permits shall not be
39 allowed entry. All in-transit shipments at the time of the occurrence of the
40 foreign disease or contagion shall be subjected to strict quarantine and
41 laboratory testing, or automatically denied entry and/or confiscation and
42 disposal, as the NLVSA may determine, in the overriding interests of
43 protecting the animal and public health of the country.

44
45 **Section 80. Warning and Temporary Revocation and Suspension of**
46 **License or Permit** – Failure of any grantee of license or permit to comply
47 with any of the requirements provided in this Act or its implementing rules
48 and regulations without justifiable or valid reason, as motu proprio
49 determined by the Director General, shall be sufficient ground for the initial

1 issuance of warning, or immediate temporary suspension or revocation of
2 such license or permit for not more than sixty (60) days, subject to the
3 institution of formal proceedings within the said period.

4
5
6 Chapter XIV

7
8 ANIMAL AND LIVESTOCK TRADE PROMOTION
9

10
11 **Section 81. Animal Industry Market Profiles** – The NLVSA shall maintain
12 a database of national, regional and local animal industry market profile to
13 support in the business development of animal industries and allied
14 industries and shall integrate marketing information and develop a
15 knowledge management system of the different commodities/industries from
16 national to local level.

17
18 **Section 82. Country Animal Products Export Strategies** – The NLVSA
19 shall formulate country animal products export strategies, conduct research
20 and benchmark export/import protocols, prepare industry analysis and
21 reports of potential export market of the different animal food commodities,
22 and spearhead in the promotion of exportable products and by-products to
23 improve the performance of local agribusiness establishments producing
24 these tradable products and by-products.

25
26 **Section 83. Contracting and Subcontracting Arrangement** – The NLVSA
27 shall facilitate and coordinate any contracting and subcontracting
28 arrangement between local and foreign investors, as necessary to boost and
29 improve the animal, animal products and by-products export and local
30 trading performance of the animal industry stakeholders.

31
32 **Section 84. Export Incentives Programs** - The NLVSA shall formulate and
33 implement the guidelines and policies for the registration and certification of
34 bona fide and eligible exporters and facilitate and coordinate applicants and
35 stakeholders that would like to avail the different export incentives programs
36 of the NLVSA, Department of Agriculture and other government agencies
37 that are also providing related services to stimulate international marketing
38 of Philippine-made products.

39
40 **Section 85. Livestock Business and Industry Strategic Development** – The
41 NLVSA shall formulate and regularly update short, medium and long-term
42 livestock business and industry strategic development plan which will serve
43 as guide and roadmap for the development of the different industries in the
44 livestock sector cut across the agribusiness supply chain.

45
46 **Section 86. Livestock Marketing Information System** – The NLVSA shall
47 strengthen the livestock marketing information system through the
48 development of database systems, printed and online publications of
49 marketing information which could be readily accessible to the input

1 suppliers, producers, marketers, processors, industry associations,
2 government and other stakeholders.

3
4 **Section 87. Socio-economic and Marketing Research** – The NLVSA shall
5 strengthen the utilization of social-economic and marketing research to
6 maximize the benefit of the different methodologies and strategies of these
7 interdisciplinary researches for the sustained growth and development and
8 the trade promotion of the country’s animal industry’s products and services,
9 considering the social and economic factors that contributes to the increase
10 in income, employment generation, improvement of standard of living and
11 quality of life of livestock farmers, traders, processors, consumers, and in
12 incorporating the socio-economic impact assessment, as an integral part of
13 any project, program and policy implementation by the NLVSA and DA on
14 the different industries/commodities.

15
16 **Section 88. Marketing Information Governance** – The NLVSA shall
17 support the development of marketing information governance to achieve a
18 more transparent, effective exchange and higher coverage of marketing
19 information dissemination in a national scale, to boost the competitive
20 advantage, strategic and supply chain management of local livestock farmers,
21 traders, processors and other relevant stakeholders, considering the different
22 bilateral and multilateral trade agreements in which the country is already a
23 part of and continually complying with national commitments to efficiently
24 compete in the local and in the international market.

