

IMPOSITION OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE FINE FOR VIOLATION OF THE RULES ON IMPORTATION OF MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS

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WHEREAS, Administrative Order No. 14, Series of 1998, requires the issuance of a Veterinary Quarantine Clearance (Import Permit) by the Department of Agriculture as a condition for the valid importation of meat products;

WHEREAS, Loida's General Merchandise effected the importation of one container of Mechanically Deboned Meat of Chicken from Canada sometime in July 2000;

WHEREAS, it is important for the Department of Agriculture to enforce strictly its rules on importation, especially as they impact on quarantine requirements necessary for the protection of the environment and the health of the citizenry;

WHEREAS, it is important for the Department of Agriculture to uphold the Rule of Law, and to set an example to the public and provide a deterrent against similar violations, by proceeding against those who have violated the law and rules, in this case, LOIDA'S GENERAL MERCHANDISE;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDGARDO J. ANGARA, Secretary of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby impose, in addition to those already imposed under existing law and rules governing importation of live cattle, an administrative fine of FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (Php 500,000.00) on LOIDA'S GENERAL MERCHANDISE;

LOIDA'S GENERAL MERCHANDISE is directed to pay the fine to the Cashier of the Department of Agriculture not later than seventy-two (72) hours from the issuance hereof.

The concerned offices of the Department of Agriculture are directed to monitor strictly and enforce this Order, compliance by LOIDA'S GENERAL MERCHANDISE being a condition for the lifting of the effects of the letter dated July 18, 2000 by Bureau of Animal Industry Director Teodoro A. Abilay respecting its violations of the rules on importation.

SO ORDERED.

Adopted: 14 Aug. 2000

(SGD.) EDGARDO J. ANGARA
Secretary

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