



Republic of the Philippines
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MEMORANDUM

FOR : **The Directors**
Legal Affairs Service
Policy and Planning Service
Climate Change Service

The Bureau Director
Land Management Bureau

FROM : **The Director**
Legislative Liaison Office

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS AND INVITATION TO ATTEND
THE VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES**

DATE : 14 November 2022

The Committee on Agriculture and Food of the House of Representatives shall have a virtual meeting on November 17, 2022 (Thursday), at 1:30 PM via Zoom, for the Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting on the following bills:

1. House Bill No. 1976 – “AN ACT REVITALIZING THE SALT INDUSTRY, CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO SALT FARMERS AND EXPORTERS, PROVIDING FUND THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”, introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo;
2. House Bill No. 5537 - “AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ADVANCED SALT INNOVATION (ASIN) CENTER TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE THE SALT-MAKING INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico Jr.; and
3. House Bill No. 5676 - AN ACT DEFINING SALT AS AN AQUATIC RESOURCE AND ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998,” AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”, introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee

In this regard, may we **request your comments and recommendations** on the above-mentioned bills in preparation for the virtual meeting **on or before November 16, 2022, 5 PM**. Further, your or your representative’s attendance at the mentioned meeting is requested as the agenda will deliberate on a bill that is of significance to your mandates.

Attached herewith are the invitation letter, comparative matrix, and copy of the House Bills for your reference.

Your attendance is highly encouraged.

ROMIROSE B. PADIN

cc: Undersecretary for Legal, Administration, Human Resources, and Legislative Affairs
Undersecretary for Policy, Planning, and International Affairs
Assistant Secretary for Administration and Legislative Affairs



COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD

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14 November 2022

SECRETARY MARIA ANTONIA YULO LOYZAGA

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Dear Secretary Loyzaga:

The Committee on Agriculture and Food, in its meeting on 25 October 2022, created a **Technical Working Group (TWG)** to further study the following measures on the development of the salt industry:

1. **House Bill No. 1976** – *“AN ACT REVITALIZING THE SALT INDUSTRY, CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO SALT FARMERS AND EXPORTERS, PROVIDING FUND THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”*, introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo;
2. **House Bill No. 5537** - *“AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ADVANCED SALT INNOVATION (ASIN) CENTER TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE THE SALT-MAKING INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”* introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico Jr.; and
3. **House Bill No. 5676** - *AN ACT DEFINING SALT AS AN AQUATIC RESOURCE AND ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS “THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998,” AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES”*, introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee

In this regard, we would like to request your attendance to the TWG meeting on **17 November 2022 at 1:30 pm** via Zoom platform. Attached are copies of the measures and matrix of the bills on the development of salt industry for your reference.

Below is the Zoom log-in details:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85140817835?pwd=a1lzRmg3NTNydnpjV0tRUTdUOC9ldz09>

Meeting ID: 851 4081 7835

Passcode: 053765

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

REP. RON P. SALO

TWG Chairperson

For the TWG Chairperson:

CONSOLACION P. GALANG

Committee Secretary

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1976



Introduced by Representative Ron P. Salo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippines imports much of the salt that Filipinos consume. For the last 11 years, (2009 to 2020), salt import, which also covered table salt and denatured salt, was valued at USD 303 million, coming from Australia (72%), China (18.7%), Thailand (4.2%) and New Zealand (2.39%). In contrast, export of the same item in the same period was at a measly USD 1.3 million.

Salt import is estimated at around 550,000 metric tons every year which constitutes around 93% of the salt requirement of the country. Such an irony considering that the Philippines has 36,000 kilometers of shoreline – the fifth longest shoreline in the world – which can be utilized for massive salt production. Indeed, challenges exist in the local salt industry, and the government must undertake immediate steps to address them, lest the country be completely dependent on imported salt.

This was not always the case though as the Philippines was previously self-sufficient in salt. A myriad of factors contributed to its decline, including an outdated policy regime, low quality control and product improvement, limited sourcing/development of new production areas, unattractive business environment for small enterprises and lack of new investments. The lack of innovation, focused interventions, and priorities to develop local industries led to its further deterioration and eroded the opportunities of local producers who had to face direct competition from imports over the last 30 years.

The salt industry also failed to adapt to the changes brought by climate change, increased food safety standards and product quality requirements, tariff reduction, and mandatory iodization as directed by Republic Act No. 8172, otherwise known as an Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN). Unfortunately, the success of the ASIN law in combatting the country's iodine deficiency came with a price; local salt farmers were marginalized in the massive shift to iodization that required use of additional machinery and technology.

Salt is a basic commodity and an essential ingredient for home cooking, food processing, water treatment, feed ingredients, and natural fertilizers for the coconut industry, among others. Salt has over 14,000 uses and is an important raw material for the production of many high value products and chemicals, making it a key product

for agro-industries and an essential element in the development of the country's chemical industry.

Developed countries, such as the United States, emphasize industrial production of sea salt to help food manufacturers enhance their products through innovative ingredient technology. On the other hand, ASEAN-member States, such as Indonesia and Vietnam, have included salt self-sufficiency as part of their priorities for food, agricultural, and industrial development.

The Philippines, given its natural resource endowments and comparative advantage, is unable to keep pace with these developments. Its failure to effectively orchestrate the production of locally farmed or harvested salt has resulted in additional dollars lost to imports which could have been used to create more opportunities for local enterprises.

Institutionalizing an orchestrated approach to develop innovative specialty salt farms and increasing the local production of pure and authentic Philippine salt will support not only the food processing subsector, but will also increase organic chemical production to benefit agriculture and livestock.

The government must lead the way in stimulating the local salt industry by supporting artisanal salt farmers to mainstream their products in local and export markets; access needed technology to ensure authenticity, traceability and food safety; avail of new production areas and appropriate technologies to scale-up local production that can lower importations; and effectively engage the private sector to leverage investments to ensure sustainability.

A Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program is needed to serve as an overarching policy to address policy gaps and technological challenges; identify and pursue strategic priority areas for social innovation and rural enterprise development; mobilize resources to reduce import dependence and achieve food sufficiency; leverage public funding and private sector investments from cooperatives, local enterprises and small businesses; and create a level playing field for local industries to grow and prosper. It will utilize the agriculture and fisheries innovation hubs and technology business incubators (TBIs) nationwide to ensure an inclusive, market-oriented, resilient, and vibrant local economies.

Compared to other agricultural commodities, the country's local salt farming and artisanal salt-making technology is relatively classic and innovative, thus making the revitalization of the salt industry more manageable to plan and execute, to finance and scale, and to build opportunities for value-creation. With enough will and commitment, these can be achieved.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



RON P. SALO
KABAYAN Party List

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1976

Introduced by Representative Ron P. Salo

AN ACT
REVITALIZING THE SALT INDUSTRY, CREATING A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT, PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO SALT FARMERS AND
EXPORTERS, PROVIDING FUND THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Philippine Salt Industry Development Act”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. For this purpose, the State shall provide support through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services to revitalize the salt industry, attain increased income for salt farmers and salt producers, achieve salt self-sufficiency, and become a net exporter of salt.

I. DEFINITION OF TERMS

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. – For the purposes of this Act, the following terms are hereby defined as follows:

a) *Artisanal Sea Salt* refers to unrefined sea salt, derived directly from a living sea or ocean, harvested and cooked through natural evaporation processes; it retains natural traces of minerals depending on the source and the manner of production is solar-evaporated, evaporated, cooked or smoked. Local artisanal salts include *Duldul* from Guimaras, *Asin-Tibuok* from Bohol, *Sugpo Asin* from Pangasinan.

b) *Association* refers to a group of individuals or companies involved in common activities or endeavor towards the development of the salt industry.

c) *Cooperative* refers to a cooperative engaged in salt production.

d) *Fleur de Sel* also known as “flower of salt”, refers to a rare, delicate and highest standard of finishing salt given its aroma and profile, and is often referred to as the caviar of salts by chefs worldwide.

e) *Food fortification* refers to the addition of nutrients to processed food at levels above the natural state.

f) *Gourmet dish* refers to food or drink that takes extra care to make or acquire, found or made only in certain locations, and ingredients of which may be unusual, hard to find in regular grocery stores, only available in limited amounts, rarely exported outside of their place of origin, or available only for short times of the year.

g) *Iodized Salt* refers to salt artificially spray-coated with iodine.

h) *Large-scale Salt Farmer/Operator/Producer* shall refer to:

(1) An individual owner or leaseholder of a salt farm that is more than fifty (50) but not more than five hundred (500) hectares; or

(2) An association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a leaseholder of a salt farm that is more than fifty (50) but not more than one thousand (1,000) hectares.

i) *Local gourmet outlet* refers to a store, grocery or supermarket located in the Philippines that stocks and sells high-quality, unique, or hard-to-find ingredients needed to prepare gourmet dishes.

j) *Medium-scale Salt Farmer/ Operator/ Producer* shall refer to an individual, association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a leaseholder of more than three (3) hectares but not more than fifty (50) hectares of salt farms.

k) *Philippine sea salt* refers to salt produced from the evaporation of seawater, brine, or concentrated brine in any salt farm or refinery within the Philippines.

l) *Salt Farm* refers to areas of land, shorelines, or coastal areas, including its buildings, machineries, and equipment used for salt production.

m) *Salt Producer* refers to an individual, corporation, cooperative, or association involved in the production of sea salt.

n) *Salt Project* refers to the construction, development, maintenance, and improvement of salt farms.

o) *Salt Technology Demonstration Centers* refers to training facilities where salt farming, harvesting, cooking and packaging is done for purposes of conducting hands-on training, skills enhancement, and capacity-building.

p) *Small-scale salt farmer/operator/producer* refers to an individual, association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a leaseholder of a salt farm of not more three (3) hectares.

q) *Strategic Agri/Fisheries Enterprise (SAFE) Innovation Hubs and Technology Business Incubators* refers to a brick-and-mortar or physical presence of an organization or business facilitation service, other than infrastructure and offers products and services to its customers face-to-face in an office, or through off-wall services provided to entrepreneurs including but not limited to administrative/technical services, market facilitation and business linkages, initial seed funds and access to growth capital, lab facilities, and testing services to ensure compliance to accepted product/service standards.

SEC. 4. Salt as Aquatic Resource. – For purposes of this Act, the following provisions of Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as “The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998,” are hereby amended to read as follows:

(a) Section 4 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 4. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Code, the following terms and phrases shall mean as follows:

x x x

11. Commercial Scale – A scheme of producing a minimum amount per year of SALT or harvest of Milkfish or other species including those raised in pens, cages, and tanks to be determined by the Department in consultation with the concerned sectors;

x x x

22. Fish and Fishery Aquatic Products – include not only finfish but also mollusks, crustaceans, echinoderms, marine, mammals, and all other species of aquatic flora and fauna and all other products of aquatic living resources in any form, AND SALT.

x x x

28. Fisherfolk – people directly or personally and physically engaged in taking and/or culturing and processing fishery and aquatic resources INCLUDING SEA SALT PRODUCED BY SALT FARMERS. According to House Resolution 1032 and 1046.

x x x

32. Fishpond – a land-based facility enclosed with earthen or stone material to impound water for growing fish AND/OR PRODUCING SALT.

x x x

47. Fully developed Fishpond Area – a clean leveled area enclosed by dikes, at least one foot higher than the highest floodwater level in the locality and strong enough to resist pressure at the highest flood tide; consists of at least a nursery, a transition pond, a rearing pond, RESERVOIR POND, EVAPORATING POND, SALT CRYSTALIZER POND, or a combination of any or all said classes of ponds, and a functional water control system and producing in a commercial scale.

(b) Section 46 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 46. Lease of Fishponds / "FISHPOND WITH SALT FARMS" – Fishpond leased to qualified persons and fisherfolk organizations/cooperatives shall be subject to the following conditions... x x x

- a. Areas leased for Fishpond with Salt Farms shall be subject to Section 3 (h), 3 (j), 3 (p)

(b) Section 54 is hereby amended to read as follows:

SEC. 54. Insurance for Fishponds, "FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS", Fish Cages, and Fish Pens – Inland Fishponds, INLAND FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS, Fish Cages, Fish Pens shall be covered under the insurance program of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation for losses caused by force majeure and fortuitous events.

II. SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

SEC. 5. Creation of Administration for Salt Industry Development, Revitalization and Optimization (ASInDeRO) and Mandate. – There is hereby created the Administration for Salt Industry Development, Revitalization and Optimization (ASInDeRO) which shall be mandated to ensure that the objectives of this Act are realized. It shall be composed of the following:

- (a) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) as Chair;
- (b) Secretary of the Trade and Industry as Co-Chair;
- (c) Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) as Vice-Chair;

Members:

- (d) Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Secretary or representative;
- (e) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary or representative;
- (f) Department of Health Secretary or representative;
- (g) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary or representative;
- (h) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Director General or representative;

- (i) Chief Executive Officer of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) or representative; and
- (j) Two (2) representatives – one (1) from salt farmers and one (1) from salt producers, from each salt producing provinces. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture shall choose or appoint from a list of salt producers and salt farmers that will be endorsed by the Cooperative or Association, for a term of two (2) years, and may be reappointed; Provided that the representatives on the first two (2) terms shall be from Pangasinan and Mindoro Occidental.

SEC. 6. Functions. – The ASInDeRO shall have the following functions:

1. Formulate and adopt policy directions, strategic action points, and guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act;
2. Develop and approve short term, medium term and long term development plans, or a ten (10) year industry roadmap for the revitalization of the Philippine salt industry and pursue effective export strategies and developmental mechanisms to achieve competitiveness of Philippine sea salts, artisanal salt and/or specialty salts for gourmet and other industrial applications;
3. Provide strategic directions and guidance to the various departments and agencies that play a vital role in the realization of the objectives of this Act;
4. Oversee the implementation by the various departments and agencies mandated under this Act of their assigned tasks;
5. Oversee the identification of new areas suitable for government-funded salt projects and the registration, construction and lease of salt farms;
6. Provide needed support and determine the required investments both in the government and the private sector to achieve the objectives of this Act;
7. Serve as a one-stop-shop for the processing of all permits required for the approval of a salt farm project;
8. Ensure the harmonization of the rules and guidelines of various departments and agencies concerning salt;
9. Approve the lease of newly constructed salt farms to qualified individuals, associations, cooperatives or corporations pursuant to Section 10 of this Act;
10. Recommend to the Department of Budget and Management the required yearly appropriations for the identification and construction of salt farms, which shall be lodged with the Department of Agriculture; and
11. Perform other functions necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

SEC 7. Program Management Office and Secretariat. – A Program Management Office (PMO) is hereby created which shall be headed by the Undersecretary of Fisheries under the Department of Agriculture, to oversee the overall implementation of the salt industry development plan as well as conduct regular monitoring of its execution by the implementing agencies and/or partners. The Secretariat is also hereby created under the supervision of the PMO and shall perform functions such as to coordinate and manage the regular meetings of the ASInDeRO, prepare and/or consolidate reports for the PMO, monitor the implementation of policy

decisions that the ASInDeRO has adopted and liaise with all the member departments and relevant agencies of the government, as needed.