25
26
27 Chapter XV

28 UTILIZATION OF GOVERNMENT FARMS

29
30
31
32 **Section 89. Private Sector Participation** - The NLVSA shall maximize the
33 economic potential of its various animal stock and research farms for the
34 benefit of the animal industry through joint government and private sector
35 initiative and participation in the utilization and development thereof.

36
37 **Section 90. Use of Government Lands for Quasi-Public Purposes** - All
38 lands of the government which have been reserved, donated, leased or
39 acquired for animal stock farms or breeding purposes are hereby reclassified
40 or allowed for quasi-public purposes. The Secretary of Agriculture upon the
41 recommendation of the NLVSA in coordination with LGUS shall have the
42 authority to enter into joint venture agreements over such lands with private
43 individuals, corporations and cooperatives with the end in view of
44 maximizing their full potential for livestock production purposes, processing
45 and marketing in achieving the accelerated development of the livestock
46 industry in accordance with the currently approved zoning ordinance.

PROHIBITIONS AND PENALTIES

Section 91. Failure to Report Notifiable Diseases - All animal producers, owners, operators, farm managers, farm veterinarians, and farm consultants who fail to report notifiable diseases to the LGU Veterinary Office or to the NLVSA or to the RLVSO immediately within 24 hours by the quickest means possible shall be fined for the first offense, the amount of Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) and for succeeding offenses, imprisonment of Ten (10) days.

Section 92. Disobedience, Evasion, Obstructing and Hindering the Director General and his Representatives in the Performance of their Duties - The farm or establishment owner, transport operator, animal facility operator or any person acting on his behalf who disobeys, evades, obstructs or hinders the NLVSA Director General, or any of his enforcement officers or deputized officers to perform his duty shall, upon conviction, be penalized by a fine of Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00). A repetition of the same offense shall be punished by imprisonment of Six (6) Months, and cancellation of the registration, permit or license of such person, farm or establishment owner, transport operator whichever is applicable.

Section 93. False Statements - Any person who knowingly makes false declaration or misleading statements in his application for license, certificate of product registration or permit; claim or use of recycled or counterfeit licenses, certificate of product registrations, permits shall upon conviction, be penalized by a fine of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) and imprisonment of Six (6) months.

Section 94. Failure to Register Vessels, Vehicles and Equipment - Failure of the owner to register vessels, vehicles, and equipment related to transport of animals, animal products and by-products, animal feeds and feedstuffs, veterinary drugs, biologics, devices and other products shall upon conviction be penalized by a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) and/or imprisonment of Sixty (60) days.

Section 95. Failure to Observe NLVSA Procedures - Any person or establishment operator which (a) during the course of regular operation fails to observe NLVSA approved procedures, or (b) during seizure, detention or quarantine fails to seek clearance from NLVSA on the handling, disposal, or destruction and removal of live or dead animals, animal products, animal by-products, animal effects, veterinary biological products, drugs and devices, animal feeds and feed ingredients, shall, upon conviction, be penalized by a fine of Fifty Thousand pesos (P50,000.00) and imprisonment of Thirty (30) Days.

Section 96. Operating Without a License - Establishment operators/owners found without a valid License to Operate from NLVSA or unlawfully using

1 the registration number of another feed, veterinary biologics, drugs and
2 products establishments shall, upon conviction be penalized by a fine of One
3 Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) and imprisonment of Thirty (30)
4 Days.

5
6 **Section 97. Failure to Display Registration Certificate** - Establishment
7 operators found not displaying the Registration Certificate or displaying fake
8 or expired certificates in the premises of the establishments shall, upon
9 conviction, be penalized by a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) and
10 closure of said establishments for second offense.

11
12 **Section 98. Dealing with Banned, Substandard, Tampered, Adulterated**
13 **and Damaged Veterinary Biologics, Drugs and Other Products** -
14 Establishment operators engaged in the manufacture, trade, importation,
15 distribution, use or sale of banned, substandard, tampered, adulterated,
16 deficient, unlabeled or mislabeled, unbranded or misbranded, expired,
17 repacked, unregistered or damaged through improper handling of veterinary
18 biologics, drugs and products, devices, mixed feeds, feed ingredients, feed
19 supplements, feed additives, premixes, base feeds, base mixes, concentrates,
20 specialty feeds, special feed nutrient preparations and other feed products, in
21 any form shall, upon conviction be penalized by a fine of One Hundred
22 Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) and imprisonment of Thirty (30) Days.

