SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



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SENATE Senate Bill No. 310

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

Emerging diseases of livestock in Philippines primarily brought about by the opening up of global trade pose a devastating threat to the bright prospect of a dynamic livestock industry in the country. The importance of being vigilant, of developing risk assessment strategies, and of putting in place effective surveillance and monitoring mechanisms as well as preventive and control measures to avert the entry and abort the spread of such diseases cannot be overemphasized.

This bill seeks to formulate a scheme and establish comprehensive policy guidelines for the monitoring of highly communicable diseases which affect livestock and provide indemnification for the owners whose livestock are affected by the spread of such highly communicable diseases.

It also provides for the appropriation of P500,000,000.00 as additional fund for further development of livestock industry.

We must preserve and nurture the gains of the Philippine livestock industry by coping with the potential threat posed by emerging animal diseases, lest we crush the hope of thousands of people whose income and economic alternatives depend heavily upon the sector. Through sharing and committing to a common cause, we can work together to protect animal and human health and ensure food safety, for the benefit of the people.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested

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AN ACT

PROVIDING INDEMNIFICATION FOR OWNERS WHOSE LIVESTOCK ARE AFFECTED BY HIGHLY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 914, ENTITLED "AN ACT CREATING THE LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, DEFINING ITS POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 914 is hereby amended 1 2 to read as follows: 3 SEC. 3. Powers and Functions.- The Council shall have the following 4 powers and functions: 5 6 7 a) ххх 8 9 ххх 10 AND FORMULATE Α SCHEME **ESTABLISH** 11 g) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY GUIDELINES FOR THE MONITORING OF 12 HIGHLY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES WHICH AFFECT LIVESTOCK 13 AND PROVIDE INDEMNIFICATION FOR THE OWNERS WHOSE 14 LIVESTOCK ARE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY THE SPREAD OF 15 SUCH HIGHLY COMMUNICABLE DISEASES; and 16 17 h) To perform such other functions as may be necessary to attain 18 the objectives of the livestock development programs." 19 20 SECTION 2. Section 6 of the same Presidential Decree is hereby amended to 21 22 read as follows: 23 SEC. 6. Livestock Development and INDEMNIFICATION Fund.- x x 24 25 Х 26 THE AMOUNT OF FIVE HUNDRED MILLION (P500,000,000.00) IS 27 HEREBY APPRPRIATED AS ADDITIONAL FUND FOR FURTHER 28 DEVELOPMENT OF LIVESTOCK INDUSTRY. THERE SHALL BE 29 HIGHLY 30 CONTINUOUS MONITORING OF COMMUNICABLE

1	DISEASES AFFECTING LIVESTOCK OR INDEMNIFICATION FOR
2	OWNERS WHOSE LIVESTOCK ARE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY
3	SUCH DISEASES."
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5	SEC. 3. Rules and Regulations - The Department of Agriculture and the
6	Department of Health are hereby mandated to issue the necessary rules and
7	regulations to effectively enforce this Act.
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9	SEC. 4. Effectivity This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
10	publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation
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