

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )**  
**REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )**  
*First Regular Session )*



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

23 FEB 27 P3:37

**SENATE**  
**S.B. No. 1932**

RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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**AN ACT REVITALIZING THE SALT INDUSTRY, CREATING A  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDING INCENTIVES  
TO SALT FARMERS AND EXPORTERS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND  
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act No. 8172 also known as the ASIN law was enacted for the purpose of eliminating micronutrient malnutrition in the country, particularly iodine deficiency disorders, through cost-effective preventive measure of salt iodization. The law requires all producers and manufacturers of food-grade salt to iodize the salt that they produce, manufacture, import, trade or distribute; and provide mechanisms and incentives for the local salt industry in the production, marketing and distribution of iodized salt. Despite the noble purpose of the law it has brought challenges to the industry, especially to the local salt farmers who do not have the capacity and necessary technological knowledge on salt iodization.

In the hearing conducted by the Committee on Agriculture on January 18, 2023, government authorities confirmed that the bulk of the salt supply in the country is imported, given the fact that the Philippines has one of the longest shorelines in the world. It is also apparent that government agencies are also confused with regard to their roles in salt industry management. Due to the myriad of problems hounding the Philippine salt industry, it is high time that the Republic Act 8172 should be amended to ameliorate the unintended ramifications and breathe new life into the Philippine salt industry.

This bill aims to revitalize local salt industries, as well as other local businesses that were negatively affected by Republic Act No. 8172. This bill also seeks and supports the continuous implementation of health standards set under the law and implementing rules and regulations to eliminate iodine deficiency disorders in the country.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

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

**SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine Salt Industry  
Development Act.”

**SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the policy of the State to promote  
industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development  
through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources,  
and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. For this purpose,  
the State shall provide support through appropriate technology and research, and  
adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services to revitalize  
the salt industry, attain increased income for salt farmers and salt producers,  
achieve salt self-sufficiency and become a net exporter of salt.

**I. DEFINITION OF TERMS**

**SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For the purposes of this Act, the following terms  
are hereby defined as follows:

a. **Artisanal Sea Salt** refers to unrefined sea salt, derived directly  
from a living sea or ocean, harvested and cooked through natural  
evaporation processes; it retains natural traces of minerals  
depending on the source and the manner of production is solar-  
evaporated, evaporated, cooked or smoked. Local artisanal salts  
include Duldul from Guimaras, Asin-Tibuok from Bohol, Sugpo Asin  
from Pangasinan.

1 b. **Association** refers to a group of individuals or companies  
2 involved in common activities or endeavor towards the  
3 development of the salt industry.

4 c. **Cooperative** refers to a cooperative engaged in salt  
5 production.

6 d. **Fleur de Sel** also known as “flower of salt”, refers to a rare,  
7 delicate and highest standard of finishing salt given its aroma and  
8 profile, and is often referred to as the caviar of salts by chefs  
9 worldwide.

10 e. **Food Fortification** refers to the addition of nutrients to  
11 processed food at levels above the natural state.

12 f. **Gourmet** dish refers to food or drink that takes extra care to  
13 make or acquire, found or made only in certain locations, and  
14 ingredients of which may be unusual, hard to find in regular  
15 grocery stores, only available in limited amounts, rarely exported  
16 outside of their place of origin, or available for short times of the  
17 year.

18 g. **Iodized Salt** refers to salt artificially spray-coated with iodine.

19 h. **Large-scale Salt Farmer/Operator/Producer** shall refer to:

20 1. An individual owner or leaseholder of a salt farm that is more  
21 than fifty (50) but not more than five hundred (500) hectares;  
22 or

23 2. An association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a  
24 leaseholder of a salt farm that is more than fifty (50) but not  
25 more than one thousand (1000) hectares.

26 i. **Local Gourmet Outlet** refers to a store, grocery or supermarket  
27 located in the Philippines that stocks and sells high-quality, unique,  
28 or hard-to-find ingredients needed to prepare gourmet dishes.

29 j. **Medium-scale Salt Farmer/Operator/Producer** shall refer to  
30 an individual, association, cooperative or corporation that owns or  
31 is a leaseholder of more than (3) hectares but not more than fifty  
32 (50) hectares of salt farms.

33 k. **Philippine sea salt** refers to salt produced from evaporation of  
34 seawater, brine, or concentrated brine in any salt farm or refinery  
35 within the Philippines.

36 l. **Salt Farm** refers to areas of land, shorelines, or coastal areas,  
37 including its buildings, machineries, and equipment used for salt  
38 production.