SEC. 8. Jurisdiction over Salt Farms and Fish Ponds with Salt Farms. – The administrative jurisdiction and management of salt farms and fish ponds with salt farms shall be lodged with the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR).

SEC. 9. Identification of New Areas Suitable for Government-Funded Salt Projects. – The DA, through the BFAR and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), in coordination with the DENR shall spearhead in the identification of appropriate areas for Philippine salt production, orchestrate partnerships with the DOST and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in providing technical and laboratory services, and engage local government units (LGUs), mature cooperatives and local enterprises operating in the provinces where small-scale artisanal salt production is operational and/or large-scale salt farming is in need of expansion.

The DA-BFAR and DENR shall identify suitable areas for salt production including abandoned fishponds and the NFRDI and/or SUCs shall provide technical services through the Agri/fisheries innovation hub or Technology Business Incubators in these provinces, taking into account the number of potential salt farmers and their families who shall benefit therefrom and address food traceability requirements including the type of salt produced (artisanal/gourmet salt, table salt, iodized salt), the salt farmer/consolidator/trader, volume and value generated and end-market to determine importance of salt production in the area: *Provided*, That this shall not prevent private individuals, associations, cooperatives, and corporations from identifying, investing in, and developing present and future salt farms, apart from government-funded salt projects.

SEC. 10. Registration, Construction, and Lease of Salt Farms. – The DA-BFAR shall facilitate the prompt registration of salt farms as well as assist in the design, construction, and development of small-scale artisanal salt farms, either on its own or through partnership with the private sector, while the DOST shall provide the necessary technology in the construction of large-scale salt farms employing modern technologies to increase production efficiency and environmentally-sound practices.

Whenever applicable and necessary, the DENR shall promptly act on the processing and issuance of permits and clearances, such as Environmental Compliance Certificates, prior to the construction of salt farms to ensure that such projects will not cause a significant negative impact on the environment.

The DA-BFAR shall identify suitable areas for lease, assist in the construction, rehabilitation, and/or expansion of small-scale artisanal salt farms, and provide technical assistance for new investors or to salt farm operators undergoing expansion. The DA-BFAR shall recommend to ASInDeRO the approval of the application for lease of Government-Funded Salt projects--newly constructed salt farms to investors, applying the prevailing BFAR fishpond rental rates: *Provided*, That this shall not in any way affect privately-owned salt farms or existing leases, such as those covered by Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs), with actual occupants.

For purposes of eligibility and priority for the lease of the newly-constructed salt farms, the DA shall come up with equitable criteria thereon for approval by ASInDeRO, taking into consideration and priority to small salt farmers and artisanal salt farmers.

The DA-NFRDI, DOST and SUCs shall likewise showcase best practices, harness indigenous knowledge, and promote innovative technologies to effectively realize the Salt Industry Development Program. These agencies shall exert their best efforts, with the end-goal of increasing the number of food safety compliant salt farmers and producers through their SAFE Innovation Hubs or Salt Technology Demonstration Centers in the maintenance and development of the leased salt farms.

SEC 11. Fishpond Lease Agreements to Include Salt Production. – Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs) shall automatically include salt farming or production as among the valid activities that may be undertaken by the leaseholder. FLA holders who intend to venture into salt farming shall be given the same support, training, and financing given to salt farmers, as provided under this Act.

SEC 12. Construction of Salt Farm Roads, to be known as Daan Asinan. – Consistent with the development plans on the revitalization of salt industry, the DA, in coordination with the LGUs and the resident-salt farmers, shall identify priority locations of roads linking the salt farms to the market, to be known as *Daan Asinan*. The DA shall take into account the investment for salt farm to be undertaken in the area, the number of salt farmers and their families who shall benefit therefrom and the amount of salt produced or potentially produced in the salt farms. Thereafter, the DA shall undertake the construction, improvement, and maintenance of the *Daan Asinan*.

SEC 13. Funding for Development of Salt Farms, Lease of Government-Developed Salt Farms, and Equipment. – The DA-BFAR, in consultation with individuals, corporations, associations, and cooperatives from the salt industry, will allocate and provide funding and technical support needed for the maintenance, repair, and upgrading of existing salt farms and newly constructed government-funded salt projects. The funds will cover materials, dike and canal repairs, equipment, and other items specified by industry stakeholders, ensuring the continued productivity and competitiveness of the salt industry.

Government financial institutions such as, but not limited to, the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), shall extend financial assistance to viable projects of eligible and credit worthy salt farmers, cooperatives and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) for the development, operation, and improvement of salt farms, lease of government-developed salt farms, and purchase of salt farming equipment.

SEC. 14. Exemption from Public Bidding Requirements. – Salt farm projects undertaken by farmers, farmers' organizations, and other private entities whose funding is partly or wholly subsidized by the government or acquired by way of loan from government financial institutions are not covered by laws on procurement.

SEC. 15. Training. – The DA, together with the DOST, DTI, FDA, and TESDA, shall provide complementary training programs to develop/upgrade the skills and

competencies of Philippine salt farmers and producers, ensure product traceability and compliance to food safety, technology acquisition including product labelling and packaging, conduct continuous training on market positioning for Philippine artisanal/specialty and industrial salts and such other skills necessary in the maintenance and development of the local salt industry. These agencies shall also assist the farmers to be able to effectively comply with the requirements of Republic Act No. 8172, otherwise known as "An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN)".

SEC. 16. Institution of SAFE Innovation Hubs and Salt Technology Demonstration Centers and Funding for SUCs. – The DA, through the NFRDI and DOST shall establish SAFE Innovation Hubs and Salt Technology Demonstration Centers, as defined under Secs. 3(o) and 3(q) of this Act.

SEC. 17. Salt Farmers Cooperatives. – The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) shall assist in the formation, organizational strengthening and financial literacy of cooperatives and their local salt farmers-members and producers in order that they can leverage their resources and provide sustainable operations and increase the number of successful cooperative-managed salt farms in the country.

SEC. 18. Trade and Export Assistance. – The DTI and DA shall assist and support local salt farmers in the trade and exportation of Philippine sea salt. It shall enhance the capabilities and global competitiveness of potential and existing producers and exporters of sea salt through export financing; business matching; provision of trade and market information; organization of trade fairs and business missions; conduct of seminars, workshops, conferences and symposium on export-related subjects, including export documentation and procedures; product design and development; market consultancy; and product consultancy.

The government will give preference to locally produced salt in government purchases.

SEC. 19. Incentives. – The DTI, through the Board of Investments (BOI) shall give the highest priority in its grant of incentives to businesses and industries with linkages to salt farming. It shall include in its Strategic Investment Priorities Plan the fiscal and non-fiscal incentives for Philippine sea salt farming, artisanal/specialty salt farming, commercial-scale salt production, refining and processing, and salt farm modernization. It shall likewise grant Pioneering Status to investments in the said activities.

The DA-BFAR and NFRDI, DENR, DOST, DTI, DILG, LGUs and the CDA shall provide to salt producers the same benefits and livelihood programs that are provided to the fisherfolk sector.

SEC. 20. Import Duties. – To cushion the impacts of imports on the local producers of traditional, artisanal, or non-iodized salt in the country, the import duty/ies for these specific products shall be increased to a maximum (100) percent *ad valorem*, subject to the ceiling commitment to the WTO, ATIGA, AANZFTA, and RCEP, where applicable, subject to successful negotiations under these international agreements. However, the Executive Branch may apply duty/ies lower than 100 per cent, as the need arises, following the process prescribed in the Tariff and Customs Code of the

Philippines (TCCP), but in no case shall the applied import duty/ies be lower than the existing rate/s before the implementation of this Act or thirty (30) per cent, whichever is higher. However, the existing tariff commitments for non-iodized salt under the abovementioned international agreements shall be maintained for the import duty/ies being applied before the implementation of this Act.

To effectively operationalize and implement the above provisions, the Tariff Commission (TC), DA, DTI, and Bureau of Customs (BOC) shall facilitate the establishment of separate and dedicated tariff nomenclatures for all traditional, artisanal, and non-iodized salt within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 21. Research. – The DA-NFRDI shall conduct research, either on its own or in collaboration with SUCs, to enhance the technological development, provide applicable policy direction, and develop innovative project-based interventions that may be adopted and implemented to achieve the objectives of this Act. The DA shall collaborate with DOST and DTI to provide a common fund and financial resources to the cooperatives and local enterprises for this purpose.

SUCs shall also be awarded funding, grants, and subsidies to engage in research and development, extension training, and other related activities to upgrade the salt industry.

The research conducted shall also support the operation of the Salt Technology Demonstration Centers and the SAFE Innovation Hubs and Technology Business Incubators created under this Act.

SEC. 22. Human Resources Development. – All stakeholders in the salt industry shall contribute to the development of a sustainable human resource for the industry. Towards this end, the DOLE, in collaboration with the duly recognized salt associations and salt cooperatives, the Commission on Higher Education, the TESDA, the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and the private sector, shall formulate and implement a Human Resources Development (HRD) Master Plan for the salt industry which shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- a) Capacity building, skills trainings, institutional strengthening of the salt farm workers, salt farmers and their organizations to actively contribute in productivity and competitiveness;
- b) Scholarship program for the underprivileged but deserving college and post graduate students who are taking up courses in relevant fields of discipline in SUCs which have programs in agriculture, agricultural engineering and mechanics, and chemical engineering/salt technology; and for vocational courses and skills development for farmers and farm technicians, and skilled workers in salt farms; and
- c) Conduct of capability training or attendance to local or international trainings and seminars by salt farmers and workers.

SEC. 23. Priority Commodity. – The DA shall ensure that salt is a priority commodity to be produced locally in areas or regions identified in the development

plan for the revitalization of the salt industry. The required resources shall be allocated by the DA for this purpose.

SEC. 24. Classification of Salt Farms. – For purposes of determining the current market values, applicable lease rentals, and tax rates to be imposed by both the national government and the local government units, salt farms shall be classified as fishponds.

SEC. 25. Exemption of exported salt and salt sold in local gourmet outlets from mandatory iodization. – Philippine sea salt exported to other countries, those to be sold to local gourmet outlets, and those to be used for other commercial applications not related to food fortification such as, but not limited to, water treatment, feeds, and chemical processing, shall be exempt from mandatory iodization provided under the provisions of Republic Act No. 8172 or ASIN Law.

Food manufacturers, restaurants and chefs may also be exempted in the mandatory use of iodized salt on their specific products under guidelines to be issued by the FDA when the taste or quality of the product will be significantly altered with the use of iodized salt.

SEC. 26. VAT Exemption of Locally-produced Iodized salt. – The sale of locally-produced iodized salt shall be exempt from the value-added tax.

SEC. 27. Control Measures. – Salt farmers or producers of salt shall register with the BFAR.

The BFAR shall adopt measures to ensure compliance with food safety guidelines of salt intended for human consumption; Provided that, salt which are not intended for food consumption shall not be subjected to food safety laws and guidelines.

The BFAR, through its regional offices, shall ensure that pure, un-iodized salt shall be promptly issued with necessary transport permits and certification documents for exportation purposes or sale to local gourmet stores.

Only small-scale salt farmers shall be allowed to sell food grade un-iodized salt to local gourmet stores. Local gourmet stores shall be allowed to sell registered Philippine un-iodized sea salt.

Small, medium or large-scale salt famers shall be allowed to export un-iodized salt. Food grade salt, whether iodized or un-iodized, shall be registered with the FDA.

SEC. 28. LGUs Assistance. – LGUs shall enact local ordinances to support the development of Philippine sea salt/artisanal/gourmet/specialty salt produced in their respective municipalities/cities, implement appropriate measures to ensure the ease-of-doing business and ensure that salt farmers or producers and local gourmet outlet owners are free from harassment on alleged non-compliance with iodization requirements for those exempted under Sec. 25 of this Act. Law enforcement units, including members of the Philippine National Police, shall ensure that those exempted from mandatory salt iodization are not unduly burdened.

III. FINAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 29. Agencies' Regular Programs. – The mandates, functions and activities of the various departments and agencies identified in this Act shall be considered regular programs and shall be included in their annual budgets.

SEC. 30. Reporting. – The various departments and agencies specified in this Act shall provide regular updates to the ASInDeRO on the progress of their programs and activities toward the realization of the objectives of this Act.

SEC. 31. Congressional Oversight. – There shall be a Congressional Oversight on the implementation of this Act composed of 5 representatives each coming from the Senate and the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively.

SEC. 32. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall initially be charged to the appropriations of the agencies concerned as may be appropriated, 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 from their respective budgets.

A Salt Development Fund shall be created and funded from the tariffs on salt imports. This fund shall be used to partially fund the identification, construction and development of government-funded salt farms as specified in this Act.

SEC. 33. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The ASInDeRO created under Section 5 of this Act shall be created and convened within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act. Thereafter, it shall issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act within one hundred twenty (120) days from approval of this Act.

SEC. 34. Separability Clause. – Any portion or provision of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying the other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portion or provision can still subsist and be given effect.

SEC. 35. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

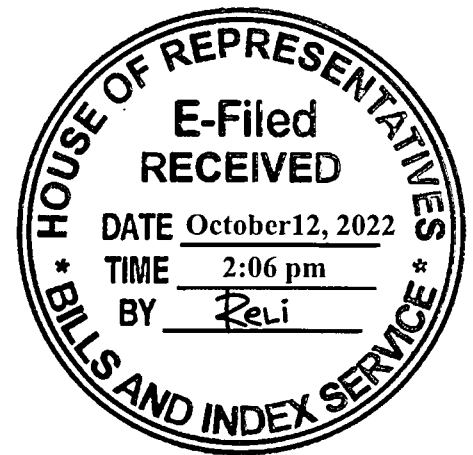
SEC. 36. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or any two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5537



Introduced by **Pangasinan Fifth District Representative**
HON. RAMON N. GUICO JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Salt is integral to human life in general. Aside from its essential nutrient value when consumed moderately, it is also one of the oldest and most ubiquitous food seasoning and is also an important element in food preservation.

