

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2424**



Introduced by Hon. Delphine Gan Lee

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 2012, the poultry industry, which comprised 14.3% of the full year farm output, grew by 4.5 percent with a gross value of P167.1 billion. Chicken and egg production posted gains of 4.6 and 4.4 percent respectively. Production of duck meat and eggs rose by two percent and 5.5 percent respectively. Livestock production, which comprised 16 percent of the full year farm output, rose by 1.1 percent with a gross value of P214 billion. Hog production grew by 1.7 percent valued at P174.5 billion.

The livestock sector, which has consistently recorded positive growth, is eyed by the Department of Agriculture (DA) to be export-competitive ahead of the economic integration with the ASEAN region. The President, in his speech during the opening ceremonies of the Livestock Philippines 2013 said that the Department of Agriculture is drafting the Livestock, Poultry, and Feed Crops Industry Roadmap, which will be completed by the end of the month. The President said that through this roadmap, initiatives such as feed farming-milling and livestock and poultry integration partnerships will benefit more than 850,000 small corn farmers and backyard livestock and poultry raisers in the first three years of implementation alone. Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala said the livestock sector is a bright spot for agricultural competitiveness amid tough competition that is expected to be brought about by the elimination of tariff on most farm good traded within the ASEAN region in 2015.

This bill seeks to establish a national program for the improvement of the livestock industry. The early passage of this bill is thus earnestly requested.



HON. DELPHINE GAN LEE
Representative, AGRI Party-List

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1 **AN ACT**
2 **TO CREATE A NATIONAL LIVESTOCK HEALTH PROGRAM**

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

3 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This shall be known as the “Livestock Health Program
4 Act of 2013.”

5 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policies.* – The State recognizes that the agriculture
6 sector provides food and vital raw materials for the rest of the economy;

7 The State also recognizes that rising productivity and efficiency in the livestock sector
8 are critical in maintaining the affordability of food and purchasing power, especially among
9 the poor;

10 It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote, propagate, develop further and
11 implement a health program for the livestock sector. Towards this end, a comprehensive and
12 national program for livestock health is hereby established.

13 SECTION 3. *Creation of a National Livestock Health Program.* – The Department
14 of Agriculture (hereinafter the “Department”) through the Bureau of Animal Industry, shall
15 establish and manage a National Livestock Health Program that shall engage in various
16 government activities from the national to the local levels in the form of support to livestock
17 farmers.

1 SECTION 4. *Strategic Vaccination.* – The Department shall identify the most
2 common and costly diseases that are preventable by vaccination and shall create a
3 vaccination program for livestock that is both affordable and far-reaching.

4 SECTION 5. *Disease Surveillance.* – The Department shall continuously monitor
5 incidents and outbreaks of livestock diseases both here and abroad and shall undertake
6 appropriate measures to ensure the containment of these diseases and the best ways to address
7 them.

8 SECTION 6. *Quarantine Program.* – The Department shall develop a quarantine
9 program that will safeguard our local livestock from possible infection from foreign animals.

10 SECTION 7. *Support, Education, and Training Services.* – The Department shall
11 provide:

- 12 (a) trainings and training-related events for farmers such as technology transfers,
13 schools-on-the air, sustainable agriculture practices, and other social mobilization
14 activities;
- 15 (b) Improve the production and reproductive potentials of the local herd through the
16 introduction of superior genetic materials
- 17 (c) Develop and implement programs for conservation and utilization of native
18 genetics;
- 19 (d) Technology updating and re-tooling of livestock workers and farmer technicians
20 by conducting specialized trainings;
- 21 (e) Intensive information dissemination campaigns by distributing materials such as
22 newsletters, posters, brochures, handouts, flipcharts, billboards and streamers;
23 print, radio and television campaigns; information caravans; schools-on-the-air,
24 and other related activities.

25 SECTION 8. *Research and Development Services.* – The Department shall engage in
26 the research of alternative nutrition technologies such as feed substitutes provided that these
27 are both tested and safe before they are introduced to the market.

1 SECTION 9. *Generation of Statistics.* – The Department shall generate nationwide
2 livestock statistics from national surveys and other statistical activities including the planning
3 and monitoring of program activities and interventions.

4 SECTION 10. *Program Reviews and Meetings.* – The Department shall hold
5 biannual program reviews and regular meetings with stakeholders in the livestock industry. It
6 shall also conduct regular operational and program monitoring and evaluation activities to
7 determine program implementation and delivery of services.

8 SECTION 11. *Funding.* – The amount of ONE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS
9 (P100,000,000.00) is hereby appropriated for the initial year of this Act. Every year
10 thereafter, the amount of FIFTY MILLION PESOS (P50,000,000.00) shall be included in the
11 budget of the Department for the implementation and continued expansion of this program.

12 SECTION 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Secretary shall adopt
13 rules and regulation to implement the provisions of this Act within ninety (90) days from the
14 date of effectivity of this Act.

15 SECTION 13. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act or the application of
16 such provision to any person or circumstance is declared invalid, the remainder of the Act or
17 the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected by
18 such declaration.

19 SECTION 14. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
20 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or
21 inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

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

Adopted,