- 1 m. **Salt Producer** refers to an individual, corporation, cooperative, or  
2 association involved in the production of sea salt.
- 3 n. **Salt Project** refers to the construction, development,  
4 maintenance, and improvement of salt farms.
- 5 o. **Salt Technology Demonstration Centers** refers to training  
6 facilities where salt farming, harvesting, cooking and packaging is  
7 done for purposes of conducting hands-on-training, skills  
8 enhancement, and capacity-building.
- 9 p. **Small-scale salt farmer/operator/producer** refers to an  
10 individual, association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a  
11 lease holder of a salt farm of not more than three (3) hectares.
- 12 q. **Strategic Agri/Fisheries Enterprise (SAFE)** Innovation Hubs  
13 and Technology Business Incubators refers to a brick-and-mortar or  
14 physical presence of an organization or business facilitation service,  
15 other than infrastructure and offers products and services to its  
16 customers face-to-face in an office, or through off-wall services  
17 provided to entrepreneurs including but not limited to  
18 administrative/technical services, market facilitation and business  
19 linkages, initial seed funds and access to growth capital, lab  
20 facilities, and testing services to ensure compliance to accepted  
21 product/service standards.

22 **SEC. 4. Salt as Aquatic Resource.** – For purposes of this Act, the following  
23 provisions of Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as the “The Philippine  
24 Fisheries Code of 1998,” are hereby amended to read as follows:  
25  
26

- 27 a. Section 4 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 **SEC.4. Definition of Terms.** – As used in this Code, the following  
29 terms and phrases shall mean as follows:  
30

31 x x x

32  
33 11. Commercial Scale – A scheme of producing a minimum AMOUNT  
34 PER YEAR OF SALT or harvest per hectare per year of Milkfish or other  
35 species including those raised in pens, cages, and tanks to be  
36 determined by the Department in consultation with the concerned  
37 sectors;  
38

39 x x x

40 20. Farm-to-Market Roads — shall include roads linking the fisheries  
41 production sites, coastal landing points and other post-harvest facilities  
42 to major market and arterial roads and highways.  
43

44 x x x



1  
2 x x x  
3

4 28. Fisherfolk – people directly or personally and physically engaged in  
5 taking and/or culturing and processing fishery and aquatic resources  
6 INCLUDING SEA SALT PRODUCED BY SALT FARMERS. According to  
7 House Resolution 1032 and 1046.  
8

9 x x x  
10

11 32. Fishpond – a land-based facility enclosed with earthen or stone  
12 material to impound water for growing fish AND/OR PRODUCING  
13 SALT.  
14

15 x x x  
16

17 47. Fully developed Fishpond Area – a clean leveled area enclosed by  
18 dikes, at least one foot higher than the highest floodwater level in the  
19 locality and strong enough to resist pressure at the highest flood tide;  
20 consists of at least a nursery, a transition pond, a rearing pond.  
21 RESERVOIR POND, EVAPORATING POND, SALT CRYSTALIZER POND,  
22 or a combination of any or all said classes of ponds, and a functional  
23 water control system and producing commercial scale.  
24

25  
26 b. Paragraph Section 46 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 **SEC. 46. Lease of Fishponds/FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS –**  
28 Fishpond/FISHPOND WITH SALT FARMS leased to qualified persons and  
29 fisherfolk organizations/cooperatives shall be subject to the following  
30 conditions...x x x

31 Areas leased for Fishponds purposes shall be no more than 50 hectares  
32 for individuals and 250 hectares for corporations or fisherfolk  
33 organizations. AREAS LEASED FOR FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS  
34 PURPOSES SHALL BE NO MORE THAN FIVE HUNDRED (500) HECTARES  
35 FOR INDIVIDUALS AND ONE THOUSAND (1,000) HECTARES FOR  
36 ASSOCIATIONS, COOPERATIVES, OR CORPORATIONS.  
37

xxx

38 c. Section 54 is hereby amended to read as follows:

39 **SEC. 54. Insurance for Fishponds, FISHPONDS WITH SALT**  
40 **FARMS, Fish Cages, and Fish Pens –** Inland Fishponds, INLAND  
41 FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS, Fish cages, Fish Pens shall be covered  
42 under the insurance program of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation  
43 for losses caused by force majeure and fortuitous events.  
44

1                   **II.           SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

