

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

OFFICE

1936

SENATE
S. No. **1557**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sugar smuggling continues to be a lucrative underground business because of existing laws which provide a loophole for the reintroduction of confiscated smuggled sugar into the market.

According to the National Federation of Sugarcane Planters, Inc., smuggled sugar which is confiscated by the Bureau of Customs is immediately classified by the Sugar Regulatory Administration as "D" or World Market Sugar so that it can be shipped out of the country. A public auction is then conducted by the Bureau of Customs. Since the confiscated sugar is classified as "D" sugar, it is also sold at "D" or world sugar prices which are just one-third of domestic sugar prices. The Federation states that this is where sugar smugglers are able to reacquire their wares and sell it domestically where prices are four times of the world market. By eliminating this loophole, we would help curb the reportedly rampant smuggling in sugar.

This is a senate counterpart bill to one filed in the House of Representatives by Rep. Jose Carlos Lacson (Neg. Occ., 3rd District). *

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
acc.

* This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
SENATE
JAN 19 1916

SENATE
S. No. **1557**

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 PROVIDING FOR THE DISPOSITION OF SMUGGLED SUGAR

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

5 SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* It is hereby declared a State policy that in no
6 instance and under no condition shall the sale or resale of confiscated smuggled sugar in the
7 custody of the Bureau of Customs be allowed.

8 SECTION 2. *Mode of disposition.* No other method of disposition of confiscated
9 smuggled sugar in the custody of the Bureau of Customs shall be allowed except dumping them
10 into the sea in the presence of witnesses consisting of representatives from the Sugar Regulatory
11 Administration, Sugar Industry, and other concerned parties.

12 SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts
13 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
14 accordingly.

15 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is
16 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not
17 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

18 SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
19 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

20 Approved,