Republic of the Philippines **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4482



Introduced by Honorable Michael L. Romero

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In July 2003, Republic Act No. 9296 enacted the **Meat Inspection Code of the Philippines** to toughen the country's meat inspection system to assure safety and quality of meat and meat products for human consumption both in the domestic and international markets.

It is the state's obligation as specified in the 1987 Philippine Constitution to foster the protection and promotion of the right to health of the people and protection of consumers from trade malpractices from substandard or hazardous products

This House Bill seeks to provide stiffer penalties and sanctions, thereby complying with international standards and protecting the health, interest and safety of every consumer and his environment from the harmful effects of inaccurate or false measurements.

Thus, the early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.

MICHAEL L. ROMERO

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AN ACT

AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT 9236, "OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL METROLOGY ACT OF 2003", PROVIDING FOR STIFFER PENALTIES AND SANCTIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Section 17 of Republic Act 9236 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 17. *Penalties.* - Any person who violates any provision of this Act shall be penalized by imprisonment of not less than Two (2) years but not more than Four (4) years or fine of not less than Fifty thousand pesos (Php 50,000.00) or both upon the discretion of the court:

Provided, however, That if the violator is a corporation, firm, partnership or association, the penalty shall be imposed upon the president or the manager or any officer thereof who knows or ought to have known the commission of the offense:

Provided, finally, That in case of the offender is an alien engaged in business in the country, his licensed shall be revoked and shall be ipso facto deported after service of verdict without need of further proceedings.

SECTION 2. Section 18 of Republic Act 9236 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Section 18. Appropriations. - The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act. for the year following its enactment and every year thereafter.

Seventy percent (70%) of the fees and charges collected as a result of the metrological work and calibration services shall be used by the Board and the ITDI in the enhancement of their capabilities and modernization of metrological and measurement standard activities. The remaining amount shall be remitted to National Treasury.

SECTION 3. TRANSITORY PROVISION – Existing industries, businesses and offices affected by the implementation of this Act shall be given six (6) months transitory period from the effectivity of the IRR or such other period as may be determined, to comply with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 4. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS. – The departments and agencies charged with carrying out the provisions of this Act shall, within sixty **(60)** days after the effectivity of this Act, formulate the necessary rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

SECTION 5. REPEALING CLAUSE. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. – If, for any reason, any section or provision of this Act is held unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE. – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,