Knowing the importance of salt in the human diet and its viability as an economic industry, one would think that in the Philippines, with a coastline of 36,289 km, where majority of salt production can be derived, salt-making would be a lucrative business. The reality of the situation, however, presents a dire circumstance; one that threatens the very existence of the salt farming industry if the government does nothing to intervene.

In the 1990s, the salt-making industry was once a vibrant undertaking in the Philippines. The provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Mindoro, and Pangasinan once produced 85% of the country's annual salt requirement. However, the industry has long since been crippled by climate change, urbanization, and the lack of modern salt-making techniques and technology. Salt flats or beds had been converted to more profitable industries such as fishponds, residential, or commercial properties. As a consequence, the country now only produces 20% of Filipinos' annual salt requirements and we have come to rely on importing the remaining 80% from big salt-producing countries like Australia and China. Moreover, as cheap imports flooded the market, small-scale salt makers found it increasingly difficult to keep up with the competition and had therefore decided to give up salt making as a profession.

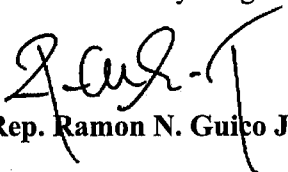
These developments simply cannot be. Salt-making is not only a potentially lucrative business, but more importantly a way of life for many Filipinos. It is part of our proud heritage and tradition. In this representation's home province of Pangasinan, the etymology of the province's name literally means "place of salt" or "place of salt-making." Famous local products such as *bagoong* or *alamang*, *longganisa*, *cornik*, among others are reliant on cheap, but good quality salt. Salt farms are also becoming a tourist boon in Pangasinan, therefore providing a learning opportunity for people interested in learning the art of salt-making. Suffice it to say that it is an integral part of Pangasinan culture.

Recognizing the precarious situation that the salt industry is in; the administration of Pres. Ferdinand Marcos Jr. vowed to revive and modernize the Philippine salt industry. As such, in

fulfillment of the President's policy directive to save this ages-old art and hopefully transform it to a major industrial powerhouse, this bill is proposed. Under this Act, Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Centers shall initially be established in the major salt-producing provinces of Bulacan, Cavite, Mindoro, and Pangasinan with the prospect of establishing more should the need arise. These ASIN Centers will be responsible for reviving, promoting, developing, and preserving the salt-making industry in the country through various activities, programs, and projects intended to train salt makers in the modern techniques of salt-making; transfer vital technologies in the pursuit of the same; and conduct researches integral to improving salt production in the country. The goal of this Act is twofold, first is to achieve self-sufficiency in meeting the country's salt requirements and second, to develop an export-oriented salt-making industry.

Finally, aware of the need for a more integrated governmental approach to any government undertaking, the ASIN centers under the supervision and control of the Department of Agriculture shall coordinate with the appropriate government agencies to foster market linkages, both domestic and international; to develop salt-making techniques capable of withstanding the effects of climate change; to ensure that salt-making is environmentally safe and sustainable; and to promote the industry via farm tourism.

For the reasons abovementioned, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


Rep. Ramon N. Guico Jr.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 5537

Introduced by Pangasinan Fifth District Representative
HON. RAMON N. GUICO JR.

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE ADVANCED SALT INNOVATION (ASIN)
CENTER TO PROMOTE AND ENHANCE THE SALT-MAKING INDUSTRY IN THE
PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This act shall be known as the “**Advanced Salt Innovation**
2 **Act.**”
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The Constitution provides that the State shall develop a
5 self-reliant and independent national economy effectively controlled by Filipinos. It also provides
6 that the State shall support indigenous, appropriate, and self-reliant scientific and technological
7 capabilities, and their application to the country’s productive systems and national life. Towards
8 this end, the State shall establish various programs to enhance, promote, and preserve the salt-
9 making industry in the Philippines.
10

11 **SEC. 3. Definition of Terms.** – For the purposes of this Act, the following terms shall
12 mean:
13

14 a. **Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation Center (PAC) or ASIN Center** shall
15 refer to the Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Centers to be established in the
16 University of Pangasinan in Lingayen, Pangasinan; Bulacan State University in
17 Malolos, Bulacan; Cavite State University in Indang, Cavite; and the Mindoro
18 State College of Agriculture and Technology in Victoria, Oriental Mindoro
19 among other prospective ASIN Centers that shall be established pursuant to the
20 provisions of this Act.
21

22 b. **Smallholder/s** shall refer to salt makers producing salt from no more than five
23 (5) hectares of salt beds/salt flats.
24

1 **SEC. 4. Establishment of the Philippine ASIN Center (PAC).** – There is hereby created
2 a Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center, hereinafter referred to as PAC, which shall
3 be under the supervision and control of the Department of Agriculture.
4

5 **SEC. 5. Powers and Functions of the PAC.** – The PAC shall have the following powers
6 and functions:
7

- 8 a. Enhance, promote, and preserve the salt-making industry with the goal of
9 achieving self-sufficiency with respect to the country's annual salt requirements
10 and exportation of the same;
- 11 b. Enable salt farmers, particularly smallholders to avail themselves of state-of-
12 the-art salt-making equipment and technologies through an organized salt-
13 making innovation program;
- 14 c. Undertake training programs for salt makers, particularly smallholders,
15 designed to develop their capacities to undertake modern salt-making
16 techniques and operate modern salt-making equipment and technology.
- 17 d. Conduct research activities in all disciplines that lead to the improvement of
18 salt-making in the country;
- 19 e. Encourage coastal local government units to develop their own local salt-
20 making industries and contribute to the goal of meeting the country's annual
21 salt requirements; and
- 22 f. Enter into memoranda of agreement and received donations through the
23 Department of Agriculture from local and foreign sources. Upon the
24 recommendation of the PAC Advisory Board, the individual ASIN centers may
25 enter into agreements directly with funding agencies through their respective
26 board of regents or head of agency.
27

28 **SEC. 6. Priorities.** – The PAC shall give priority to the following activities:
29

- 30 a. Sustained increase in domestic salt production three (3) years after the
31 effectivity of this Act;
- 32 b. Development of effective salt –making strategies and techniques;
- 33 c. Socio-economic researches to ensure the viability and acceptance of technology
34 by salt makers;
- 35 d. Development of appropriate technologies that are cost-effective, simple, and
36 practical;
- 37 e. Enhancing salt farming capabilities of existing and potentially major salt-
38 making regions;
- 39 f. Coordinate with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and other
40 appropriate government agencies, to foster linkages between domestic and
41 international markets and salt makers to promote trade;
- 42 g. Coordinate with the Department of Science and Technology to develop
43 innovative salt-making techniques and technologies with emphasis on
44 preventing climate change from adversely affecting salt production;
- 45 h. Coordinate with the Department of Tourism to include and promote salt farms
46 in the farm tourism program of the department; and

- 1 i. Coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to
2 promote and develop a sustainable salt-making strategy.
3

4 **SEC. 7. PAC Advisory Board.** – The PAC Advisory Board shall be composed of the:
5

- 6 a. Secretary of Agriculture or his duly authorized representative, as Chairperson;
7 b. Undersecretary for Agri-Industrialization and for Fisheries, as Vice
8 Chairperson;
9 c. Secretary of Science and Technology or his duly authorized representative;
10 d. Secretary of Trade and Industry or his duly authorized representative;
11 e. Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources or his duly authorized
12 representative.
13 f. Presidents of the Pangasinan State University, Bulacan State University, Cavite
14 State University, and Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology
15 and the presidents of the state colleges or universities where an ASIN center
16 may be established pursuant to this Act;
17 g. Executive Director of the Philippine Council for Agriculture and Fisheries;
18 h. Executive Director of the PAC; and
19 i. Salt farmers' representative to be appointed by the Board.
20

21 **SEC. 8. Functions of the PAC Advisory Board.** – The PAC Advisory Board shall perform
22 the following functions:
23

- 24 a. Formulate policies, programs, and projects for the development of the salt-
25 making industry in the country;
26 b. Review and recommend the annual budget of the PAC;
27 c. Evaluate the implementation, efficiency, and effectiveness of the program and
28 projects of the PAC; and
29 d. Recommend the establishment or abolition of ASIN centers as may be deemed
30 necessary.
31

32 **SEC. 9. Executive Director of the PAC.** – The Executive Director of the PAC shall be
33 appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture. The Executive Director of the PAC shall perform the
34 following functions:
35

- 36 a. Oversee the implementation of the policies, programs, and projects of the PAC;
37 b. Assist the PAC Advisory Board in the review, evaluation, and monitoring of
38 the ASIN program; and
39 c. Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the PAC Board.
40

41 **SEC. 10. Appointment of Directors or Project Leaders of Other ASIN Centers.** – The
42 Directors or Project Leaders of the ASIN centers shall be appointed by the respective board of
43 regents or head of agency.
44

1 **SEC. 11. *Functions of the Directors or Project Leaders of Other ASIN Centers.*** - Subject
2 to the policies of the PAC, the Directors or Project Leaders of other ASIN centers shall perform
3 the following functions:
4

- 5 a. Administer the policies, program and projects of the PAC in their respective
6 centers;
7 b. Recommend the creation of divisions and sections including the staffing pattern
8 of the centers;
9 c. Prepare the budget of their centers;
10 d. Approve the expenditures of their respective budgets;
11 e. Recommend to their respective head of agency the appointment of personnel or
12 consultants;
13 f. Recommend policies, programs and projects to the Executive Director of the
14 PAC; and
15 g. Perform such other functions as may be assigned by the Executive Director of
16 the PAC.
17

18 **SEC. 12. *Implementation and Coordination of the Program.*** — The PAC Advisory
19 Board through the Executive Director shall coordinate, monitor and evaluate the implementation
20 of the ASIN Centers. It shall identify, through the Directors of ASIN centers and Project Leaders
21 from the various implementing stations, the programs and projects in the areas of production,
22 processing, and marketing of salt. It shall formulate strategies relative to increasing annual national
23 salt production. The centers shall be located in Pangasinan State University in Lingayen,
24 Pangasinan; Bulacan State University in Malolos, Bulacan; Cavite State University in Indang,
25 Cavite; and the Mindoro State College of Agriculture and Technology in Victoria, Oriental
26 Mindoro. These centers shall specialize in the development of salt farming strategies, techniques,
27 and requisite technologies to improve salt production with the goal of attaining self-sufficiency.
28

29 **SEC. 13. *Salt Farmers' Participation.*** — The salt farmer-participants shall be encouraged
30 to establish strong farmers associations or cooperatives to serve as focal point for government
31 assistance in the revival, development, and dissemination of technology on salt-farming.
32

33 **SEC. 14. *Participation of the Department of Agriculture and Local Government Units***
34 **(*LGUs*).** — The ASIN centers, the regional and provincial offices of the Department of Agriculture
35 and the local government units where salt farming is viable shall implement a salt farming
36 development program within their respective areas in accordance with the national policy and
37 program of the PAC.
38

39 **SEC. 15. *Use of Funds.*** — Not more than thirty percent (30%) of funds allocated under this
40 Act and in subsequent annual appropriations shall be used for personal services, and maintenance
41 and operating expenses, fifteen percent (15%) for research and development, and fifty-five percent
42 (55%) for salt farmers' assistance, training, technology transfers, and other such activities,
43 programs, and projects necessary to improve the salt industry pursuant to the provisions of this
44 Act.
45

1 **SEC. 16. *Annual Report.*** – The PAC submit an annual report to the Office of the President,
2 the Senate, and the House of Representatives indicating among others recommendations to further
3 improve salt production.
4

5 **SEC. 17. *Transfer of Salt Farming Programs to the PAC.*** — Upon approval of this Act,
6 any existing salt farming programs and projects implemented by various agencies shall be
7 transferred to the PAC.
8

9 **SEC. 18. *Sunset Review.*** – Within six (6) years after the effectivity of this Act, or as the
10 need arises, the appropriate committees from the Senate and the House of Representatives shall
11 jointly conduct a sunset review. This review shall take into account the accomplishments and
12 impact of this Act, as well as the performance and organizational structure of its implementing
13 agencies, for purposes of determining remedial legislation.
14

15 **SEC. 19. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act
16 shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law
17 and thereafter.
18

19 **SEC. 20. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts
20 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly:
21 Provided; however, That nothing in this Act shall amend, modify or repeal the provisions of
22 Republic Act No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code.

23 **SEC. 21. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or
24 unconstitutional, the other parts not otherwise affected shall remain in full effect and force.

25 **SEC. 22. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its
26 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5676



Introduced by Representative Wilbert T. Lee

**AN ACT
DEFINING SALT AS AN AQUATIC RESOURCE AND ESTABLISHING A
COMPREHENSIVE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998," AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Art. XII, Section 1, provides:

The goals of the national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth; a sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged.

The State shall promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform, through industries that make full of efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. However, the State shall protect Filipino enterprises against unfair foreign competition and trade practices.

In the pursuit of these goals, all sectors of the economy and all regions of the country shall be given optimum opportunity to develop. Private enterprises, including corporations, cooperatives, and similar collective organizations, shall be encouraged to broaden the base of their ownership.

It has recently been revealed by the Department of Agriculture that more than ninety percent (90%) of salt for consumption and/or industrial use is imported. This irony and national dilemma confront us considering that we are an archipelago surrounded by saltwater.

There are several reasons for this. First is that many of our coasts have become unfit for salt farming due to pollution, coastal erosion, or other environmental or climate change-


related reasons. Second is that many of our coasts were developed for tourism or other commercial purposes. Finally, there is no holistic government initiative or program to address the pressing and long-standing concerns of the salt industry. As such, there is also a lack of incentive mechanisms for investors to enter and invest in our local salt-production industry.

To say that salt is essential to our economy is an extreme understatement. It is used in all households and in many industries including our agricultural and manufacturing sectors. If we continue to import salt, our economy will be at the mercy of foreign salt producers and the fluctuations of foreign currency exchange rates. By developing our local salt production industry, we would be able to provide jobs for Filipinos, especially in fishing communities, and even become exporters ourselves which will provide additional revenue to our economy.

This bill recognizes salt as an aquatic resource. As such, it is integrated into the core function of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources. This representation humbly introduces reforms relating to the protection and development of aquatic resources to the salt industry taking into consideration the pressing challenges they face that continue to be detrimental to their industry. We also included a clear mandate to the existing government agencies to aggressively identify Potential Salt Production Areas (SPAs) to increase our local production and come up with incentives for investors in the industry.