23
24 **Section 99. Tampering, Altering, Mutilating, Destroying, Obliterating or**
25 **Removing Labelling Material Packages and Tags or Labels** - Any person
26 or establishment operator found guilty of tampering, altering, mutilating,
27 destroying, obliterating or removing the whole or any part of the labelling
28 material packages and tags or labels of veterinary biological products, drugs
29 and devices, mixed feeds, feed ingredients, feed supplements, feed additives,
30 base feeds, base mixes, concentrates, specialty feeds, special feed nutrient
31 preparations and other feed products, in any form, shall be fined One
32 Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P150,000.00) and punished with
33 imprisonment of Sixty(60) Days .

34
35 **Section 100. Selling Unlawful Veterinary or Human Drugs** - Any person/s
36 using or owner/s of establishments selling unlawful veterinary or human
37 drugs for animals raised for human consumption shall upon conviction, be
38 penalized by a fine of Twenty Five Thousand Pesos (P25,000.00).

39
40 **Section 101. Refusal to Vaccinate Animals During Outbreaks of Notifiable**
41 **and Priority Diseases** - Refusal of an owner or caretaker to have his animals
42 vaccinated during outbreaks of notifiable and priority diseases, emerging or
43 re-emerging diseases and exotic diseases shall, upon conviction, be
44 penalized by a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) and/or
45 imprisonment of Ten (10) Days.

46
47 **Section 102. Other Penalties** - Any person, officers of corporation,
48 association, organization or establishment found to be in violation of any of
49 the provisions of this Act, or rules and regulations issued thereafter that are

1 not covered by the foregoing provisions shall, upon conviction, be penalized
2 by a fine of Fifty Thousand (P 50,000.00) Pesos but not more than One
3 Hundred Thousand Pesos (P 100,000.00) and/or imprisonment of Six (6)
4 Months to One (1) Year, at the discretion of the court.

5
6 **Section 103. Failure to Comply with Animal Health and Welfare**
7 **Regulations and Rules** - Failure or refusal of any person, owner or caretaker,
8 or handler, operators, officers of corporation, association, organization or
9 establishments to comply with animal health and welfare regulations and
10 standards as provided herein or by the rules hereinafter set by the NLVSA
11 and the local government units shall, upon conviction, be penalized by a fine
12 of not less than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00) but not more
13 than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 150,000.00) and/or
14 imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

15
16 **Section 104. Exceptions under Certain Conditions** - Nothing in this
17 Chapter shall be construed as requiring the Director General to certify for
18 prosecution any first violation of this Act whenever he believes that
19 sufficient compliance and public interest will be adequately served by a
20 suitable written notice of violation and warning.

21
22 **Section 105. Repeated Violation** – Any person found to have committed a
23 second violation of the same offense shall suffer the penalty of
24 imprisonment of the said offense.

25 26 27 Chapter XVII

28 29 REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION PROCEEDINGS

30
31 **Section 106. Institution of Complaint** - The Director General or upon the
32 instance of any interested party may file a complaint before the hearing
33 committee for the formal suspension or revocation of the license or permit
34 duly issued by the NLVSA for violation of its terms and conditions, or any
35 provisions of the rules and regulations applicable thereto.

36
37 **Section 107. Alternative Dispute Resolution** - To achieve speedy and
38 impartial justice, as provided under RA 9285 known as the Alternative
39 Dispute Resolution Act of 2004, the Director General shall issue the
40 guidelines for the implementation of the NLVSA Dispute Resolution.

41
42 **Section 108. Adjudication** – In the event that ADR shall not be resolved to a
43 favorable outcome for the complaint, it shall be raised for adjudication.

