

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

5 SEP -6 P2:14

SENATE  
S.B. NO. 2108

RECEIVED BY: *MS*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15, provides:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.

Millions of Filipinos follow certain dietary guidelines for health, religious, and cultural reasons. These individuals depend on ingredient labels for the information they need to abide by these guidelines.


Under current regulations of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Republic Act No. 3720), food manufacturers are not required to identify the products used in natural or artificial flavorings, colorings, or spices, or some food additives. These additives may contain derivatives of meat, poultry, and other animal products, such as insects. This bill ensures the consumer information on the nature or components of food flavorings, colorings, and additives will be supplied on food labels.

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
*MS*

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AN ACT  
AMENDING ARTICLE 15 OF R.A. NO. 3720, ALSO KNOWN AS THE FOOD,  
DRUG AND COSMETIC ACT, REQUIRING THAT FOODS CONTAINING SPICES,  
FLAVORING, OR COLORING DERIVED FROM MEAT, POULTRY OR OTHER  
ANIMAL PRODUCTS BEAR LABELING STATING THAT FACT  
AND THEIR NAMES

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

SECTION 1. Article 15 of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 15. A food shall be deemed to be misbranded:

x x x

g. It if purports to be or is represented as a food for which a definition and standard of identity has been prescribed unless (1) it conforms to such definition and standard, and (2) its label bears the name of the food specified in the definition and standard, and insofar as may be required by such regulations, the common names of optional ingredients (other than spices, flavoring, and coloring) present in such food, SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (L).

h. If it purports to be or is represented as --

i. If it is not subject to the provisions of paragraph (g) of this section unless its label bears (1) the common or usual name of the food, if there be any, and (2) in case it is fabricated from two or more ingredients, the common or usual name of each such ingredient; except the spices, flavorings and colorings without naming each, SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (L): *Provided*, That to the extent that compliance with the

requirements of clause (2) of this paragraph is impracticable or results in deception or unfair competition, exemptions shall be established by regulations promulgated by the Secretary.

x x x

L. IF IT CONTAINS ANY SPICE, FLAVORING, OR COLORING DERIVED FROM MEAT, POULTRY, OR ANY OTHER ANIMAL PRODUCT (INCLUDING INSECTS) UNLESS ITS LABELING BEARS A STATEMENT WITH APPROPRIATE PROMINENCE ON THE INFORMATION PANEL PROVIDING THAT FACT AND THE NAMEN OF THE MEAT, POULTRY, OR OTHER ANIMAL PRODUCT, RESPECTIVELY.”

SECTION 2. *Separability Clause.* — If any provision, or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the laws or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* — Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general publication.

Approved,