

SECRETARY

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE RPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

6 JUL 26 2006

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 530

RECEIVED BY TS

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED SALE OF DOUBLE
DEAD MEAT IN PUBLIC MARKETS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 13, Section 12 provides that: "The State shall establish and maintain an effective food and drug regulatory system and undertake appropriate health, manpower development and research, responsive to the country's health needs and problems";

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 16, Section 9 also provides that: "The State shall protect consumers from trade malpractices and from substandard or hazardous products";

WHEREAS, the Consumer Act of the Philippines, Article 20 provides that: "The State shall ensure safe and good quality of foods, drugs, cosmetics and devices, and regulate their production, sale, distribution and advertisement to protect the health of the consumer";

WHEREAS, the *Manila Times*, in its 17 January 2006 issue, reported that "hot meat" or "double dead animal meat" was being sold to consumers in the rural barangays of Laoag City, Ilocos Norte; this prompted the provincial veterinary office to warn the public to watch out for health hazards which may be caused by eating double dead meat;

WHEREAS, according to Dr. Loida Chee, veterinary officer of Ilocos Norte, the public should only eat an animal that is killed for consumption; she explained that decomposition among dead meats breeds microbes that are dangerous to health;

WHEREAS, the *Daily Tribune*, in its 23 February 2006 issue, reported that in a bid to control the proliferation of hot meat, the Department of Agriculture (DA) has intensified its post-abattoir surveillance and monitoring operations nationwide;

WHEREAS, Agriculture Secretary Domingo Panganiban said that the DA, through the National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS), has collaborated with the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI), the DA's regional field units, and big farm operators all over the country to control the sale and distribution of "double dead" meat from illegal sources;

WHEREAS, Panganiban urged all local government units to pass an ordinance that would help the NMIS in its campaign against double dead meat; Panganiban further said that "the collaboration of NMIS, BAI, LGUs, and farm operators will help solve the problem in abating the proliferation of double dead meat in the markets, including Metro Manila";

WHEREAS, recently, the Task Force Bantay Karne of NMIS, in coordination with the Quezon City Veterinary Office and operatives from the Criminal Investigation

Group, confiscated around 3,000 kilograms of double dead meat in the Balintawak Market; now be it

RESOLVED, that the proper Senate committee shall conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported sale of double dead meat in markets throughout the country to protect the health of the public.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/rcc