44
45 **Section 109. Hearing Committee** - A hearing committee is hereby created to
46 hear any complaint filed under the preceding section. It shall be composed of
47 at least three (3) members. The Director General or in his unavailability, the
48 deputy head of the Center for Animal Products and Services Regulation shall
49 act as Chairman with the Division Chief of the commodity concerned and

1 any other Division Chief of NLVSA, as may be designated by the Director
2 General, as members thereof.

3
4 **Section 110. Powers and Functions** – The Hearing Committee shall have
5 the following powers and functions:

6
7 1. To conduct formal investigation and hearings on the cases before it and
8 make recommendations for appropriate actions thereon for approval of the
9 Director General;

10
11 2. To administer oaths, issue summons and subpoenas requiring the
12 attendance and testimony of witnesses or the production of such books,
13 papers, contracts, records, statement of accounts, agreements, and other
14 documents as may be material to a just determination of the matter under
15 investigation, and to testify in any investigation or hearing conducted in
16 pursuance to this Act.

17
18 3. To hold any person in contempt, directly or indirectly, and impose
19 appropriate penalties therefor ranging from One Thousand (P1,000.00) to
20 Ten Thousand (P10,000.00) Pesos.

21
22 4. To enjoin any or all acts involving or arising from any case pending
23 before it which, if not restrained forthwith, may cause grave or irreparable
24 damage to any party or the government;

25
26 5. The Committee shall use every and all reasonable means to ascertain the
27 facts, issues and applicable laws, rules and jurisprudence in each case
28 speedily and objectively and without regard to technicalities of law or
29 procedure, all in the interest of due process. In any proceeding before the
30 Committee, the parties may be represented by a legal counsel.

31
32 The Committee report when approved by the Director General shall
33 be final and binding on the parties after the lapse of fifteen (15) days from its
34 date of receipt by said parties. Subject to execution pending appeal, any
35 aggrieved party may appeal to the Secretary of Agriculture within the same
36 period.

37
38
39 Chapter XVIII

40
41 GENERAL PROVISIONS

42
43 **Section 111. Protection of Sensitive Technical Information** - The NLVSA
44 shall take such measures as may be necessary in order to protect trade,
45 industrial and policy information of industry stakeholders, and researchers,
46 when disclosure of such information will injure the competitiveness or
47 viability of their business.

48
49 **Section 112. Regulatory Fees and Retention of Income:**

1
2 1. The NLVSA shall have the power to impose charges and fees for the
3 services rendered subject to the approval of the Secretary of Agriculture
4 such as farm accreditations, licensing of establishments, products
5 registration, laboratory tests, Import Permit Fees, Export Permit/commodity
6 clearance fees, Issuance of Landing Permit Fees, Quarantine Inspection Fees,
7 Feed and Veterinary Drugs and Product Production/Inspection Fees and the
8 like which are payable to the NLVSA. Special fee shall be collected from
9 slaughtered animals based on a collection scheme approved by the DA
10 Secretary.

11
12 2. All income of the NLVSA shall be deposited in an authorized government
13 depository bank as a special regulatory fund. Any interest earned by such
14 fund shall form part of the retained income. Such fund shall be used
15 primarily for but not limited to the acquisition and expansion of office and
16 laboratory space, human resource development and expansion, purchase of
17 laboratory equipment and motor vehicles, the upgrading of its current
18 facilities and equipment, and maintenance, other operating expenses of the
19 central and regional laboratories, and other activities, services of the agency
20 in the performance of its mandate and support enforcement and monitoring
21 activities.

22
23 3. The special regulatory fund shall be allowed to accept grants, donations
24 and other endowments from local and external sources in accordance with
25 pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

26
27 4. Any contribution, donation, bequest, subsidy or financial aid which may
28 be made to the NLVSA for the implementation of this Act shall constitute as
29 an allowable deduction from the taxable income of the donor/giver and shall
30 be exempted from donor's tax.

