

TENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
FIRST REGULAR SESSION)

AUG 23 P6:16

SENATE

VED BY: PH

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2

Submitted by the Committees on Health and Demography; Trade and Commerce; and Finance on
AUG 23 1995

Recommending the approval of the attached Senate Bill in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 45 and 328

Sponsors: Senators Mercado, Sotto and Webb *and Romulo PH*

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Health and Demography and the Committee on Trade and Commerce, to which was referred:

S.B. No. 45, introduced by Senator Sotto, entitled,

**"AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTORS, MANUFACTURERS AND
PRODUCERS OF SALT TO IODIZE THEIR PRODUCT, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF"**

The Committee on Health and Demography and the Committee on Finance, to which was referred:

S.B. No. 328, introduced by Senator Mercado, entitled,

**AN ACT
PROMOTING NATIONAL SALT IODIZATION AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES**

have considered the same and are honored to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, entitled:

**AN ACT
PROMOTING NATIONAL SALT IODIZATION AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES**

be approved in substitution of S. B. Nos. 45 and 328.

Respectfully submitted,

Neptalita Gonzales
NEPTALITA GONZALES
Chairman
Committee on Finance

Gloria M. Arroyo
GLORIA M. ARROYO
Chairman
Committee on Trade and Commerce

Freddie N. Webb
FREDDIE N. WEBB
Chairman
Committee on Health and Demography

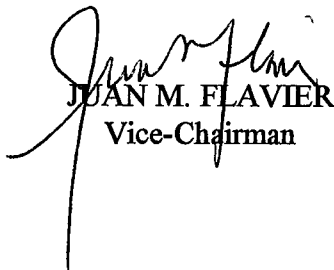
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HON. BLAS F. OPLE



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HON. FRANCISCO S. TATAD



with res.
- amendments.

HON. ANNA DOMINIQUE M.L. COSETENG

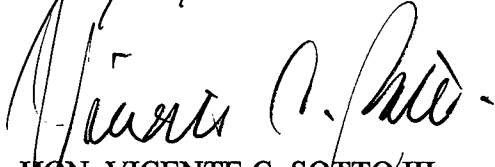
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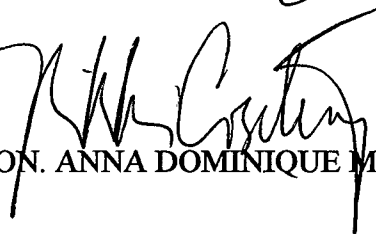
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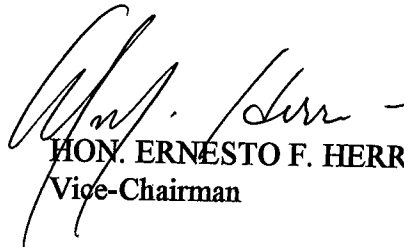

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with res. & amendments

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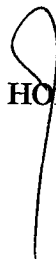
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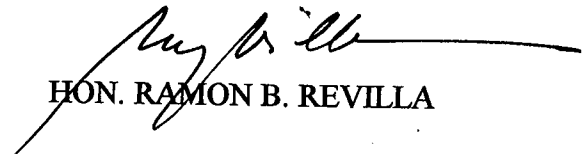


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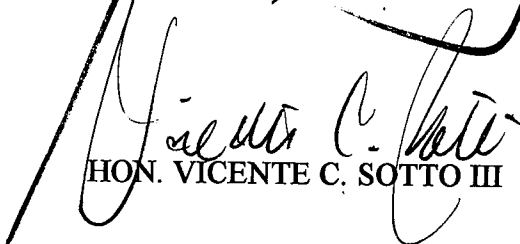
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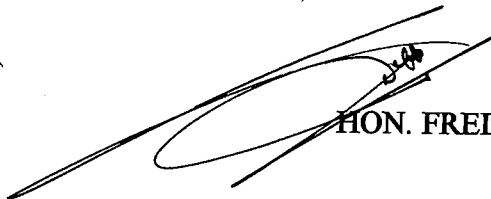
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HON. RAMON B. REVILLA



HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III




HON. FREDDIE N. WEBB

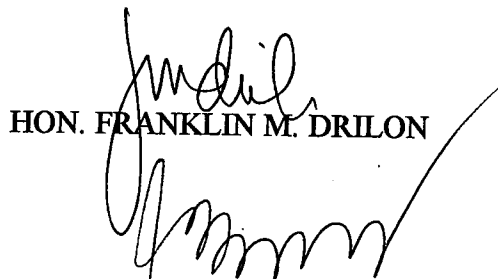
HON. FRANCISCO S. TATAD



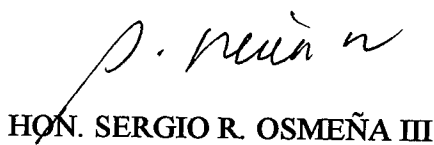
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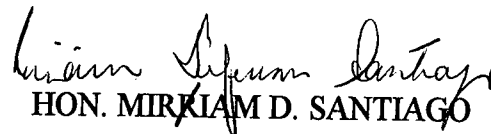


HON. SERGIO R. OSMEÑA III

HON. GREGORIO B. HONASAN



HON. ANNA DOMINIQUE M.L. COSETENG



HON. MIRIAM D. SANTIAGO

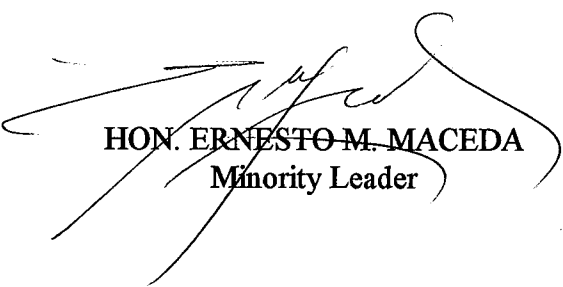
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President Pro-Tempore



HON. ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Majority Leader



HON. ERNESTO M. MACEDA
Minority Leader

HON. EDGARDO J. ANGARA
President of the Senate
Manila

SENATE

S. No. 45

Introduced by Senator Vicente C. Sotto III

AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTORS, MANUFACTURERS AND
PRODUCERS OF SALT TO IODIZE THEIR PRODUCT, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES
FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Iodization of all Salt Produced. - All commercial distributors,
2 manufacturers, and producers of salt shall iodize the salt that they produce, manufacture and/or
3 distribute.

4 **SEC. 2.** Penalty. - Any manufacturer, producer, distributor or any entity
5 found violating this Act shall be fined Fifty Thousand Pesos for each count of the violation.

6 **SEC. 3.** Promulgation of Rules. - The Secretary of Trade and Industry
7 shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

8 **SEC. 4.** Transitory Provision. - All commercial distributors, manufacturers,
9 producers and other entities engaged in the sale and distribution of salt are given twelve (12)
10 months from the effectivity of this Act to acquire the necessary facilities, install the necessary
11 processes and replace its inventory of non-iodized salt. After the lapse of the said period, the
12 presence of any commercial quantity of non-iodized salt in any distribution outlet or store shall
13 constitute sufficient ground for prosecution.

14 **SEC. 5.** This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval hereof.

APPROVED,

SENATE

S. No. 45

Introduced by Senator Vicente C. Sotto III

Explanatory Note

About two weeks ago a feature film produced by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) showed in somewhat shocking terms the epidemic of goiter among the mountain people - in the Philippines! Apparently for some time now, many of our barangays in the uplands have been stuck by that disease due to the lack of iodine in their diet.

What is more striking is that the general solution is very simple. Iodized salt. It turns out that while salt is very accessible even to the upland areas, it is not the kind that can prevent goiter, it often does not contain iodine.