2           **SEC. 5. Creation of Administration for Salt Industry Development,**  
3           **Revitalization and Optimization (ASInDeRO) and Mandate.** – There is  
4           hereby created the Administration for Salt Industry Development,  
5           Revitalization and Optimization (ASInDeRO) which is mandated to ensure that  
6           the objectives of this Act are realized. It shall be composed of the following:

- 7                   a. Undersecretary for Fisheries, Department of Agriculture (DA) as  
8                   Chair;
- 9                   b. Undersecretary for Industry Development and Trade Policy Group,  
10                  Department Trade and Industry as Co-Chair;
- 11                  c. Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)  
12                  as Vice-Chair;

13           **Members:**

- 14                   d. A representative from the Department of Science and Technology  
15                   (DOST;
- 16                   e. A representative from the Department of Environment and Natural  
17                   Resources (DENR);
- 18                   f. A representative from the Department of Health (DOH);
- 19                   g. A representative from the Department of Interior and Local  
20                   Government (DILG);
- 21                   h. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Director General
- 22                   i. Chief Executive Officer of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) or  
23                   representative; and
- 24                   j. Two (2) representatives – one (1) from salt farmers and one (1)  
25                   from salt producers, from each salt producing provinces. The  
26                   Secretary of the Department of Agriculture shall choose or appoint  
27                   from a list of salt producers and salt farmers that will be endorsed  
28                   by the Cooperative or Association, for a term two (2) years, and  
29                   may be reappointed; Provided that the representatives on the first  
30                   two (2) terms shall be from Pangasinan and Mindoro Occidental.

31                   The Administration shall be in existence for a period of ten (10) years from  
32                   the effectivity of this Act, after which its mandate and functions shall be performed  
33                   and carried out by the Program Management Secretariat Office (PMO) created under  
34                   the Department of Agriculture.

1  
2 **SEC. 6. Functions** – The ASinDeRO shall have the following functions:

- 3       1. Formulate and adopt policy directions, strategic action points, and  
4       guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act;  
5       2. Develop and approve short term, medium term and long term  
6       development plans, or a ten (10) year industry roadmap for the  
7       revitalization of the Philippine salt industry and pursue effective export  
8       strategies and developmental mechanisms to achieve competitiveness  
9       Philippine sea salts, artisanal salt and/or specialty salts for gourmet and  
10      other industrial applications;  
11      3. Provide strategic directions and guidance to the various departments and  
12      agencies that play a vital role in the realization of the objectives of this  
13      Act;  
14      4. Oversee the implementation by the various departments and agencies  
15      mandated under this Act of their assigned tasks;  
16      5. Oversee the identification of new areas suitable for the government-  
17      funded salt projects and the registration, construction and lease of salt  
18      farms;  
19      6. Provide needed support and determine the required investments both in  
20      the government and the private sector to achieve the objectives of this  
21      Act;  
22      7. Establish a one-stop-shop for the processing of all permits required for the  
23      approval of the salt farm project;  
24      8. Ensure the harmonization of the rules and guidelines of various  
25      departments and agencies concerning salt;  
26      9. Recommend to the Department of Agriculture the required yearly  
27      appropriations for the identification and construction of salt farms; and  
28      10. Perform other functions necessary for the efficient and effective  
29      implementation of this Act.

30 **SEC. 7. Program Management Office and Secretariat.** – A Program  
31 Management Secretariat Office (PMO) is hereby created which shall be headed by  
32 the Undersecretary of Fisheries under the Department of Agriculture, to oversee the



overall implementation of the salt industry development plan as well as conduct regular monitoring of its execution by the implementing agencies and/or partners. The Secretariat is also hereby created under the supervision of the PMO and shall perform functions such as to coordinate and manage regular meetings of the ASInDeRO, prepare and/or coordinate reports for the PMO, monitor the implementation of policy decisions that the ASInDeRO has adopted and liaise with all the member departments and relevant agencies of the government, as needed.

**SEC. 8. Jurisdiction over Salt Farms and Fish Ponds with Salt Farms** – The administrative jurisdiction and management of salt farms and fish ponds with salt farms, including the approval of lease of newly constructed salt farms to qualified individuals, associations, cooperatives or corporations, shall be lodged with the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic and Resources (DA-BFAR).

**SEC. 9. Fishpond Lease Agreements to Include Salt Production.** – Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs) shall automatically include salt farming or production as among the valid activities that may be undertaken by the leaseholder FLA holders who intend to venture into salt farming shall be given the same support training, and financing given to salt farmers, as provided under this Act.

