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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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## SENATE

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S. No. 2336

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## Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

# AN ACT REQUIRING ALL FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS TO DISCLOSE POTENTIAL ALLERGENS IN THEIR FOOD PRODUCTS

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The present state of healthcare globally has witnessed a significant increase in the prevalence of food allergies among both adults and children. The Philippines is not isolated from this occurrence.

Allergic reactions can range from mild discomfort to severe, life-threatening anaphylaxis, which can significantly risk the life of those who unknowingly consume allergenic food items.

This bill intends to safeguard the general public, especially individuals with food allergies, from potential health hazards and risks.

The bill also promotes inclusivity to food allergic individuals, who are otherwise restrained due to lack of sufficient allergenic information.

In light of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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### Introduced by Senator MARK A. VILLAR

## AN ACT REQUIRING ALL FOOD SERVICE ESTABLISHMENTS TO DISCLOSE POTENTIAL ALLERGENS IN THEIR FOOD PRODUCTS

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

Section 1. *Declaration of Policy* - It is the policy of the State to safeguard the health of the public, especially those suffering from food allergies, through accurate food allergen labeling, minimizing the risk of accidental exposure and adverse health events.

5 Sec. 2. *Allergen Disclosure Requirement*. – All food service establishments 6 (FSEs), including but not limited to restaurants, bakeries, and cafes, shall 7 conspicuously disclose on their menus or through other means easily accessible to 8 customers, the presence of common allergens such as milk, eggs, fish, shellfish, tree 9 nuts, peanuts, wheat, and soy, in their food products.

Sec. 3. *Enforcement.* – The Department of Health, in coordination with local
 government units and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate rules and regulations,
 conduct routine inspections for compliance, and enforce the provisions of this Act.

13 Any FSE that violates this Act shall be subject to penalties, including fines 14 and/or suspension of business license, as per the implementing rules and regulations.

15 Sec. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations*. - The Department of Health, in 16 coordination with relevant agencies, shall promulgate the implementing rules and 17 regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days after its effectivity. Sec. 5. *Separability Clause.* – Any portion or provisions of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid and shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions or provisions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

Sec. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
memoranda, circulars, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are inconsistent
with the Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall be take effect fifteen (15) days after
its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

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