

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

SENATE  
RECEIVED BY: *Joy*  
6 OCT 12 11:00

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2492

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article XIII, Section 12, provides: "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."

This bill requires that packaged meat treated with an additive, colorant, or any other method to enhance its appearance include a clear, conspicuous, and easily readable label on the packaging stating so, and advising the consumer to check the packing date to determine its freshness. Additives such as carbon monoxide, vitamin E, and colorants are sometimes used so that meat appears fresher than it is. This practice can mask spoilage, and lead to consumers purchasing meat which is not as fresh as they believe.

*acs* *Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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SECRETARIAT  
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AN ACT  
REQUIRING MEAT PACKERS TO DISCLOSE  
THE ADDITIVES THAT THEY PLACE IN THEIR PRODUCTS

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be referred to as the “Meat Packing Act of 2006.”

SECTION 2. *Packaging Requirement.* – Any person who packages meat for sale which has been treated using an additive, colorant, or any other method to enhance the appearance of the meat, including but not limited to carbon monoxide, vitamin E, or any other substance approved by the Bureau of Food and Drugs to improve the appearance of the meat, shall include a clear, conspicuous, and easily readable label on the packaging stating:

THIS MEAT HAS BEEN TREATED TO ENHANCE ITS  
APPEARANCE. CHECK PACKING DATE TO DETERMINE  
FRESHNESS.

SECTION 3. *Penalty for non-observance.* – The business license of the meat packer shall be revoked for failure to comply with the immediately preceding section.

SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof shall remain valid and effective.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,