31
32 5. The retention, use and application of this fund shall not be delayed,
33 amended, altered, or modified, or affected in any way by an order or
34 directive from any executive office, but will be subject only to the general
35 accounting rules and guidelines by the Commission on Audit (COA). The
36 primary purpose of the fund as herein stated shall prevail over any other
37 purpose that may be pursued by NLVSA on its own initiative or through an
38 order or directive by any higher office. The NLVSA shall submit annually to
39 the Secretaries of Agriculture and Budget & Management a report on how
40 funds were utilized including its accomplishments.

41
42 6. There shall also be established a legal fund out of the interest earned from
43 the retained income for use in case of legal actions against the officials,
44 employees of the NLVSA in the course of the exercise of their official
45 functions and duties.

46
47 ***Section 113. Disease Compensation Fund*** – The disease compensation fund
48 shall be charged against the appropriations of the Department of Agriculture.

1 For the LGUs, the requirements shall be taken from their Internal Revenue
2 Allotment (IRA).

3
4 **Section 114. Appointment of Veterinary Attaches** – The Department of
5 Agriculture shall strengthen the international animal health, disease
6 surveillance, and information gathering capability by the appointment of
7 veterinary attaches in countries that are major livestock trading partners. In
8 other countries, the NLVSA, subject to the approval of the Secretary of
9 Agriculture, and in coordination with other government entities concerned,
10 may require Filipino representatives abroad and foreign- based personnel to
11 assist in the collection of data on animal health, disease surveillance, and
12 other related information.

13
14 **Section 115. Foreign and Local Grants and Aids** – The NLVSA, in itself,
15 or in collaboration with other agencies shall receive grants and other funds
16 for its research activities and various programs.

17
18 **Section 116. Veterinary Education** – The NLVSA in coordination with
19 CHED and PVMA shall regularly provide recommendations to make
20 veterinary medical curriculum responsive to the needs and imperatives of the
21 animal industry.

22
23 **Section 117. Mandatory Review.** - The Congress of the Philippines shall
24 undertake a mandatory review of this Act at least once every five (5) years
25 and as often as it may deem necessary, to ensure that veterinary policies and
26 guidelines remain responsive to changing circumstances.

27 28 29 Chapter XIX

30 TRANSITORY PROVISIONS

31
32
33 **Section 118. Implementing Rules and Regulations** – The Secretary of
34 Agriculture, upon recommendation of NLVSA, shall promulgate the
35 necessary rules and regulations for the full implementation of this Act,
36 provided, however, that the formulated rules and regulations shall be
37 submitted to both Houses of Congress for information and guidance. Such
38 rules and regulations shall take effect upon publication in 2 newspapers of
39 general circulation and submission of three (3) certified copies thereof to the
40 National Administrative Register of the UP Law Center.

41
42 **Section 119. Creation and Reclassification of Positions** – The NLVSA is
43 hereby authorized to create, upgrade, collapse or reclassify existing positions
44 to veterinary and related positions necessary to effectively implement the
45 provisions of this Act.

FINAL PROVISIONS

Section 120. Appropriations – The appropriations for the NLVSA included in the budget of the Department of Agriculture under the current General Appropriations Act shall be used to effectively carry out the implementation of this Act. The appropriation may be augmented by the income which the agency is authorized to use under this Act. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

Section 121. Repealing Clause - Any provision of law or regulation inconsistent with this Act shall be considered, modified or repealed accordingly. However, the provisions of Act No. 3639, Republic Act No. 8435, as amended, otherwise known as the “Agricultural Fisheries Modernization Act”, Executive Order No. 292, otherwise known as the “Administrative Code of 1987”, Republic Act No. 1556, as amended by Presidential Decree No. 7, otherwise known as the “Livestock and Poultry Feeds Act”, Act No. 3101, Republic Act No. 1071, Republic Act No. 1578, otherwise known as the “Livestock Promotion Fund”, Batas Pambansa Blg. 97, Republic Act No. 8485, otherwise known as the “Animal Welfare Act of 1998”, Republic Act No. 9842, otherwise known as the “Anti-Rabies Act of 2007”, and such other laws which are not consistent with this Act shall remain valid and in full force and effect.

Section 122. Separability Clause - If any portion or provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other portions or provisions hereof, which are not affected thereby, shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 123. Effectivity - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED,