

SENATE
S. B. No. 1473

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Milk consumers are improperly informed about the contents about the contents of the milk they acquire from the market. There is also no uniform standards as to the contents of skim milk, low fat milk, and milk as beverage in final package.

The Constitution, Article II, Section 15 provides that "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them." In accordance with this constitutional mandate, this bill provides for the proper labeling of milk products indicating distinctly in its package the non-fat and protein content of milk and sets standards on the contents of milk solids that are not fat in the classification of skim milk, low fat milk and milk as beverage. With this innovation it is expected that the consuming public will be informed about the nutritional contents and value of the milk they consume. The quality of milk will likewise be upgraded in order to conform with proper nutritional standards.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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**AN ACT
ESTABLISHING STANDARDS FOR THE IDENTITY OF MILK
AND REQUIRING THE LABELING THEREOF**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act may be cited as the “Milk Nutrition and Labeling Act.”

SECTION 2. *Milk Labeling.* – The following shall apply in establishing standards of identity for milk:

- (a) Fluid milk shall indicate on its label such portion of milk which is non-fat;
- (b) (i) Skim milk that is in final package form for beverage use shall contain not less than nine percent (9%) of milk solids that are non-fat;
(ii) Low fat milk that is in final package form for beverage use shall contain not less than ten percent (10%) of milk solids that are non-fat;
(iii) Milk that is in final package form for beverage use shall contain not less than eight percent (8%) of milk solids that are non-fat;
- (c) The label on any milk product shall prominently display the nutritional contents and value of the milk (i.e. protein).

SECTION 3. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 4. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.

FN S.B. No. 673