Given its current status, Salt as an aquatic resource shall be given utmost focus but shall capitalize on the existing mandates and policies such as Republic Act 8172, otherwise known as the Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN LAW), which does not require a separate council or bureau for the development of the salt industry. Therefore, this measure provides for the establishment of the Philippine Salt Industry Development Task Force which shall be responsible for the formulation and implementation of the Philippine Salt Industry Development Roadmap which shall guide the development and protection of our local salt production industry.

In view of the foregoing, the swift approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



HON. WILBERT T. LEE
Representative
AGRI PARTYLIST

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5676

Introduced by Representative Wilbert T. Lee

AN ACT
DEFINING SALT AS AN AQUATIC RESOURCE AND ESTABLISHING A
COMPREHENSIVE SALT INDUSTRY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8550, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS "THE PHILIPPINE FISHERIES CODE OF 1998," AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Salt Industry
2 Development Act."

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy:** It is hereby declared the policy of the State to promote
4 and support industries that provide food security, health and nutrition, create and generate
5 employment, reduce poverty, promote agricultural development, environmental sustainability
6 and promote inclusive growth.

7 Towards this end, salt is hereby declared as an aquatic resource. Accordingly, State
8 policies geared toward the protection of fisheries and other aquatic resources are extended to
9 cover the salt resources and its production industry.

1 **SEC. 3. Objectives.** This Act aims to make the Philippine salt industry sufficient for
2 and competitive in local and international markets while providing opportunities for local
3 employment and establishing salt-based community enterprises by:

- 4 a. Promoting the integrated and holistic development of the salt industry in
5 various aspects of production, processing, marketing, consumption, capacity
6 building, research and development, modernization and regulation;
- 7 b. Ensuring that the salt industry has sufficient identified production areas
8 through the use of technology;
- 9 c. Ensuring cooperation with various government agencies, private entities and
10 other relevant sources, to aid in the development of the industry;
- 11 d. Promoting investments in salt farming by providing substantial and attractive
12 incentives to investors;
- 13 e. Providing skilled labor and manpower through continuous relevant capacity
14 building;
- 15 f. Ensuring the provision of locally manufactured machines with improved
16 capacity, efficiency, and quality at competitive costs; and,
- 17 g. Providing access to markets of local salt locally and internationally through
18 aggressive trade promotions;

19 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** As used in this Act, the following terms are defined, as
20 follows:

- 21 a. *Artisanal Sea Salt* refers to unrefined sea salt, derived directly from a living
22 sea or ocean, harvested and cooked through a natural evaporation process; it
23 retains natural traces of minerals depending on the source and the manner of
24 production, which is solar evaporation, cooked or smoked.
- 25 b. *Food fortification* refers to the addition of nutrients to process food at levels
26 above the natural state.
- 27 c. *Iodized salt* refers to salt artificially spray-coated with iodine.
- 28 d. *Large-scale Salt Farm/operator/producer* refers to:
 - 29 i) An individual owner or leasehold of a salt farm that is more than
30 fifty (50) but not more than five hundred (500) hectares.
 - 31 ii) An association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a
32 leaseholder of a salt farm that is more than fifty (50) but not more
33 than 1,000 hectares.

- 1 e. *Medium-scale Salt Farmer/Operator/Producer* refers to an individual,
2 association, cooperative, or corporation that owns, or is a leaseholder of, more
3 than three (3) hectares but more than fifty (50) hectares of salt farms.
- 4 f. *Philippine sea salt* refers to salt produced from the evaporation of sea water,
5 brine, or concentrated brine, in any salt farm or refinery within the Philippines.
- 6 g. *Salt Farm* refers to areas of land, shorelines, or coastal areas, including its
7 buildings, machineries, and equipment used in salt production.
- 8 h. *Salt Producer* refers to an individual, corporation, cooperative, or association
9 involved in the production of sea salt.
- 10 i. *Salt Technology Demonstration Center* refers to training facilities where salt
11 farming, harvesting, cooking and packaging are done for the purpose of
12 conducting hands-on training, skills enhancement, and capacity-building.
- 13 j. *Small-scale salt farmer/operator/producer* refers to an individual, association,
14 cooperative, or corporation that owns, or is a leaseholder of, a salt farm of not
15 more than three (3) hectares.

16 **SEC. 5. Salt as Aquatic Resource.** For purposes of this Act, the following provisions
17 of Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998," are
18 hereby amended to read as follows:

- 19 a. Section 4 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 "SEC 4. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Code, the phrases
21 shall mean as follows:

22 XXX

23 11. *Commercial Scale* - A scheme of producing a minimum
24 amount per year of **SALT OR HARVEST OF** milkfish or other
25 species including those raised in pens, cages, and tanks to be
26 determined by the Department in consultation with the
27 concerned sectors.

28 XXX

29 22. Fish and Fishery Aquatic Products - include not only finfish
30 but also mollusk, crustaceans, echinoderms, marine mammals,
31 and all other species of aquatic flora and fauna and all other
32 products of aquatic living resources in any form, **AND SALT.**

33 XXX

1 28. Fisherfolk - people directly or personally and physically
2 engaged in taking and/or culturing and processing fishery and
3 aquatic resources **INCLUDING SEA SALT PRODUCED BY**
4 **SALT FARMERS.**

5 XXX

6 32. Fishpond - a land-based facility enclosed with earthen or
7 stone material to impound water for growing fish **AND/OR**
8 **PRODUCING SALT.**

9
10 XXX

11
12 47. Fully developed Fishpond Area - a clean leveled area
13 enclosed by dikes, at least one foot higher than the highest
14 floodwater level in the locality and strong enough to resist
15 pressure at the highest flood tide; consist of at least a nursery, a
16 transition pond, a rearing pond, **RESERVOIR POND,**
17 **EVAPORATING POND, SALT CRYSTALIZER POND,** or
18 a combination of any or all said classes of ponds, and a
19 functional water control system and producing in a commercial
20 scale."

21 b. Section 46 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 "SEC. 46. Lease of Fishponds/**FISHPOND WITH SALT**
23 **FARMS** - Fishpond leased to qualified persons and fisherfolk
24 organizations/cooperatives shall be subject to the following
25 conditions:

26 xxx"

27 (c) Section 54 is hereby amended to read as follows:

28 "SEC. 54. Insurance for Fishponds, **FISHPONDS WITH**
29 **SALT FARMS,** Fish Cages, and Fish Pens - Inland Fishponds,
30 **INLAND FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS,** Fish Cages,
31 Fish Pens shall be covered under the insurance program of the
32 Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation for the losses caused by
33 force majeure and fortuitous events."

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SEC. 6. *Philippine Salt Industry Development Roadmap (PSIDR).* For the attainment of the objectives of this Act, there shall be formulated and established a Philippine Salt Industry Development Roadmap (Roadmap), which shall include, but not be limited to, programs, projects and interventions for the development and management, research, processing, utilization, modernization business development, and commercialization of Philippine salt. The Roadmap shall include the following objectives, among others:

- a. Identify existing challenges faced by the industry and draw possible interventions;
- b. Expand the number of salt-producing areas;
- c. Ensure the sustainable production, management and harvesting, and soil and water conservation practices in these areas;
- d. Encourage salt farming;
- e. Ensure the sustainability and viability of the salt industry;
- f. Promote investments in the salt industry development programs;
- g. Advance market access for Philippine salt products locally and internationally;
- h. Extend technical and financial assistance for the development, processing, commercialization and marketing of Philippine salt products;
- i. Require that locally-produced salt be used in the fertilization of coconut farms by the Philippine Coconut Authority;
- j. Develop and distinguish category of salt areas into artisan salt production areas, as gourmet salt producing areas, iodized salt producing areas, salt eco-tourism sites, etc.;
- k. Address environmental and climate-change related concerns affecting the salt-production industry;
- l. Introduction of the new technology based on robust research and development (R&D) activities;
- m. Provide continuous training and capacity building in the salt industry development; and
- n. Provide technical and financial assistance in the local design and fabrication of high-capacity processing equipment and machineries for the salt industry.

SEC. 7. *Creation of the Philippine Salt Industry Development Task Force (PSIDTF).* To ensure the unified and integrated implementation of the PSIDR and accelerate the

1 modernization and industrialization of the Philippine Salt industry, a Philippine Salt Industry
2 Development Task Force (PSIDTF) is hereby created with the following composition:

- 3 a. Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as Chairperson;
- 4 b. Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), as Co-Chairperson;
- 5 c. Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), as Co-
6 Chairperson;
- 7 d. Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR), as
8 Vice Chairperson;
- 9 e. Secretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG);
- 10 f. Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH);
- 11 g. Secretary of the Department of Tourism (DOT);
- 12 h. The CEO of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP);
- 13 i. One representative each from the League of Provinces of the Philippines,
14 League of Cities of the Philippines and League of Municipalities of the
15 Philippines;
- 16 j. One (1) representative each from salt farmers, salt manufacturers, and salt
17 process associations;
- 18 k. One (1) representative from the private sector is involved in a business
19 belonging to the salt industry.

20 **SEC. 8. Powers and Functions of the Task Force.** The Task Force shall have the
21 following powers and functions:

- 22 a. Formulate the Philippine Salt Industry Development Roadmap containing the
23 short-term, medium term and long-term development plan covering a period
24 of five (5) years;
- 25 b. Identify specific and priority programs and projects in support of, and in line
26 with, the Roadmap;
- 27 c. Determine Potential Salt Production Areas (SPA)
- 28 d. Identify sources of financing and facilitate credit windows with government
29 banks and the ACPC to expand the salt industry development;
- 30 e. Increase production of local salt by increasing land area devoted to salt and
31 improving farm productivity;
- 32 f. Institutionalize capacity building for salt farmers through the Agricultural
33 Training Institute;

- 1 g. Strengthen market linkage and promotion of Philippine salt;
- 2 h. Conduct continuing research and development on innovation and
- 3 modernization of the salt industry, including postharvest technologies and the
- 4 establishment of laboratory centers for iodization for food grade salt;
- 5 i. Establish Agri-insurance Program for Salt producers;
- 6 j. Coordinate with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources
- 7 (DENR) and the Climate Change Commission (CCC) on programs to protect
- 8 salt-producing areas and coastlines;
- 9 k. Submit annual reports, not later than June 30 of each year, to the Office of the
- 10 President and to each House of Congress on the status of the implementation
- 11 of the Roadmap and the salt industry development in the country;
- 12 l. Recommend to the Department of Budget and Management the required
- 13 yearly appropriations for the plan and implementation of the salt development
- 14 programs; and
- 15 m. Promulgate such rules and regulations and exercise such other powers and
- 16 functions as may be necessary to carry out the objectives of this Act.

17 **SEC. 9. *Philippine Salt Industry Development Task Force Project Management***
18 ***Office (PSIDTF-PMO).*** A Project Management Office (PMO) is hereby created which shall
19 be headed by the Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR), to
20 oversee the overall implementation of the PSIDR. The PMO will serve as the Secretariat to
21 prepare coordinate, consolidate reports and monitor the implementation of the policies,
22 program and project of the PSIDTF.
23

24 **SEC. 10. *Identification, and Declaration of Potential Salt Production Areas (SPAs).***
25 The PSIDTF shall identify areas suitable for salt production areas within public domain, and
26 areas with natural/rock salt deposits. A report shall be published by the Task Force for
27 declaration of the DA Secretary as SPAs. The DA-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic
28 Resources (DA-BFAR) shall facilitate the prompt registration of salt farms identified by the
29 PSIDTF as well as assist in the design, construction, and development of small-scale
30 artisanal salt farms, either on its own or through partnership with the private sector, while the
31 DOST shall provide the necessary technology in the construction of large-scale salt farms
32 employing modern technologies to increase production efficiency and environmentally-sound
33 practices.

1 Whenever applicable and necessary, the DENR shall promptly act on the processing
2 and issuance of permits and clearances, such as Environmental Compliance Certificates, prior
3 to the construction of salt farms to ensure that such projects will not cause a significant
4 negative impact on the environment. For purposes of eligibility and priority for the lease of
5 the newly-constructed salt farms, the DA-BFAR shall promulgate criteria in the expeditious
6 approval of SPAs, taking into consideration priority to small salt farmers and artisanal salt
7 farmers.

8 **SEC. 11. *Fishpond Lease Agreements to Include Salt Production.*** Fishpond Lease
9 Agreements (FLAs) shall automatically include salt farming or production as among the valid
10 activities that may be undertaken by the leaseholder. FLA holders who intend to venture into
11 salt farming shall be given the same support, training, and financing given to salt farmers, as
12 provided under this Act.

13 **SEC 12. *Funding for the Development of Salt Farms, Lease of Government***
14 ***Developed Salt Farms, and Equipment.*** – The DA-BFAR, in consultation with individuals,
15 corporations, associations, and cooperatives from the salt industry, will allocate and provide
16 funding and technical support needed for the maintenance, repair, and upgrading of existing
17 salt farms and newly constructed government-funded salt projects. The funds will cover
18 materials, dike and canal repairs, equipment, and other items specified by industry
19 stakeholders, ensuring the continued productivity and competitiveness of the salt industry.
20 Government financial institutions such as but not limited to, the Land Bank of the Philippines
21 (LBP) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), shall extend financial assistance
22 to viable projects of eligible and credit-worthy salt farmers, cooperatives and micro, small,
23 and medium enterprises (MSMEs) for the development, operation, and improvement of salt
24 farms, lease of government-developed salt farms, and purchase of salt farming equipment.

25 **SEC. 13. *Exemption of exported salt and salt sold in local gourmet outlets from***
26 ***mandatory iodization.*** Philippine sea salt exported to other countries, those to be sold to local
27 gourmet outlets, and those to be used for other commercial applications not related to food
28 fortification such as, but not limited to, water treatment, feeds, and chemical processing, shall
29 be exempt from mandatory iodization provided under the provisions of Republic Act No.
30 8172 or ASIN Law. Food manufacturers, restaurants and chefs may also be exempted in the
31 mandatory use of iodized salt on their specific products under guidelines to be issued by the
32 FDA when the taste or quality of the product will be significantly altered with the use of
33 iodized salt.

1 **SEC. 14. *Capacity Development for Salt Farmers.*** – The DA, together with the
2 DOST, DTI , FDA, and TESDA, shall provide complementary training programs to develop
3 and enhance the skills and competencies of Philippine salt farmers and producers and
4 agriprenuers. to ensure product traceability and compliance to food safety. technology
5 acquisition including product labelling and packaging. conduct continuous training on market
6 positioning for Philippine artisanal/specialty and industrial salts and such other skills
7 necessary in the maintenance and development of the local salt industry. These agencies shall
8 also assist the farmers to be able to effectively comply with the requirements of Republic Act
9 No. 8172. otherwise known as “An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN)”.