This problem is not unique to our country. All countries with highland populations had this problem in varying degrees sometime in their histories. This is apparently one of the reasons why England, for instance, has a law requiring all commercial salt to be impregnated with iodine. May other developed countries have the same requirement.

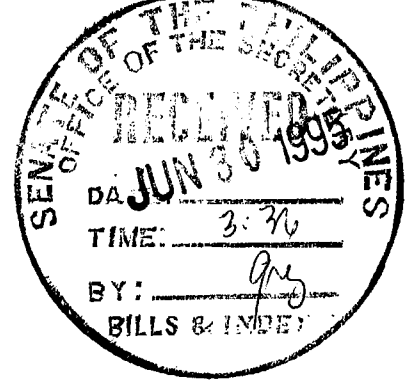
The file ended with an appeal to the viewers to help eradicate the scourge of goiter in the highland barangays by requesting and pushing Congress to require all commercial salt producers to iodize their product. I have heard the appeal and I have listened and I am acting through this bill. I am passing on this appeal to my fellow legislators to also listen and also act - by acting this very simple but direly needed law of requiring all commercial salt to be iodized.


VICENTE C. SOTTO III
Senator

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

SENATE

S. No. 328



Introduced by Senator Mercado

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Iodine deficiency has been identified as one of the major causes of public health problems. As a grave health burden, it threatens the socio-economic development of people in affected communities. Among its effects are endemic goiter and cretinism. It also contributes to deaf-mutism, squint, impairment of human reproduction (increased rates of abortion, stillbirth, congenital anomalies, perinatal and infant mortality) and other effects called Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD).

The magnitude and severity of IDD in the Philippines cannot be ignored. Recent surveys conducted by DOH showed that IDD prevalence has already reached a high of ninety-three percent (93%) in Mountain Province and fifty-three percent (53%) in Bukidnon.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has constantly endorsed salt iodization as a cost effective preventive measure against IDD. To this end, it passed **Resolution No. 43.2** mandating the Global Goal of Elimination of IDD as a **Public Health Problem by the Year 2000**. The same commitment was made by various Heads of State, including our own Chief Executive, in the World Summit for Children held in 1990.

This measure aims to provide the impetus towards the achievement of this global aim. It proposes a mechanism by which iodine can be made an essential additive in all food grade salt for human and livestock consumption.

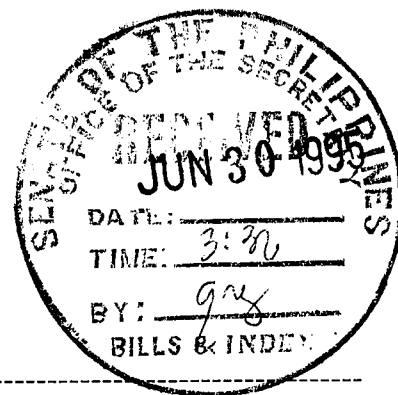
Immediate passage of this bill is thus earnestly sought.


ORLANDO S. MERCADO
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TENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

S. No. 328



Introduced by Senator Mercado

**AN ACT
PROMOTING NATIONAL SALT IODIZATION AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. **Title.** - This Act shall be known as "An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN)."

SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** - It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the health of the people, to maintain an effective food regulatory system, and to provide children with proper nutrition. For this purpose, it shall promote the nutritional fortification of food, including salt iodization, as priority for the nation.

SEC. 3. **Purposes.** - a) To combat micronutrient malnutrition, particularly iodine deficiency, through the cost-effective preventive measure salt iodization;

b) To mandate the Bureau of Food and Drugs (BFAD) to set and enforce standards for the iodization of salt and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to monitor its trade in the market;

c) To mandate the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) and Technology Resource and Livelihood Center (TLRC) to initiate and maintain the transfer of technology for salt iodization;

d) To appropriate funds for the establishment and development of salt iodization plants in provinces where Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDDs) are endemic.

e) To provide mechanisms and incentives for the local salt industry in the production, marketing and distribution of iodized salt.