**SEC. 10. Identification of New Areas Suitable for Government-Funded Salt Projects** - The DA, through the BFAR and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), in coordination with the DENR shall spearheaded in the identification of the appropriate areas for the Philippine salt production, orchestrate partnerships with the DOST and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in providing technical and laboratory services, and engage local government units (LGUs), mature cooperatives and local enterprises operating in the provinces where small-scale artisanal salt production is operational and/or large-scale salt farming is in need of expansion.

The DA-BFAR and DENR shall identify suitable areas for salt production including abandoned fishponds within two (2) years upon the enactment of this act and the NFRDI and/or SUCs shall provide technical services through the Agri/fisheries innovation hub or Technology Business Incubators in these provinces, taking into account the number of potential salt farmers and their families who shall benefit therefrom and address food traceability requirements including the type of salt produced (artisanal/gourmet salt, table salt, iodized salt), the salt farmer/consolidator/trader, volume and value generated and end-market to determine importance of salt production in the area: Provided, that this shall not prevent private individuals, associations, cooperatives, and corporations from investing in, and developing present and future salt farms, apart from government-funded salt projects.

**SEC. 11. Registration, Construction, and Lease of Salt Farms.** – The DA-BFAR shall facilitate the prompt registration of salt farms as well as assist in the design, construction, and development of small-scale artisanal salt farms, either on its own or through partnership with the private sector, while the DOST shall provide

1 the necessary technology in the construction of large-scale and salt farms employing  
2 modern technologies to increase production efficiency and environmentally-sound  
3 practices.

4  
5 Whenever applicable and necessary, the DENR shall promptly act on the  
6 processing and issuance of permits and clearances, such as Environmental  
7 Compliance Certificates, prior to the construction of salt farms to ensure that such  
8 projects will not cause a significant negative impact on the environment.

9  
10 The DA-BFAR shall identify suitable areas for lease, assist in the construction,  
11 rehabilitation, and/or expansion of small-scale artisanal salt farms, and provide  
12 technical assistance for new investors or to salt farm operators undergoing  
13 expansion. The DA-BFAR shall regularly submit a report to ASInDeRO of the status  
14 of lease of Government-Funded Salt projects-newly constructed salt farms to  
15 investors. BFAR shall apply the prevailing fishpond rental rates: Provided, that this  
16 shall not in any way affect privately-owned salt farms or existing leases, such as  
17 those covered by Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs), with actual occupants,

18  
19 For purposes of eligibility and priority for the lease of the newly-constructed  
20 salt farms, the DA-BFAR shall come up with equitable criteria thereon for approval  
21 by ASInDeRO, taking into consideration and priority to small salt farmers and  
22 artisanal salt farmers.

23  
24 **SEC. 12. Promotion of innovative technologies and best practices** - The DA-  
25 NFRDI, DOST and SUCs shall likewise showcase best practices, harness indigenous  
26 knowledge, and promote innovative technologies to effectively realize the Salt  
27 Industry Development Program. These agencies shall exert their best efforts, with  
28 the end-goal of increasing the number of food safety compliant salt farmers and  
29 producers through their SAFE Innovation Hubs or Salt Technology Demonstration  
30 Centers in the maintenance and development of the leased salt farms.

31 **SEC. 13. Construction Lease Agreements to Include Salt Production.** -  
32 Consistent with the development plans on the revitalization of salt industry, the DA,  
33 in coordination with the LGUs and the resident-salt farmers, shall identify priority  
34 locations of Farm-to-Market Roads linking the salt farms to the market. The DA shall  
35 take into account the investment for salt farm to be undertaken in the area, the  
36 number of salt farmers and their families who shall benefit therefrom and the  
37 amount of salt produced or potentially produced salt farms. Therefrom, the DA shall  
38 undertake the construction, improvement, and maintenance of the Farm-to-Market  
39 Roads..

40 **SEC.14. Funding for Development of Salt Farms, Lease of Government-**  
41 **Developed Salt Farms and Equipment.** – The DA-BFAR, in consultation with  
42 individuals, corporations, associations, and cooperatives from the salt industry, will  
43 allocate and provide funding and technical support needed for the maintenance,  
44 repair and upgrading of existing salt farms and newly constructed government-  
45 funded salt projects. The funds will cover materials, dike and canal repairs,

equipment, and other items specified by industry stakeholders, ensuring the continued productivity and competitiveness of the salt industry.

Government financial institutions such as, but not limited to, the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), shall extend financial assistance to viable projects of eligible and credit worthy salt farmers, cooperatives and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) for the development, operation, and improvement of salt farms, lease of government-developed salt farms, and purchase of salt farming equipment.