10 **SEC. 15. *Promotion of non-traditional salt farming methodologies and techniques.***
11 The PSIDTF is mandated to also promote alternative methods and techniques of salt farming
12 available that allow year-round production of salt even under erratic weather patterns.

13 The introduction of the new technology will be preceded by research and
14 development (R&D) activities. spearheaded by the Department of Agriculture- National
15 Fisheries Research and Development Institute (DA-NFRDI). in close coordination with the
16 DOST, proposed to the PSIDTF .

17 **SEC. 16. *Research and Development (RND).*** – The DA-NFRDI shall conduct
18 research, either on its own or in collaboration with SUCs. to enhance the technological
19 development. provide applicable policy direction, and develop innovative project-based
20 interventions that may be adopted and implemented to achieve the objectives of this Act. The
21 DA shall collaborate with DOST and DTI to provide a common fund and financial resources
22 to the cooperatives and local enterprises for this purpose. SUCs shall also be awarded
23 funding, grants, and subsidies to engage in research and development, extension training, and
24 other related activities to upgrade the salt industry.

25 **SEC. 17. *Role of the Local Government Units.*** Local Government Units (LGUs) in
26 cooperation with the DA-NFRDI . DENR, DTI and the DOST-FPRDI. and in consultation
27 with the DA and BFAR shall identify appropriate areas for local salt production in their
28 respective localities.

29 **SEC. 18. *Establishment of Provincial, City and Municipal Salt Industry Development***
30 ***Task Force and Salt Industry Development Programs.*** LGUs shall, as far as practicable,
31 establish their respective Salt Industry Development Task Force. LGUs shall regularly
32 conduct a survey of existing salt farms and salt enterprises in their respective localities.

33 Each local Salt Industry Development Task Force shall conduct a survey of existing
34 salt processing enterprises that are operating in the locality.

1 **SEC. 19. *Provision of Incentives to Investors involved in the Salt Development.*** The
2 following incentives shall be provided to investors in salt farms development and salt
3 processing facilities:

- 4 a. The Board of Investments shall classify salt farms as preferred areas of
5 investment under its Investment Priorities Plan (IPP) subject to pertinent rules
6 and regulations;
- 7 b. Salt farm owners, and processors and other related businesses shall be exempt
8 from the payment of import duties for imported machines and equipment
9 subject to pertinent rules and regulations;
- 10 c. Salt farm owners in public lands shall be exempt from the payment of forest
11 charges that may be imposed by the national government and other fees or
12 taxes imposed by LGUs;
- 13 d. The salt farmers and processors shall be given priority to access credit
14 assistance and guarantee schemes being granted by GFIs; and
- 15 e. Salt farm development and their equipment shall be covered by the Philippine
16 Crop Insurance Corporation.

17 **SEC. 20. *Control Measures.*** Under existing food and safety protocols and policies,
18 the BFAR shall continue to implement measures ensuring compliance of salt farmers with
19 food safety laws and guidelines intended for human and animal consumption. Provided that,
20 salt which are not intended for food consumption shall not be subjected to food safety laws
21 and guidelines;

22 The BFAR Regional Offices shall ensure that pure, un-iodized salt shall be issued the
23 necessary transport permits and certification documents for the purposes it is intended.

24 **SEC. 21. *Human Resources Development.*** All stakeholders in the salt industry shall
25 contribute to the development of a sustainable human resource for the industry. Towards this
26 end, the DOLE, in collaboration with the duly recognized salt associations and salt
27 cooperatives, the Commission on Higher Education, the TESDA, the Professional Regulation
28 Commission (PRC) and the private sector, shall formulate and implement a Human
29 Resources Development (HRD) Master Plan for the salt industry which shall include, but not
30 limited to, the following: a) Capacity building, skills trainings, institutional strengthening of
31 the salt farm workers, salt farmers and their organizations to actively contribute in
32 productivity and competitiveness; b) Scholarship program for the underprivileged but
33 deserving college and post-graduate students who are taking up courses in relevant fields of

1 discipline in SUCs which have programs in agriculture, agricultural engineering and
2 mechanics, and chemical engineering/salt technology; and for vocational courses and skills
3 development for farmers and farm technicians, and skilled workers in salt farms; and c)
4 Conduct of capability training or attendance to local or international trainings and seminars
5 by salt farmers and workers.

6 **SEC. 22. Appropriations.** An amount of One Billion Pesos (P1,000,000,000) is
7 hereby allotted for this purpose of Research and Development especially on salt production
8 technology the first 3 years of implementation of this Act. The amount necessary for the
9 implementation of the other aspects of the PSIDR and this Act shall be charged to the
10 appropriations of the agencies concerned as may be appropriated, under the current General
11 Appropriations Act.

12 A Salt Development Fund shall be created and funded from the tariffs on salt imports.
13 This fund shall be used to partially fund the identification, construction, and development of
14 government-funded salt farms as specified in this Act.

15 **SEC. 23. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** Within sixty (60) days from the
16 effectivity of this Act, The DA, the DOST and the DTI, in consultation with the members of
17 the Task Force and other relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the necessary rules and
18 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

19 **SEC. 24. Separability Clause.** Should any provision herein be declared
20 unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of
21 this Act.

22 **SEC. 25. Congressional Oversight.** The Congressional Oversight Committee on
23 Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization (COCAFAM) shall see to the full implementation of
24 this Act.

25 **SEC. 26. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other
26 issuances or parts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
27 accordingly.

28 **SEC. 27. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
29 publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

30 Approved,

**MATRIX
PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ACT**

| | HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo | HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr. | HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee | Remarks |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|---------|
| | An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes | An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes | An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes | |
| Short Title | Section 1. This Act shall be known as the "Philippine Salt Industry Development Act". | Section 1. This act shall be known as the "ADVANCED SALT INNOVATION ACT" | Same as HB 1976 | |
| Declaration of Policy | Sec.2. It is the policy of the State to promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. For this purpose, the State shall provide support through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services to revitalize the salt industry, attain increased income for salt farmers and salt producers, achieve salt self-sufficiency, and become a net exporter of salt. | Sec. 2 THE CONSTITUTION PROVIDES THAT THE STATE SHALL DEVELOP A SELF-RELIANT AND INDEPENDENT NATIONAL ECONOMY EFFECTIVELY CONTROLLED BY FILIPINOS. IT ALSO PROVIDES THAT THE STATE SHALL SUPPORT INDIGENOUS, APPROPRIATE, AND SELF-RELIANT SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL CAPABILITIES, AND THEIR APPLICATION TO THE COUNTRY'S PRODUCTIVE SYSTEMS AND NATIONAL LIFE. TOWARDS THIS END, THE STATE SHALL ESTABLISH VARIOUS PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE, PROMOTE, AND PRESERVE THE SALT-MAKING INDUSTRY IN THE PHILIPPINES. | SEC. 2. IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO PROMOTE AND SUPPORT INDUSTRIES THAT PROVIDE FOOD SECURITY, HEALTH AND NUTRITION, CREATE AND GENERATE EMPLOYMENT, REDUCE POVERTY, PROMOTE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PROMOTE INCLUSIVE GROWTH. TOWARDS THIS END, SALT IS HEREBY DECLARED AS AN AQUATIC RESOURCE. ACCORDINGLY, STATE POLICIES GEARED TOWARD THE PROTECTION OF FISHERIES AND OTHER AQUATIC RESOURCES ARE EXTENDED TO COVER THE SALT RESOURCES AND ITS PRODUCTION INDUSTRY. | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| <p>OBJECTIVES</p> | | | <p>SEC. 3. OBJECTIVES. THIS ACT AIMS TO MAKE THE PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY SUFFICIENT FOR AND COMPETITIVE IN LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS WHILE PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND ESTABLISHING SALT-BASED COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES BY:</p> <p>A. PROMOTING THE INTEGRATED AND HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE SALT INDUSTRY IN VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, MARKETING, CONSUMPTION, CAPACITY BUILDING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, MODERNIZATION AND REGULATION;</p> <p>B. ENSURING THAT THE SALT INDUSTRY HAS SUFFICIENT IDENTIFIED PRODUCTION AREAS THROUGH THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY;</p> <p>C. ENSURING COOPERATION WITH VARIOUS GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PRIVATE ENTITIES AND OTHER RELEVANT SOURCES, TO AID IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | | <p>INDUSTRY; D. PROMOTING INVESTMENTS IN SALT FARMING BY PROVIDING SUBSTANTIAL AND ATTRACTIVE INCENTIVES TO INVESTORS; E. PROVIDING SKILLED LABOR AND MANPOWER THROUGH CONTINUOUS RELEVANT CAPACITY BUILDING; F. ENSURING THE PROVISION OF LOCALLY MANUFACTURED MACHINES WITH IMPROVED CAPACITY, EFFICIENCY, AND QUALITY AT COMPETITIVE COSTS; AND, G. PROVIDING ACCESS TO MARKETS OF LOCAL SALT LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY THROUGH AGGRESSIVE TRADE PROMOTIONS.</p> | |
| Definition of Terms | <p>I. DEFINITION OF TERMS</p> <p>Sec. 3 For the purposes of this Act, the following terms are hereby defined as follows:</p> <p>a) Artisanal Sea Salt refers to unrefined sea salt, derived directly from a living sea or ocean, harvested and cooked through natural evaporation processes;</p> | <p>Sec. 3 For the purposes of this Act, the following terms SHALL MEAN:</p> | <p>Artisanal Sea Salt refers to unrefined sea salt, derived directly from a living sea or ocean, harvested and cooked through natural evaporation processes; it retains</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>it retains natural traces of minerals depending on the source and the manner of production is solar-evaporated, evaporated, cooked or smoked. Local artisanal salts include Duldul from Guimaras, Asin-Tibuok from Bohol, Sugpo Asin from Pangasinan.</p> | | <p>natural traces of minerals depending on the source and the manner of production is solar-evaporated, evaporated, cooked or smoked.</p> | |
| | <p>b) Association refers to a group of individuals or companies involved in common activities or endeavor towards the development of the salt industry.</p> | | | |
| | <p>c) Cooperative refers to a cooperative engaged in salt production</p> | | | |
| | <p>d) Fleur de Sel also known as "flower of salt", refers to a rare, delicate and highest standard of finishing salt given its aroma and profile, and is often referred to as the caviar of salts by chefs worldwide.</p> | | | |
| | <p>e) Food fortification refers to the addition of nutrients to processed food at levels above the natural state.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>f) Gourmet dish refers to food or drink that takes extra care to make or acquire, found or made only in certain locations, and ingredients of which may be unusual, hard to find in regular grocery stores, only available in limited amounts, rarely exported outside of</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>their place of origin, or available only for short times of the year.</p> | | | |
| | <p>g) Iodized Salt refers to salt artificially spray-coated with iodine</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>h) Large-scale Salt Farmer/ Operator/Producer shall refer to:</p> <p>(1) An individual owner or leaseholder of a salt farm that is more than fifty (50) but not more than five hundred (500) hectares; or</p> <p>(2) An association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a leaseholder of a salt farm that is more than fifty (50) but not more than one thousand (1,000) hectares.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>i) Local gourmet outlet refers to a store, grocery or supermarket located in the Philippines that stocks and sells high-quality, unique, or hard-to-find ingredients needed to prepare gourmet dishes.</p> | | | |
| | <p>j) Medium-scale Salt Farmer/ Operator/ Producer shall refer to an individual, association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a leaseholder of more than three (3) hectares but not more than fifty (50) hectares of salt farms.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>k) Philippine sea salt refers to salt</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>produced from the evaporation of seawater, brine, or concentrated brine in any salt farm or refinery within the Philippines.</p> | | | |
| | <p>l) Salt Farm refers to areas of land, shorelines, or coastal areas, including its buildings, machineries, and equipment used for salt production.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>m) Salt Producer refers to an individual, corporation, cooperative, or association involved in the production of sea salt.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>n) Salt Project refers to the construction, development, maintenance, and improvement of salt farms.</p> | | | |
| | <p>o) Salt Technology Demonstration Centers refers to training facilities where salt farming, harvesting, cooking and packaging is done for purposes of conducting hands-on training, skills enhancement, and capacity-building.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>p) Small-scale salt farmer/operator/producer refers to an individual, association, cooperative or corporation that owns or is a leaseholder of a salt farm of not more three (3) hectares.</p> | <p>B. SMALLHOLDER/SHALL REFERTO SALTMAKERS PRODUCING SALT FROM NO MORE THAN FIVE (5) HECTARES OF SALT BEDS/SALT FLATS.</p> | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>q) Strategic Agri/ Fisheries Enterprise (SAFE) Innovation Hubs and Technology Business Incubators refers to a brick-and-mortar or physical</p> | <p>A. PHILIPPINE ADVANCED SALT INNOVATION CENTER (PAC) OR AS IN CENTERS SHALL</p> | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>presence of an organization or business facilitation service, other than infrastructure and offers products and services to its customers face-to-face in an office, or through off-wall services provided to entrepreneurs including but not limited to administrative/ technical services, market facilitation and business linkages, initial seed funds and access to growth capital, lab facilities, and testing services to ensure compliance to accepted product/service standards.</p> | <p>REFER TO THE ADVANCED SALT INNOVATION (ASIN) CENTER TO BE ESTABLISHED IN THE UNIVERSITY OF PANGASINAN IN LINGAYEN, PANGASINAN; BULACAN STATE UNIVERSITY IN MALOLOS, BULACAN; CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY IN INDANG, CAVITE; AND THE MINDORO STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN VICTORIA, ORIENTAL MINDORO AMONG OTHER PROSPECTIVE AREAS IN CENSUSES THAT SHALL BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.</p> | | |
| <p>Salt as Aquatic Resource</p> | <p>Sec. 4 For purposes of this Act, the following provisions of Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998," are hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>(a) Section 4 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> <p>SEC. 4. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Code, the following terms and phrases shall mean as follows:</p> <p>11. Commercial Scale – A scheme of producing a minimum amount per year of SALT or harvest of Milkfish or other</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> <p>Same as HB 1976</p> <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>species including those raised in pens, cages, and tanks to be determined by the Department in consultation with the concerned sectors;</p> | | | |
| | <p>22. Fish and Fishery Aquatic Products – include not only finfish but also mollusks, crustaceans, echinoderms, marine, mammals, and all other species of aquatic flora and fauna and all other products of aquatic living resources in any form, AND SALT.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>28. Fisherfolk – people directly or personally and physically engaged in taking and/or culturing and processing fishery and aquatic resources INCLUDING SEA SALT PRODUCED BY SALT FARMERS. According to House Resolution 1032 and 1046.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>32. Fishpond – a land-based facility enclosed with earthen or stone material to impound water for growing fish AND/OR PRODUCING SALT.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>47. Fully developed Fishpond Area – a clean leveled area enclosed by dikes, at least one foot higher than the highest floodwater level in the locality and strong enough to resist pressure at the highest flood tide; consists of at least a nursery, a transition pond, a rearing pond, RESERVOIR POND,</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>EVAPORATING POND, SALT CRYSTALIZER POND, or a combination of any or all said classes of ponds, and a functional water control system and producing in a commercial scale.</p> | | | |
| | <p>(b) Section 46 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>SEC. 46. Lease of Fishponds / "FISHPOND WITH SALT FARMS" – Fishpond leased to qualified persons and fisherfolk organizations/ cooperatives shall be subject to the following conditions... x x x</p> <p>a. Areas leased for Fishpond with Salt Farms shall be subject to Section 3 (h), 3 (j), 3 (p)</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>(c) Section 54 is hereby amended to read as follows:</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |
| | <p>SEC. 54. Insurance for Fishponds, "FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS", Fish Cages, and Fish Pens – Inland Fishponds, INLAND FISHPONDS WITH SALT FARMS, Fish Cages, Fish Pens shall be covered under the insurance program of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation for losses caused by force majeure and fortuitous events.</p> | | <p>Same as HB 1976</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| <p>FORMULATION OF PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP (PSIDR)</p> | | | <p>SEC. 6. PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP (PSIDR). FOR THE ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT, THERE SHALL BE FORMULATED AND ESTABLISHED A PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP (ROADMAP), WHICH SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO, PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND INTERVENTIONS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT, RESEARCH, PROCESSING, UTILIZATION, MODERNIZATION BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF PHILIPPINE SALT. THE ROADMAP SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES, AMONG OTHERS:</p> <p>A. IDENTIFY EXISTING CHALLENGES FACED BY THE INDUSTRY AND DRAW POSSIBLE INTERVENTIONS;</p> <p>B. EXPAND THE NUMBER OF SALT-PRODUCING AREAS;</p> <p>C. ENSURE THE SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION, MANAGEMENT AND HARVESTING, AND SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES IN THESE AREAS;</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | | <p>D. ENCOURAGE SALT FARMING; E. ENSURE THE SUSTAINABILITY AND VIABILITY OF THE SALT INDUSTRY; F. PROMOTE INVESTMENTS IN THE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS; G. ADVANCE MARKET ACCESS FOR PHILIPPINE SALT PRODUCTS LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY; H. EXTEND TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, PROCESSING, COMMERCIALIZATION AND MARKETING OF PHILIPPINE SALT PRODUCTS; I. REQUIRE THAT LOCALLY-PRODUCED SALT BE USED IN THE FERTILIZATION OF COCONUT FARMS BY THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT AUTHORITY; J. DEVELOP AND DISTINGUISH CATEGORY OF SALT AREAS INTO ARTISAN SALT PRODUCTION AREAS, AS GOURMET SALT PRODUCING AREAS, IODIZED SALT PRODUCING AREAS, SALT ECO-TOURISM SITES, ETC.; K. ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE-CHANGE RELATED CONCERNS AFFECTING THE SALT-</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | | <p>PRODUCTION INDUSTRY; L. INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGY BASED ON ROBUST RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D) ACTIVITIES; M. PROVIDE CONTINUOUS TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING IN THE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT; AND N. PROVIDE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE IN THE LOCAL DESIGN AND FABRICATION OF HIGH-CAPACITY PROCESSING EQUIPMENT AND MACHINERIES FOR THE SALT INDUSTRY.</p> | |
| <p><i>Creation of Administration for Salt Industry Development, Revitalization and Optimization (ASInDeRO) and Mandate.</i></p> | <p>II. SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM</p> <p>Sec. 5 There is hereby created the Administration for Salt Industry Development, Revitalization and Optimization (ASInDeRO) which shall be mandated to ensure that the objectives of this Act are realized. It shall be composed of the following:</p> | <p>SEC.4.ESTABLISHMENT OFTHEPHILIPPINE CENTER(PAC).- ASIN THEREISHEREBYCREATEDAPHILIPPINEADVANCEDSALTINNOVATION(ASIN) CENTER,HEREINAFTERREFERREDTO ASPAC,WHICHSHALLBEUNDERTHE SUPERVISIONANDCONTROLOFTHEDEPARTMENTOFAGRICULTURE.</p> | <p>SEC. 7. CREATION OF THE PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE (PSIDTF). TO ENSURE THE UNIFIED AND INTEGRATED IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSIDR AND ACCELERATE THE MODERNIZATION AND INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY, A PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE (PSIDTF) IS HEREBY CREATED WITH THE FOLLOWING COMPOSITION:</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>(a) Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA) as Chair;</p> <p>(b) Secretary of the Trade and Industry as Co-Chair;</p> <p>(c) Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) as Vice-Chair</p> <p>Members:</p> <p>(d) Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Secretary or representative;</p> <p>(e) Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary or representative;</p> <p>(f) Department of Health Secretary or representative;</p> <p>(g) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary or</p> | <p>SEC.7.PAC ADVISORYBOARD.- THEPAC ADVISORYBOARD SHALLBECOMPOSEDOFTHE:</p> <p>SecretaryofAgricultureor hisdulyauthorized representative, asChairperson;</p> <p>SecretaryofTradeandIndustry hisdulyauthorizedrepresentative; or</p> <p>SecretaryofScienceandTechnologyorhisdu lyauthorizedrepresentative;</p> <p>SecretaryofEnvironmentandNaturalResour cesorhisdulyauthorized representative.</p> | <p>Secretary of the Department of Agriculture (DA), as Chairperson;</p> <p>Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), as Co-Chairperson;</p> <p>Director of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR), as Vice Chairperson;</p> <p>Secretary of the Department of Health (DOH);</p> <p>Secretary of the Department of Interior and</p> | |

