



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Fifteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 687

Introduced by Honorable Nicanor M. Briones

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The widespread and unmitigated trade of meat and meat products from dead or diseased animals is a serious health hazard to consumers and a threat to the viability of livelihood industry in our country.

The transport of "hot meat" contributes largely to the spread of deadly diseases among livestock and poultry. Such diseases as foot-and-mouth disease and hog cholera in epidemic proportions for hogs and avian influenza (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 the grave consequences of the trade, transport and consumption of "hot meat" the penalties imposable under the Meat Inspection Code 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 and reasonable penalties for violations of Republic Act No. 9296, otherwise known as "The Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines."


NICANOR M. BRIONES



Republic of the Philippines
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Fifteenth Congress
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Amended House Bill No. 687

Introduced by **HON. NICANOR M. BRIONES**

AN ACT AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9296 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE MEAT INSPECTION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES", PRESCRIBING PENALTIES OF IMPRISONMENT AND FINES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF AND AMENDING CHAPTER XIV THEREOF FOR THE PURPOSE.

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

SECTION 1. A new section is hereby inserted after Section Fifty Eight Chapter XIV of Republic Act No. 9296 otherwise known as "The Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines", to be denominated as Section Fifty Eight-A, which shall read as follows:

"SECTION 58-A. **PENALTIES.** ANY PERSON, ASSOCIATION, PARTNERSHIP OR CORPORATION WHO SHALL VIOLATE ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF SECTIONS 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53 AND 54, CHAPTER XII OF THIS ACT, SHALL UPON CONVICTION, BE SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00) OR AN

IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIX (6) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY BUT NOT MORE THAN TWELVE (12) YEARS OR BOTH UPON THE DISCRETION OF THE COURT.

IF THE VIOLATOR IS A CORPORATION, FIRM, PARTNERSHIP OR ASSOCIATION, THE PENALTY SHALL BE IMPOSED UPON THE PRESIDENT, THE MANAGER OR ANY OFFICER THEREOF WHO KNOWS OR OUGHT TO HAVE KNOWN THE COMMISSION OF THE OFFENSE. IN CASE THE GUILTY OFFICER IS A FOREIGNER, HE SHALL BE IMMEDIATELY DEPORTED AFTER SERVICE OF SENTENCE."

SECTION 2. Another section is hereby inserted after Section Fifty Eight Chapter XIV of Republic Act No. 9296, to be denominated as Section Fifty Eight-B, which shall read as follows:

"SECTION 58-B. *LIABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS.* THE LIABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS TASKED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT, WHO BY THEMSELVES OR IN CONSPIRACY WITH OTHERS, VIOLATE THE PROVISIONS OF CHAPTER XII UNDER THIS ACT, SHALL BE WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO LIABILITIES UNDER OTHER PENAL LAWS."

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.