SEC. 4. **Definition of Terms.** -

a) Micronutrient malnutrition - A disorder resulting from deficiencies in Vitamin A, iron, iodine and micronutrients which the body needs in minute

b) Iodine Deficiency Disorders - A broad spectrum of deficiencies resulting from the lack of iodine in the diet which may manifest as goiter, mental retardation, physical and mental defects, cretinism. It may also result from the intake of goitrogenic substances.

c) Food Fortification - The addition of nutrients to processed food at levels above the natural state.

d) Salt Iodization - The addition of iodine salt intended for human or animal consumption in accordance with government specifications as to form, method, manner and composition.

e) Food Grade Salt - Salt intended for human and animal consumption, excluding those used for industrial purposes.

f) Regulatory Requirements - The provisions of all applicable laws, regulations, executive orders and other enactments relating to food quality and safety, purity, nutritional composition, and any other aspect of food regulation or control.

SEC. 5. Applicability and Exceptions -

a) This Act shall apply to the entire salt industry, including salt producers, traders, importers and retailers, as well as government and non-government agencies involved in salt iodization activities.

b) By no later than two (2) years from the approval of this Act, all food grade salt, whether locally produced or imported, shall be iodized with appropriate levels of iodine in accordance with applicable regulatory requirements.

c) The BFAD shall provide for exemptions from the provisions of subparagraph (b) in order to make available a controlled supply of non-iodized salt for people with medical contraindications, religious or other legitimate objections. Any food grade salt that is exempted from the provisions of subparagraph (b) shall be stored, distributed and transported separately from iodized salt and shall be clearly labelled as non-iodized.

SEC. 6. Support to Salt Industry. -

a) The DTI is mandated to assist local producers of salt in the country to upgrade their production technology to include iodization by helping them obtain soft loans and financial assistance in the procurement of salt iodization machines

and by ensuring the systematic distribution of iodized salt in the market. The DTI, in cooperation with the Cooperative Development Authority, shall facilitate the formation of cooperatives of local salt producers which shall serve as conduits for beneficiaries of financial assistance from the Government.

b) The DOST and the TLRC shall develop and implement comprehensive programs for the transfer of salt iodization technology to the salt industry, including small local salt producers.

SEC. 7. Information and Education Campaign on Iodized Salt. - The benefits and rationale of the use of iodized salt shall be promoted through an organized, systematic and nationwide campaign to be spearheaded by the National Nutrition Council in cooperation and coordination with local government units and other agencies concerned. Further, such shall be included and given emphasis in health subjects of schools, both private and public at all levels.

SEC. 8. The Salt Iodization Advisory Board. - The National Nutrition Council, composed of the Secretaries (or duly authorized representatives) of the Department of Health, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of Science and Technology, Department of Agriculture, and a representatives of NGOs reinforced by a representative of the salt industry, shall serve as the Salt Iodization Advisory Board and function as the over-all coordinating body on salt iodization programs and activities. It shall provide rules and regulations for: the monitoring of the implementation of the program; regulation of the industry; technical requirements of salt iodization; provision of appropriate incentives and sanctions; and other implementary matters.

SEC. 9. Sanctions. - Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Act or any of the rules and regulations promulgated for its effective implementation shall be punished by a fine of not less than five hundred pesos (P500.00) nor more than ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00); Provided, the if the violation is committed by a business entity, its managing officer shall be liable for the fine; Provided further, that such offender shall suffer a revocation of its business permit or a ban of its product from the market.

SEC. 10. **Appropriations.** - The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the DOH, DOST, DA and DECS, as may be appropriate, under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its implementation shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 11. **Rules and Regulations.** - The National Nutrition Council, in coordination with the agencies concerned, shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 12. **Separability Clause.** - If any portion of this Act is declared invalid, the remainder of this Act shall not be affected by such declaration.

SEC. 13. **Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,