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| <p>Remarks</p> | <p>HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | |
| | <p>Local Government (DILG);</p> <p>The CEO of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP);</p> <p>One (1) representative each from salt farmers, salt manufacturers, and salt process associations;</p> <p>One (1) representative from the private sector is involved in a business belonging to the salt industry.</p> | <p>UNDERSecretary FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES, AS VICE CHAIRPERSON;</p> <p>PRESIDENT OF THE PANGASINAN STATE</p> | <p>representative;</p> <p>(h) Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Director General or representative;</p> <p>(i) Chief Executive Officer of the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) or representative; and</p> <p>(j) Two (2) representatives – one (1) from salt farmers and one (1) from salt producers, from each salt producing provinces. The Secretary of the Department of Agriculture shall choose or appoint from a list of salt producers and salt farmers that will be endorsed by the Cooperative or Association, for a term of two (2) years, and may be reappointed; Provided that the representatives on the first two (2) terms shall be from Pangasinan and Mindoro Occidental.</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | <p>TEUNIVERSITY,BULACANSTATEUNIVERSITY,CAVITE STATEUNIVERSITY,ANDMINDOROSTATECOLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE PRESIDENTS OF THE STATE COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES WHERE A NASIN CENTER MAY BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO THIS ACT; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PHILIPPINE COUNCIL FOR AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES; EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PAC; AND SALT FARMERS' REPRESENTATIVE TO BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD.</p> | <p>THE LEAGUE OF PROVINCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, LEAGUE OF CITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES;</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| <p>Functions</p> | <p>Sec. 6</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formulate and adopt policy directions, strategic action points, and guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act; 2. Develop and approve short term, medium term and long term development plans, or a ten (10) year industry roadmap for the revitalization of the Philippine salt industry and pursue effective export strategies and developmental mechanisms to achieve competitiveness of Philippine sea salts, artisanal salt and/or specialty salts for gourmet and other industrial applications; 3. Provide strategic directions and guidance to the various departments and agencies that play a vital role in the realization of the objectives of this Act; 4. Oversee the implementation by the various departments and agencies mandated under this Act of their assigned tasks; 5. Oversee the identification of new areas suitable for government-funded salt projects and the registration, construction and lease of salt farms; 6. Provide needed support and determine the required investments both in the | <p align="right">5</p> <p>SEC. THE PAC SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. ENHANCE, PROMOTE, AND PRESERVE THE SALT-MAKING INDUSTRY WITH THE GOAL OF ACHIEVING SELF-SUFFICIENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE COUNTRY'S ANNUAL SALT REQUIREMENTS AND EXPORTATION OF THE SAME; B. ENABLE SALT FARMERS, PARTICULARLY SMALLHOLDERS TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF STATE-OF- THE-ART SALT-MAKING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGIES THROUGH AN ORGANIZED SALT-MAKING INNOVATION PROGRAM; C. UNDERTAKE TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR SALT MAKERS, PARTICULARLY SMALLHOLDERS, DESIGNED TO DEVELOP THEIR CAPACITIES TO UNDERTAKE MODERN SALT-MAKING TECHNIQUES AND OPERATE MODERN SALT-MAKING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY. D. CONDUCT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN ALL DISCIPLINES THAT LEAD TO | <p>SEC. 8. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE TASK FORCE. THE TASK FORCE SHALL HAVE THE FOLLOWING POWERS AND FUNCTIONS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. FORMULATE THE PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT ROADMAP CONTAINING THE SHORT-TERM, MEDIUM TERM AND LONG-TERM DEVELOPMENT PLAN COVERING A PERIOD OF FIVE (5) YEARS; B. IDENTIFY SPECIFIC AND PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN SUPPORT OF, AND IN LINE WITH, THE ROADMAP; C. DETERMINE POTENTIAL SALT PRODUCTION AREAS (SPA) D. IDENTIFY SOURCES OF FINANCING AND FACILITATE CREDIT WINDOWS WITH GOVERNMENT BANKS AND THE ACPC TO EXPAND THE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT; E. INCREASE PRODUCTION OF LOCAL SALT BY INCREASING LAND AREA DEVOTED TO SALT AND IMPROVING FARM PRODUCTIVITY; F. INSTITUTIONALIZE CAPACITY BUILDING FOR SALT FARMERS | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>government and the private sector to achieve the objectives of this Act;</p> <p>7. Serve as a one-stop-shop for the processing of all permits required for the approval of a salt farm project;</p> <p>8. Ensure the harmonization of the rules and guidelines of various departments and agencies concerning salt;</p> <p>9. Approve the lease of newly constructed salt farms to qualified individuals, associations, cooperatives or corporations pursuant to Section 10 of this Act;</p> <p>10. Recommend to the Department of Budget and Management the required yearly appropriations for the identification and construction of salt farms, which shall be lodged with the Department of Agriculture; and</p> <p>11. Perform other functions necessary for the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.</p> | <p>THE IMPROVEMENT OF SALT-MAKING IN THE COUNTRY;</p> <p>E. ENCOURAGE COASTAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO DEVELOP THEIR OWN LOCAL SALT-MAKING INDUSTRIES AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE GOAL OF MEETING THE COUNTRY'S ANNUAL SALT REQUIREMENTS; AND</p> <p>F. ENTER INTO MEMORANDA OF AGREEMENT AND RECEIVED DONATIONS THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FROM LOCAL AND FOREIGN SOURCES. UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PAC ADVISORY BOARD, THE INDIVIDUAL ASIN CENTERS MAY ENTER INTO AGREEMENTS DIRECTLY WITH FUNDING AGENCIES THROUGH THEIR RESPECTIVE BOARD OF REGENTS OR HEAD OF AGENCY.</p> | <p>THROUGH THE AGRICULTURAL TRAINING INSTITUTE;</p> <p>G. STRENGTHEN MARKET LINKAGE AND PROMOTION OF PHILIPPINE SALT;</p> <p>H. CONDUCT CONTINUING RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ON INNOVATION AND MODERNIZATION OF THE SALT INDUSTRY, INCLUDING POSTHARVEST TECHNOLOGIES AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LABORATORY CENTERS FOR IODIZATION FOR FOOD GRADE SALT;</p> <p>I. ESTABLISH AGRI-INSURANCE PROGRAM FOR SALT PRODUCERS;</p> <p>J. COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DENR) AND THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION (CCC) ON PROGRAMS TO PROTECT SALT-PRODUCING AREAS AND COASTLINES;</p> <p>K. SUBMIT ANNUAL REPORTS, NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30 OF EACH YEAR, TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND TO EACH HOUSE OF CONGRESS ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | | <p>ROADMAP AND THE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTRY;</p> <p>L. RECOMMEND TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT THE REQUIRED YEARLY APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE PLAN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SALT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS; AND</p> <p>M. PROMULGATE SUCH RULES AND REGULATIONS AND EXERCISE SUCH OTHER POWERS AND FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE OBJECTIVES OF THIS ACT.</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | <p>SEC.6. PRIORITIES.- THE PAC SHALL GIVE PRIORITY TO THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:</p> <p>A. SUSTAINED INCREASE IN DOMESTIC SALT PRODUCTION THREE (3) YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT ;</p> <p>B. DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE SALT - MAKING STRATEGIES AND TECHNIQUES;</p> <p>C. SOCIO- ECONOMIC RESEARCH TO ENSURE THE VIABILITY AND ACCEPTANCE OF TECHNOLOGY BY SALT MAKERS;</p> <p>D. DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGIES THAT ARE COST-EFFECTIVE, SIMPLE, AND PRACTICAL;</p> <p>E. ENHANCING SALT FARMING CAPABILITIES OF EXISTING AND POTENTIAL MAJOR SALT- MAKING REGIONS;</p> <p>F. COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI) AND OTHER APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, TO FOSTER LINKAGES BETWEEN DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS AND SALT MAKERS TO PROMOTE TRADE;</p> <p>G. COORDINATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT</p> | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | <p>NTOFSCIENCEANDTECHNOLOGYT ODEVELOPINNOVATIVESALT- MAKINGTECHNIQUES AND TECHNOLOGIESWITHEMPHASIS ONPREVENTINGCLIMATECHANGEFROM ADVERSELYAFFECTINGSALTPROD UCTION;</p> <p>H. COORDINATEWITHTHEDEPARTME NTOFTOURISMTOINCLUDEANDPRO MOTESALTFARMSINTHEFARM TOURISMPROGRAM OF THEDEPARTMENT; AND</p> <p>I. COORDINATEWITHTHEDEPARTME NTOFENVIRONMENTANDNATURAL RESOURCETO PROMOTE AND DEVELOP A SUSTAINABLE SALT- MAKING STRATEGY.</p> | | |
| | | <p>SEC.8.FUNCTIONSOFTHEPACADVISO RYBOARD.- THEPACADVISORYBOARDSSHALLPER FORM THEFOLLOWINGFUNCTIONS:</p> <p>A. FORMULATEPOLICIES,PROGRAMS ,ANDPROJECTSFORTHEDEVELOP MENTOFTHESALT- MAKINGINDUSTRY INTHE</p> | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | <p>COUNTRY; B. REVIEW AND RECOMMEND THE ANNUAL BUDGET OF THE PAC; C. EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION, EFFICIENCY, AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PROGRAM AND PROJECTS OF THE PAC; AND D. RECOMMEND THE ESTABLISHMENT OR ABOLITION OF ASIN CENTERS AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY.</p> | | |
| <p>Program Management Office and Secretariat</p> | <p>Sec. 7 A Program Management Office (PMO) is hereby created which shall be headed by the Undersecretary of Fisheries under the Department of Agriculture, to oversee the overall implementation of the salt industry development plan as well as conduct regular monitoring of its execution by the implementing agencies and/or partners. The Secretariat is also hereby created under the supervision of the PMO and shall perform functions such as to coordinate and manage the regular meetings of the ASInDeRO, prepare and/or consolidate reports for the PMO, monitor the implementation of policy decisions that the ASInDeRO has adopted and liaise with all the member</p> | <p>SEC. 9. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PAC.—THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PAC SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PAC SHALL PERFORM THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:</p> <p>A. OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICIES, PROGRAMS, AND PROJECTS OF THE PAC;</p> <p>B. ASSIST THE PAC ADVISORY BOARD IN THE REVIEW, EVALUATION, AND MONITORING OF THE ASIN PROGRAM; AND</p> <p>C. PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE</p> | <p>SEC. 9. PHILIPPINE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE PROJECT MANAGEMENT OFFICE (PSIDTF-PMO). A Project Management Office (PMO) is hereby created which shall be headed by the DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES (DA-BFAR), TO OVERSEE THE OVERALL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSIDR. THE PMO WILL SERVE AS THE SECRETARIAT TO PREPARE COORDINATE, CONSOLIDATE REPORTS AND MONITOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE POLICIES, PROGRAM AND PROJECT OF THE PSIDTF.</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>departments and relevant agencies of the government, as needed.</p> | <p align="center">ASSIGNED BY THE PAC BOARD.</p> <p>SEC.10.APPOINTMENTOFDIRECTORS ORPROJECTLEADERSOF OTHERASINCENTERS.–THE DIRECTORSORPROJECTLEADERSOFT HEASINCENTERSSHALLBEAPPOINTE DBYTERESPECTIVEBOARDOF REGENTSORHEADOFAGENCY</p> <p>SEC.11.FUNCTIONSOFTHEDIRECTORS ORPROJECTLEADERSOFOTHERASIN CENTERS.–SUBJECT TOTHEPOLICIESOFTHEPAC,THEDIREC TORSORPROJECTLEADERSOFOTHER ASINCENTERSSHALL PERFORM THEFOLLOWINGFUNCTIONS:</p> <p>A. ADMINISTERTHEP OLICIES,PROGRAMANDPROJECTS OFTHEPACINTHEIRRESPECTIVECE NTERS;</p> <p>B. RECOMMENDTHE CREATIONOFDIVISIONSANDSECTI ONSINCLUDINGTHESTAFFINGPATT ERNOFTHECENTERS;</p> <p>C. PREPARETHEBUD GETOF THEIRCENTERS;</p> <p>D. APPROVETHE EXPENDITURESOF</p> | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | <p>THEIR RESPECTIVE BUDGETS;</p> <p>E. RECOMMEND TO THE HEAD OF AGENCY THE APPOINTMENT OF PERSONNEL OR CONSULTANTS;</p> <p>F. RECOMMEND POLICIES, PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PAC; AND</p> <p>G. PERFORM SUCH OTHER FUNCTIONS AS MAY BE ASSIGNED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PAC.</p> <p>SEC. 12. IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION OF THE PROGRAM. — THE PAC ADVISORY BOARD THROUGH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL COORDINATE, MONITOR AND EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ASIN CENTERS. IT SHALL IDENTIFY, THROUGH THE DIRECTORS OF ASIN CENTERS AND PROJECT LEADERS FROM THE VARIOUS IMPLEMENTING STATIONS, THE PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IN THE AREAS OF PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, AND MARKETING OF SALT</p> | | |