**SEC. 15. Training and Technological assistance** - The DA, together with the DOST, DTI, FDA, and TESDA shall provide complementary training programs to develop/upgrade the skills and competencies of Philippines salt farmers and producers, ensure product traceability and compliance to food safety, technology acquisition including product labeling and packaging, conduct continuous training on market positioning for Philippine artisanal/specialty and industrial salts and such other skills necessary in the maintenance and development of the local salt industry. These agencies shall also assist the farmers to be able to effectively comply with the requirements of Republic Act No. 8172, otherwise known as "An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN)".

**SEC. 16. Institution of SAFE Innovation Hubs and Salt Technology Demonstration Centers and Funding for SUCs.** – The DA, through the NFRDI and DOST shall establish SAFE Innovation Hubs and Salt Technology Demonstration Centers.

**SEC. 17. Salt Farmers Cooperatives.** – The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) shall assist in the formation, organizational strengthening and financial literacy of cooperatives and their local salt farmers-members and producers in order that they can leverage their resources and provide sustainable operations and increase the number of successful cooperative-managed salt farms in the country.

**SEC. 18. Trade and Export Assistance.** – The DTI and DA shall assist and support local salt farmers in the trade and exportation of the Philippine sea salt. It shall enhance the capabilities and global competitiveness of potential and existing producers and exporters of sea salt through export financing; business matching; provision of trade and market information; organization of trade fairs and business missions; conduct of seminars, workshops, conferences and symposium on export-related subjects, including export documentation and procedures; product design and development; marked consultancy; and product consultancy.

The government will give preference to locally produced salt in government purchases.

**SEC. 19. Incentives.** – The DTI, through the Board of Investments (BOI) shall give the highest priority in its grant of incentives to businesses and industries with linkages to salt farming. It shall include in its Strategic Investment Priorities Plan the fiscal and non-fiscal incentives for Philippine sea salt farming, artisanal/specialty salt



1  
2 The DA-BFAR and NFRDI, DENR, DOST, DTI, DILG, LGUs and the CDA shall  
3 provide to salt producers the same benefits and livelihood programs that are  
4 provided to the fisherfolk sector.  
5

6 **SEC.20. Import Duties.** – To cushion the impacts of imports on the local  
7 producers of traditional artisanal, or non-iodized salt in the country, the import  
8 duty/ies for these specific products shall be increased to a maximum (100) percent  
9 ad valorem. Subject to the ceiling commitment to trade agreements, where  
10 applicable. However, the Executive Branch may apply duty/ies lower than 100  
11 percent, as the need arises, following the process prescribed in the Tariff and  
12 Customs Code of the Philippines (TCCP), but in no case shall the applied import  
13 duty/ies be lower than the existing rate/s before the implementation of this Act or  
14 thirty (30) percent, whichever is higher. However, the existing tariff commitments  
15 for non-iodized salt under the abovementioned international agreements shall be  
16 maintained for the import duty/ies being applied before the implementation of this  
17 Act.

18 To effectively operationalize and implement the above provisions, the Tariff  
19 Commission (TC), DA, DTI, and Bureau of Customs (BOC) shall facilitate the  
20 establishment of separate and dedicated tariff nomenclatures for all traditional,  
21 artisanal, and non-iodized salt within (6) months from the effectivity of this Act.  
22

23 **SEC. 21. Research.** – The DA-NFRDI shall conduct research, either on its own or in  
24 collaboration with SUCs, to enhance the technological development, provide  
25 applicable policy direction, and develop innovative project-based interventions that  
26 may be adopted and implemented to achieve the objectives of this Act. The DA shall  
27 collaborate with DOST and DTU to provide a common fund and financial resources  
28 to the cooperatives and local enterprises for this purpose.  
29

30 SUCs shall also be awarded funding, grants, and subsidies to engage in  
31 research and development, extension training, and other related activities to  
32 upgrade the salt industry.  
33

34 The research conducted shall also support the operation of the Salt  
35 Technology Demonstration Centers and the SAFE Innovation Hubs and Technology  
36 Business Incubators created under this Act.  
37

38 **SEC. 22. Human Resources Development.** – All stakeholders in the salt industry  
39 shall contribute to the development of a sustainable human resource for the  
40 industry. Towards this end, the DOLE, in collaboration with the duly recognized salt  
41 associations and salt cooperatives, The Commission on Higher Education, the  
42 TESDA, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and the private sector, shall  
43 formulate and implement a Human Resource Development (HRD) Master Plan for  
44 the salt industry which shall include, but not limited to. The following:  
45

- 46 a. Capacity building, skills trainings, institutional strengthening of the salt  
47 farm workers, salt farmers and their organizations to actively  
48 contribute in productivity and competitiveness;

- b. Conduct of capability training or attendance to local international trainings and seminars by salt farmers and workers.

