


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

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SENATE

S. NO. 373

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

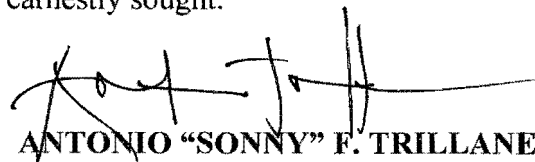
Explanatory Note

The widespread and unmitigated trade of meat and meat products from dead or diseased animals is a serious health hazard. Section 15 of Article II under the 1987 Constitution guarantees that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them. Despite this, there is a continuous trend of sale of banned "hot meat" in the Philippines.

The transport of "hot meat" contributes largely to the spread of deadly diseases among livestock and poultry. Diseases such as foot-and-mouth disease and hog cholera for hogs; and, avian influenza or bird flu for poultry, can wipe out the entire livestock and poultry population causing huge financial losses to farmers and deprive the farm workers of their source of livelihood. Despite this, the grave consequences of the trade, transport and consumption of "hot meat", the penalties imposable under the Meat Inspection Law are just a paltry fine and confiscation of the intercepted goods. In most cases, the proceeds from successful attempts were more than enough to cover the fines.

Thus, in order to protect the meat consuming public and shield legitimate local producers from ill effects of "hot meat", this bill seeks to impose stiffer penalties for violations of Republic Act No. 9296, otherwise known as the Meat Inspection Law.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

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AN ACT
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9296 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE MEAT
INSPECTION LAW, INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 56 of Republic Act No. 9296 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3
4 "SEC. 56. [Administrative] **PENALTIES AND Fines.-** ANY PERSON, EITHER FOR
5 HIMSELF OR IN BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON, FIRM, CORPORATION, OR
6 PARTNERSHIP, WHO SHALL SLAUGHTER ANY ANIMAL WHICH HAS NOT
7 UNDERGONE AN ANTE-MORTEM EXAMINATION AS PRESCRIBED IN THIS ACT
8 AND SHALL STORE, TRANSPORT, SELL OR OTHERWISE DISPOSE OF CARCASSES,
9 ORGANS OR PARTS THEREOF FOR FOOD OR WHO SHALL FALSIFY, FORGE,
10 COUNTERFEIT, ALTER, DEFACE OR DESTROY ANY CERTIFICATE, PASS, TAG OR
11 OTHER DOCUMENT OR PAPER ISSUED OR MARKED BY VIRTUE OF THIS ACT
12 SHALL, UPON CONVICTION, SUFFER IMPRISONMENT RANGING FROM A PERIOD
13 OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY BUT NOT MORE THAN
14 TWELVE (12) YEARS OR PAY A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY THOUSAND
15 PESOS (Php20,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS
16 (Php200,000.00), OR BOTH, AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

1 The Secretary, by regulation, shall issue a schedule of administrative fines for violations
2 of this Act.

3 **SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.***- Any laws, decrees, ordinances or rules and regulations
4 which are inconsistent with or contrary to the provision of this Act is hereby amended or
5 repealed.

6
7 **SEC. 3. *Effectivity.***- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
8 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,