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| <p>Remarks</p> | <p>HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>Jurisdiction over Salt Farms and Fish Ponds with Salt Farms.</p> | | | <p>IT SHALL FORMULATE STRATEGIES RELATIVE TO INCREASING ANNUAL NATIONAL SALT PRODUCTION. THE CENTER SHALL BE LOCATED IN PANGASINAN, TATEUNIVERSITY IN LINGAYEN, PANGASINAN; BULACAN STATE UNIVE RSITY IN MALLOS, BULACAN; CAVITE STATE UNIVERSITY IN NINDANG, CAVITE; AND THE MINDOROS STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND TECHNOLOGY IN VICTORIA, ORIENTAL MINDORO. THESE CENTERS SHALL SPECIALIZE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SALT FARMING STRATEGIES, TECHNOLOGIES, AND REQUISITE TECHNOLOGIES TO IMPROVE SALT PRODUCTION WITH THE GOAL OF ATTAINING SELF-SUFFICIENCY.</p> | <p>Sec. 8 The administrative jurisdiction and management of salt farms and fish ponds with salt farms shall be lodged with the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR).</p> | |
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| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| <p>Identification of New Areas Suitable for Government-Funded Salt Projects</p> | <p>Sec. 9 The DA, through the BFAR and the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI), in coordination with the DENR shall spearhead in the identification of appropriate areas for Philippine salt production, orchestrate partnerships with the DOST and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) in providing technical and laboratory services, and engage local government units (LGUs), mature cooperatives and local enterprises operating in the provinces where small-scale artisanal salt production is operational and/or large-scale salt farming is in need of expansion.</p> <p>The DA-BFAR and DENR shall identify suitable areas for salt production including abandoned fishponds and the NFRDI and/or SUCs shall provide technical services through the Agri/fisheries innovation hub or Technology Business Incubators in these provinces, taking into account the number of potential salt farmers and their families who shall benefit therefrom and address food traceability requirements including the type of salt produced (artisanal/ gourmet salt, table salt, iodized salt), the salt</p> | | <p>SEC. 10. IDENTIFICATION, AND DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL SALT PRODUCTION AREAS (SPAS). THE PSIDTF SHALL IDENTIFY AREAS SUITABLE FOR SALT PRODUCTION AREAS WITHIN PUBLIC DOMAIN, AND AREAS WITH NATURAL/ROCK SALT DEPOSITS. A REPORT SHALL BE PUBLISHED BY THE TASK FORCE FOR DECLARATION OF THE DA SECRETARY AS SPAS. THE DA-BUREAU OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES (DA-BFAR) SHALL FACILITATE THE PROMPT REGISTRATION OF SALT FARMS IDENTIFIED BY THE PSIDTF AS WELL AS ASSIST IN THE DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION, AND DEVELOPMENT OF SMALL-SCALE ARTISANAL SALT FARMS, EITHER ON ITS OWN OR THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR, WHILE THE DOST SHALL PROVIDE THE NECESSARY TECHNOLOGY IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF LARGE-SCALE SALT FARMS EMPLOYING MODERN TECHNOLOGIES TO INCREASE PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY-SOUND PRACTICES.</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>farmer/ consolidator/trader, volume and value generated and end-market to determine importance of salt production in the area: Provided, That this shall not prevent private individuals, associations, cooperatives, and corporations from identifying, investing in, and developing present and future salt farms, apart from government-funded salt projects.</p> | | <p>WHENEVER APPLICABLE AND NECESSARY, THE DENR SHALL PROMPTLY ACT ON THE PROCESSING AND ISSUANCE OF PERMITS AND CLEARANCES, SUCH AS ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATES, PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF SALT FARMS TO ENSURE THAT SUCH PROJECTS WILL NOT CAUSE A SIGNIFICANT NEGATIVE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT. FOR PURPOSES OF ELIGIBILITY AND PRIORITY FOR THE LEASE OF THE NEWLY-CONSTRUCTED SALT FARMS, THE DA-BFAR SHALL PROMULGATE CRITERIA IN THE EXPEDITIOUS APPROVAL OF SPAS, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION PRIORITY TO SMALL SALT FARMERS AND ARTISANAL SALT FARMERS.</p> | |
| <p>Registration, Construction, and Lease of Salt Farms</p> | <p>Sec. 10 The DA- BFAR shall facilitate the prompt registration of salt farms as well as assist in the design, construction, and development of small-scale artisanal salt farms, either on its own or through partnership with the private sector, while the DOST shall provide the necessary technology in the construction of large-scale salt farms employing modern</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>technologies to increase production efficiency and environmentally-sound practices.</p> <p>Whenever applicable and necessary, the DENR shall promptly act on the processing and issuance of permits and clearances, such as Environmental Compliance Certificates, prior to the construction of salt farms to ensure that such projects will not cause a significant negative impact on the environment.</p> <p>The DA-BFAR shall identify suitable areas for lease, assist in the construction, rehabilitation, and/or expansion of small-scale artisanal salt farms, and provide technical assistance for new investors or to salt farm operators undergoing expansion. The DA-BFAR shall recommend to ASInDeRO the approval of the application for lease of Government-Funded Salt projects--newly constructed salt farms to investors, applying the prevailing BFAR fishpond rental rates: Provided, That this shall not in any way affect privately-owned salt farms or existing leases, such as those covered by Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs), with actual occupants.</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>For purposes of eligibility and priority for the lease of the newly-constructed salt farms, the DA shall come up with equitable criteria thereon for approval by ASInDeRO, taking into consideration and priority to small salt farmers and artisanal salt farmers.</p> <p>The DA-NFRDI, DOST and SUCs shall likewise showcase best practices, harness indigenous knowledge, and promote innovative technologies to effectively realize the Salt Industry Development Program. These agencies shall exert their best efforts, with the end-goal of increasing the number of food safety compliant salt farmers and producers through their SAFE Innovation Hubs or Salt Technology Demonstration Centers in the maintenance and development of the leased salt farms.</p> | | | |
| <p><i>Fishpond Lease Agreements to Include Salt Production</i></p> | <p>Sec. 11 Fishpond Lease Agreements (FLAs) shall automatically include salt farming or production as among the valid activities that may be undertaken by the leaseholder. FLA holders who intend to venture into salt farming shall be given the same support, training, and financing</p> | | <p>xxx</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>given to salt farmers, as provided under this Act.</p> | | | |
| <p><i>Construction of Salt Farm Roads, to be known as Daan Asinan</i></p> | <p>Sec. 12 Consistent with the development plans on the revitalization of salt industry, the DA, in coordination with the LGUs and the resident-salt farmers, shall identify priority locations of roads linking the salt farms to the market, to be known as Daan Asinan. The DA shall take into account the investment for salt farm to be undertaken in the area, the number of salt farmers and their families who shall benefit therefrom and the amount of salt produced or potentially produced in the salt farms. Thereafter, the DA shall undertake the construction, improvement, and maintenance of the Daan Asinan.</p> | | | |
| <p><i>Funding for Development of Salt Farms, Lease of Government- Developed Salt Farms, and Equipment</i></p> | <p>Sec. 13The DA-BFAR, in consultation with individuals, corporations, associations, and cooperatives from the salt industry, will allocate and provide funding and technical support needed for the maintenance, repair, and upgrading of existing salt farms and newly constructed government-funded salt projects. The funds will cover materials, dike and canal repairs, equipment, and other items specified by industry stakeholders, ensuring the continued productivity and competitiveness of the salt industry.</p> | | <p>xxx</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>Government financial institutions such as, but not limited to, the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) and the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP), shall extend financial assistance to viable projects of eligible and credit worthy salt farmers, cooperatives and micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) for the development, operation, and improvement of salt farms, lease of government-developed salt farms, and purchase of salt farming equipment.</p> | | | |
| <p>Exemption from Public Bidding Requirements</p> | <p>Sec. 14 Salt farm projects undertaken by farmers, farmers' organizations, and other private entities whose funding is partly or wholly subsidized by the government or acquired by way of loan from government financial institutions are not covered by laws on procurement</p> | | | |
| <p>Training</p> | <p>Sec. 15 The DA, together with the DOST, DTI , FDA, and TESDA, shall provide complementary training programs to develop/upgrade the skills and competencies of Philippine salt farmers and producers, ensure product traceability and compliance to food safety, technology acquisition including product labelling and packaging, conduct continuous training on market positioning for Philippine</p> | | <p>SEC. 14.CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR SALT FARMERS. – The DA, together with the DOST, DTI , FDA, and TESDA, shall provide complementary training programs to develop and ENHANCE the skills and competencies of Philippine salt farmers and producers and AGRIPRENUERS, to ensure product traceability and compliance to food safety, technology acquisition including product</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>artisanal/specialty and industrial salts and such other skills necessary in the maintenance and development of the local salt industry. These agencies shall also assist the farmers to be able to effectively comply with the requirements of Republic Act No. 8172, otherwise known as "An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN)".</p> | | <p>labelling and packaging, conduct continuous training on market positioning for Philippine artisanal/specialty and industrial salts and such other skills necessary in the maintenance and development of the local salt industry. These agencies shall also assist the farmers to be able to effectively comply with the requirements of Republic Act No. 8172, otherwise known as "An Act for Salt Iodization Nationwide (ASIN)".</p> <p>SEC. 15. PROMOTION OF NON-TRADITIONAL SALT FARMING METHODOLOGIES AND TECHNIQUES. THE PSIDTF IS MANDATED TO ALSO PROMOTE ALTERNATIVE METHODS AND TECHNIQUES OF SALT FARMING AVAILABLE THAT ALLOW YEAR-ROUND PRODUCTION OF SALT EVEN UNDER ERRATIC WEATHER PATTERNS.</p> <p>THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW TECHNOLOGY WILL BE PRECEDED BY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D) ACTIVITIES, SPEARHEADED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE-NATIONAL FISHERIES RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE (DA-</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | | <p>NFRDI), IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH THE DOST, PROPOSED TO THE PSIDTF .</p> | |
| <p><i>Institution of SAFE Innovation Hubs and Salt Technology Demonstration Centers and Funding for SUCs.</i></p> | <p>Sec. 16 he DA, through the NFRDI and DOST shall establish SAFE Innovation Hubs and Salt Technology Demonstration Centers, as defined under Secs. 3(o) and 3(q) of this Act.</p> | | | |
| <p><i>Salt Farmers Cooperatives</i></p> | <p>Sec. 17 The Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) shall assist in the formation, organizational strengthening and financial literacy of cooperatives and their local salt farmers-members and producers in order that they can leverage their resources and provide sustainable operations and increase the number of successful cooperative-managed salt farms in the country.</p> | <p>SEC. 13.SALTFARMERS' PARTICIPATION.-THESALTFARMER-PARTICIPANTSSHALLBE ENCOURAGED TOESTABLISHSTRONGFARMERSASSOCIATIONSORCOOPERATIVESTOSERVEASFOCALPOINTFORGOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE IN THE REVIVAL, DEVELOPMENT, AND DISSEMINATION OF TECHNOLOGY ON SALT-FARMING.</p> | | |
| <p><i>Trade and Export Assistance</i></p> | <p>Sec. 18 The DTI and DA shall assist and support local salt farmers in the trade and exportation of Philippine sea salt. It shall enhance the capabilities and global competitiveness of potential and existing producers and exporters of sea salt through export financing; business matching; provision of trade and market information; organization of trade fairs and</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>business missions; conduct of seminars, workshops, conferences and symposium on export-related subjects, including export documentation and procedures; product design and development; market consultancy; and product consultancy.</p> <p>The government will give preference to locally produced salt in government purchases.</p> | | | |
| <p>Incentives</p> | <p>Sec. 19 The DTI, through the Board of Investments (BOI) shall give the highest priority in its grant of incentives to businesses and industries with linkages to salt farming. It shall include in its Strategic Investment Priorities Plan the fiscal and non-fiscal incentives for Philippine sea salt farming, artisanal/specialty salt farming, commercial-scale salt production, refining and processing, and salt farm modernization. It shall likewise grant Pioneering Status to investments in the said activities.</p> <p>The DA-BFAR and NFRDI, DENR, DOST, DTI, DILG, LGUs and the CDA shall provide to salt producers the same benefits and livelihood programs that are provided to the fisherfolk sector.</p> | | <p>SEC. 19. PROVISION OF INCENTIVES TO INVESTORS INVOLVED IN THE SALT DEVELOPMENT. THE FOLLOWING INCENTIVES SHALL BE PROVIDED TO INVESTORS IN SALT FARMS DEVELOPMENT AND SALT PROCESSING FACILITIES:</p> <p>A. THE BOARD OF INVESTMENTS SHALL CLASSIFY SALT FARMS AS PREFERRED AREAS OF INVESTMENT UNDER ITS INVESTMENT PRIORITIES PLAN (IPP) SUBJECT TO PERTINENT RULES AND REGULATIONS;</p> <p>B. SALT FARM OWNERS, AND PROCESSORS AND OTHER RELATED BUSINESSES SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE PAYMENT OF IMPORT DUTIES FOR IMPORTED</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | | <p>MACHINES AND EQUIPMENT SUBJECT TO PERTINENT RULES AND REGULATIONS;</p> <p>C. SALT FARM OWNERS IN PUBLIC LANDS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE PAYMENT OF FOREST CHARGES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED BY THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER FEES OR TAXES IMPOSED BY LGUS;</p> <p>D. THE SALT FARMERS AND PROCESSORS SHALL BE GIVEN PRIORITY TO ACCESS CREDIT ASSISTANCE AND GUARANTEE SCHEMES BEING GRANTED BY GFIS; AND</p> <p>E. SALT FARM DEVELOPMENT AND THEIR EQUIPMENT SHALL BE COVERED BY THE PHILIPPINE CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION.</p> | |
| <p>Import Duties</p> | <p>Sec. 20 To cushion the impacts of imports on the local producers of traditional, artisanal, or non-iodized salt in the country, the import duty/ies for these specific products shall be increased to a maximum (100) percent <i>ad valorem</i>, subject to the ceiling commitment to the WTO, ATIGA, AANZFTA, and RCEP,</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>where applicable, subject to successful negotiations under these international agreements. However, the Executive Branch may apply duty/ies lower than 100 per cent, as the need arises, following the process prescribed in the Tariff and Customs Code of the Philippines (TCCP), but in no case shall the applied import duty/ies be lower than the existing rate/s before the implementation of this Act or thirty (30) per cent, whichever is higher. However, the existing tariff commitments for non-iodized salt under the above mentioned international agreements shall be maintained for the import duty/ies being applied before the implementation of this Act.</p> <p>To effectively operationalize and implement the above provisions, the Tariff Commission (TC), DA, DTI, and Bureau of Customs (BOC) shall facilitate the establishment of separate and dedicated tariff nomenclatures for all traditional, artisanal, and non-iodized salt within six (6) months from the effectivity of this Act.</p> | | | |
| <p>Research</p> | <p>Sec. 21 The DA-NFRDI shall conduct research, either on its own or in collaboration with SUCs, to enhance the</p> | | <p>SEC. 16. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (RND). – The DA-NFRDI shall conduct research, either on its own or</p> | |