**SEC. 23. Priority Commodity.** – The DA shall ensure that salt is a priority commodity to be produced locally in areas or regions identified in the development plan for the revitalization of the salt industry. The required resources shall be allocated by the DA for this purpose.

**SEC 24. Classification of Salt Farms.** – For purposes of determining the current market values, applicable lease rentals, and tax rates to be imposed by both the national government and the local government units, salt farms shall be classified as fishponds.

**SEC. 25. Exemption of exported salt and salt sold in local gourmet outlets from mandatory iodization.** – Philippine sea salt exported to other countries, those to be sold to local gourmet outlets, and those to be used for other commercial applications not related to food fortification such as, but not limited to, water treatment, feeds, and chemical processing, shall be exempt from mandatory iodization provided under the provision of Republic Act. No. 8172 or ASIN Law.

Food manufacturers restaurant and chefs may also be exempted from the mandatory use of iodized salt on their specific products under guidelines to be issued by the FDA when the taste or quality of the product will be significantly altered with the use of iodized salt.

**SEC.26. VAT Exemption of Locally produced iodized salt.** – Locally-produced iodized salt, being an agricultural and marine product in its original state, shall be exempt from the value-added tax.

**SEC. 27. Control Measures.** – Salt farmers or producers or salt shall register with the BFAR.

The BFAR shall adopt measures to ensure compliance with food safety guidelines of salt intended for human consumption; Provided that, salt which is not intended for food consumption shall not be subjected to food safety laws and guidelines.

The BFAR, through its regional offices, shall ensure that pure, un-iodized salt shall be promptly issued with necessary transport permits and certification documents for exportation purposes or sale to local gourmet stores.

Only small-scale salt farmers shall be allowed to sell food grade un-iodized salt to local gourmet stores. Local gourmet stores shall be allowed to sell registered Philippine un-iodized sea salt.



1  
2 Small, medium or large-scale salt farmers shall be allowed to export un-  
3 iodized salt. Food grade salt, whether iodized or un-iodized shall be registered with  
4 the FDA.  
5

6 **SEC. 28. LGUs Assistance.** – LGUs shall enact local ordinances to support the  
7 development of Philippine sea salt/artisanal/gourmet/specialty salt produced in their  
8 respective municipalities/cities and implement the ease-of-doing business. LGUs  
9 shall also ensure that the mandatory iodization program under the ASIN Law is  
10 being carried out in their locality but with due regard to the exemptions under  
11 Section 25 of this Act.  
12

### 13 **III. FINAL PROVISIONS**

14 **SEC. 29. Agencies' Regular Programs.** – The mandates, functions and activities  
15 of the various departments and agencies identified in this Act shall be considered  
16 regular programs and shall be included in their annual budgets.  
17

18 **SEC. 30. Reporting.** – The various departments and agencies specified in this Act  
19 shall provide regular updates to the ASInDeRO on the progress of their programs  
20 and activities toward the realization of the objectives of this Act.  
21

22 **SEC. 31. Report to Congress.** - The ASInDeRO shall submit an annual report of  
23 the implementation of this act to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Food and  
24 Agrarian Reform and the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture and  
25 Food.  
26

27 **SEC. 32. Appropriations.** – The amount necessary for the implementation of this  
28 Act shall initially be charged to the appropriations of the agencies concerned as may  
29 be appropriated, under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such  
30 amounts as may be necessary for its implementation shall be included in the annual  
31 General Appropriations Act from their respective budgets.  
32

33 **SEC. 33. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The ASInDeRO created under  
34 Section 5 of this Act shall be created and convened within sixty (60) days from the  
35 approval of this Act. Thereafter, it shall issue the Implementing Rules and  
36 Regulations of this Act within one hundred twenty (120) days from the approval of  
37 this act.  
38

39 **SEC. 34. Separability Clause.**- any portion or provision of this Act that may be  
40 declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying the other  
41 portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portion or provision can still  
42 subsist and be given effect.  
43

44 **SEC 35. Repealing Clause.** – all laws,decrees, order rules and regulations or other  
45 issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or  
46 modified accordingly.  
47

1 **SEC. 36. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
2 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of  
3 general circulation.

Approved,