

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'14 AUG 27 P 3:44

SENATE  
S. B. No. 2378

RECEIVED BY: *J*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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AN ACT  
AMENDING ARTICLE 15 OF R.A. NO. 3720, ALSO KNOWN AS THE FOOD,  
DRUG AND COSMETIC ACT, REQUIRING THAT FOODS CONTAINING SPICES,  
FLAVORING, OR COLORING DERIVED FROM MEAT, POULTRY OR OTHER  
ANIMAL PRODUCTS BEAR LABELING STATING THAT FACT  
AND THEIR NAMES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 15, provides:

The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people  
and instill health consciousness among them.

Millions of Filipinos follow certain dietary guidelines for health, religious, and  
cultural reasons. These individuals depend on ingredient labels for the information they  
need to abide by these guidelines.

Under current regulations of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (Republic Act No.  
3720), food manufacturers are not required to identify the products used in natural or  
artificial flavorings, colorings, or spices, or some food additives. These additives may  
contain derivatives of meat, poultry, and other animal products, such as insects.

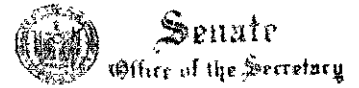
This bill ensures the consumer information on the nature or components of food  
flavorings, colorings, and additives will be supplied on food labels.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed as SBN 2108 during the Fourteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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

1 AN ACT  
2 AMENDING ARTICLE 15 OF R.A. NO. 3720, ALSO KNOWN AS THE FOOD,  
3 DRUG AND COSMETIC ACT, REQUIRING THAT FOODS CONTAINING SPICES,  
4 FLAVORING, OR COLORING DERIVED FROM MEAT, POULTRY OR OTHER  
5 ANIMAL PRODUCTS BEAR LABELING STATING THAT FACT  
6 AND THEIR NAMES

7 SECTION 1. Article 15 of the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act is hereby amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 "Section 15. A food shall be deemed to be misbranded:

10 x x x

11 G. It if purports to be or is represented as a food for which a  
12 definition and standard of identity has been prescribed unless (1) it  
13 conforms to such definition and standard, and (2) its label bears the name of  
14 the food specified in the definition and standard, and insofar as may be  
15 required by such regulations, the common names of optional ingredients  
16 (other than spices, flavoring, and coloring) present in such food, SUBJECT  
17 TO PARAGRAPH (L).

18 H. If it purports to be or is represented as -

19 I. If it is not subject to the provisions of paragraph (8) of this section  
20 unless its label bears (1) the common or usual name of the food, if there be  
21 any, and (2) in case it is fabricated from two or more ingredients, the

1 common or usual name of each such ingredient; except the spices,  
2 flavorings and colorings without naming each, SUBJECT TO  
3 PARAGRAPH (L): Provided, That to the extent that compliance with the  
4 requirements of clause (2) of this paragraph is impracticable or results in  
5 deception or unfair competition, exemptions shall be established by  
6 regulations promulgated by the Secretary.

7 x x x

8 L. IF IT CONTAINS ANY SPICE, FLAVORING, OR COLORING  
9 DERIVED FROM MEAT, POULTRY, OR ANY OTHER ANIMAL  
10 PRODUCT (INCLUDING INSECTS) UNLESS ITS LABELING BEARS  
11 A STATEMENT WITH APPROPRIATE PROMINENCE ON THE  
12 INFORMATION PANEL PROVIDING THAT FACT AND THE NAME  
13 OF THE MEAT, POULTRY, OR OTHER ANIMAL PRODUCT,  
14 RESPECTIVELY.”

15 SECTION 2. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision, or part hereof, is held invalid  
16 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the laws or the provision not otherwise affected  
17 shall remain valid and subsisting.

18 SECTION 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
19 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to  
20 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
21 accordingly.

22 SECTION 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
23 its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general publication.

24 Approved,

/dpm