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| <p>Remarks</p> | <p>HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p>in collaboration with SUCs, to enhance the technological development, provide applicable project-based interventions that may be adopted and implemented to achieve the objectives of this Act. The DA shall collaborate with DOST and DTI to provide a common fund and financial resources to the cooperatives and local enterprises for this purpose.</p> <p>SUCs shall also be awarded funding, grants, and subsidies to engage in research and development, extension training, and other related activities to upgrade the salt industry.</p> | <p>The research conducted shall also support the operation of the Salt Technology Demonstration Centers and the SAFE Innovation Hubs and Technology Business Incubators created under this Act.</p> <p>SUCs shall also be awarded funding, grants, and subsidies to engage in research and development, extension training, and other related activities to upgrade the salt industry.</p> <p>The research conducted shall also support the operation of the Salt Technology Demonstration Centers and the SAFE Innovation Hubs and Technology Business Incubators created under this Act.</p> | <p>Human Resources Development</p> | <p>xxx</p> | <p>Sec. 22 All stakeholders in the salt industry shall contribute to the development of a sustainable human resource for the industry. Towards this end, the DOLE, in collaboration with the duly recognized salt associations and salt cooperatives, the TESDA, the Professional Education, the Commission on Higher</p> | <p>Sec. 22 All stakeholders in the salt industry shall contribute to the development of a sustainable human resource for the industry. Towards this end, the DOLE, in collaboration with the duly recognized salt associations and salt cooperatives, the TESDA, the Professional Education, the Commission on Higher</p> | <p>Human Resources Development</p> |
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| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>Regulation Commission (PRC) and the private sector, shall formulate and implement a Human Resources Development (HRD) Master Plan for the salt industry which shall include, but not limited to, the following:</p> <p>a) Capacity building, skills trainings, institutional strengthening of the salt farm workers, salt farmers and their organizations to actively contribute in productivity and competitiveness;</p> <p>b) Scholarship program for the underprivileged but deserving college and postgraduate students who are taking up courses in relevant fields of discipline in SUCs which have programs in agriculture, agricultural engineering and mechanics, and chemical engineering/ salt technology; and for vocational courses and skills development for farmers and farm technicians, and skilled workers in salt farms; and</p> <p>c) Conduct of capability training or attendance to local or international trainings and seminars by salt farmers and workers.</p> | | | |
| <p>Priority Commodity</p> | <p>Sec. 23 The DA shall ensure that salt is a priority commodity to be produced locally in areas or regions identified in the development</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>plan for the revitalization of the salt industry. The required resources shall be allocated by the DA for this purpose.</p> | | | |
| <p>Classification of Salt Farms</p> | <p>Sec. 24 For purposes of determining the current market values, applicable lease rentals, and tax rates to be imposed by both the national government and the local government units, salt farms shall be classified as fishponds.</p> | | | |
| <p>Exemption of exported salt and salt sold in local gourmet outlets from mandatory iodization</p> | <p>Sec. 25 Philippine sea salt exported to other countries, those to be sold to local gourmet outlets, and those to be used for other commercial applications not related to food for tifications such as, but not limited to, water treatment, feeds, and chemical processing, shall be exempt from mandatory iodization provided under the provisions of Republic Act No. 8172 or ASIN Law.</p> <p>Food manufacturers, restaurants and chefs may also be exempted in the mandatory use of iodized salt on their specific products under guidelines to be issued by the FDA when the taste or quality of the product will be significantly altered with the use of iodized salt.</p> | | <p>xxx</p> | |
| <p>VAT Exemption of Locally-produced</p> | <p>Sec. 26 The sale of locally-produced iodized salt shall be exempt from the</p> | | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| Iodized salt | value-added tax. | | | |
| Control Measures | <p>Sec. 27 The BFAR shall adopt measures to ensure compliance with food safety guidelines of salt intended for human consumption; Provided that, salt which are not intended for food consumption shall not be subjected to food safety laws and guidelines.</p> <p>The BFAR, through its regional offices, shall ensure that pure, un-iodized salt shall be promptly issued with necessary transport permits and certification documents for exportation purposes or sale to local gourmet stores.</p> <p>Only small-scale salt farmers shall be allowed to sell food grade un-iodized salt to local gourmet stores. Local gourmet stores shall be allowed to sell registered Philippine un-iodized sea salt.</p> <p>Small, medium or large-scale salt farmers shall be allowed to export un-iodized salt. Food grade salt, whether iodized or un-iodized, shall be registered with the FDA.</p> | | <p>SEC. 20. CONTROL MEASURES. UNDER EXISTING FOOD AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS AND POLICIES, THE BFAR SHALL CONTINUE TO implement measures ensuring compliance of salt farmers with food safety LAWS AND ANIMAL CONSUMPTION. provided that, salt which are not intended for food consumption shall not be subjected to food safety laws and guidelines;</p> <p>The BFAR Regional Offices shall ensure that pure, un-iodized salt shall be issued the necessary transport permits and certification documents for the purposes it is intended.</p> | |
| LGUs Assistance | <p>Sec. 28 LGUs shall enact local ordinances to support the development of Philippine sea salt/artisanal/ gourmet/specialty salt produced in their respective</p> | | <p>SEC. 17. ROLE OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS. LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS) IN COOPERATION WITH THE DA-NFRDI ,</p> | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>municipalities/cities, implement appropriate measures to ensure the ease-of-doing business and ensure that salt farmers or producers and local gourmet outlet owners are free from harassment on alleged non-compliance with iodization requirements for those exempted under Sec. 25 of this Act. Law enforcement units, including members of the Philippine National Police, shall ensure that those exempted from mandatory salt iodization are not unduly burdened.</p> | | <p>DENR, DTI AND THE DOST-FPRDI, AND IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DA AND BFAR SHALL IDENTIFY APPROPRIATE AREAS FOR LOCAL SALT PRODUCTION IN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES.</p> <p>SEC. 18. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROVINCIAL, CITY AND MUNICIPAL SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE AND SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. LGUS SHALL, AS FAR AS PRACTICABLE, ESTABLISH THEIR RESPECTIVE SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE. LGUS SHALL REGULARLY CONDUCT A SURVEY OF EXISTING SALT FARMS AND SALT ENTERPRISES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCALITIES.</p> <p>EACH LOCAL SALT INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE SHALL CONDUCT A SURVEY OF EXISTING SALT PROCESSING ENTERPRISES THAT ARE OPERATING IN THE LOCALITY.</p> | |
| | <p>III. FINALPROVISIONS</p> | | | |
| <p><i>Agencies' Regular</i></p> | <p>Sec. 29 The mandates, functions</p> | <p>SEC. 14. PARTICIPATION OF THE</p> | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| <p>Programs</p> | <p>and activities of the various departments and agencies identified in this Act shall be considered regular programs and shall be included in their annual budgets.</p> | <p>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS). — THE ASIN CENTERS, THE REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS WHERE SALT FARMING IS VIABLE SHALL IMPLEMENT A SALT FARMING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL POLICY AND PROGRAM OF THE PAC.</p> <p>SEC. 17. TRANSFER OF SALT FARMING PROGRAMS TO THE PAC. — UPON APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, ANY EXISTING SALT FARMING PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED BY VARIOUS AGENCIES SHALL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE PAC.</p> | | |
| <p>Reporting</p> | <p>Sec. 30 The various departments and agencies specified in this Act shall provide regular updates to the ASIN DeRO on the progress of their programs and activities toward the realization of the objectives of this Act</p> | <p>SEC. 16. ANNUAL REPORT. — THE PAC SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, THE SENATE, AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES INDICATING AMONG OTHERS RECOMMENDATIONS TO FURTHER IMPROVE SALT PRODUCTION.</p> | | |

| | <p align="center">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p align="center">Remarks</p> |
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| | | <p>SEC. 18. SUNSET REVIEW. – WITHIN SIX (6) YEARS AFTER THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, OR AS THE NEED ARISES, THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES FROM THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES SHALL JOINTLY CONDUCT A SUNSET REVIEW. THIS REVIEW SHALL TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT OF THIS ACT, AS WELL AS THE PERFORMANCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF ITS IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES, FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING REMEDIAL LEGISLATION.</p> | | |
| <p><i>Congressional Oversight</i></p> | <p>Sec. 31 There shall be a Congressional Oversight on the implementation of this Act composed of 5 representatives each coming from the Senate and the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively.</p> | | <p>SEC. 25. THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MODERNIZATION (COCAF) SHALL SEE TO THE FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.</p> | |
| <p><i>Appropriations</i></p> | <p>Sec. 32 The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall initially be charged to the appropriations of the agencies concerned as may be appropriated, under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such</p> | <p>SEC. 19. Appropriations. – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.</p> | <p>SEC. 22. Appropriations. AN AMOUNT OF ONE BILLION PESOS (P1,000,000,000) IS HEREBY ALLOTTED FOR THIS PURPOSE OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ESPECIALLY ON SALT PRODUCTION TECHNOLOGY THE FIRST</p> | |

| | <p style="text-align: center;">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Remarks</p> |
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| | <p>amount as may be necessary for its implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act from their respective budgets.</p> <p>A Salt Development Fund shall be created and funded from the tariffs on salt imports. This fund shall be used to partially fund the identification, construction and development of government-funded salt farms as specified in this Act.</p> | <p>SEC. 15. USE OF FUNDS. – NOT MORE THAN THIRTY PERCENT (30%) OF FUNDS ALLOCATED UNDER THIS ACT AND IN SUBSEQUENT ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS SHALL BE USED FOR PERSONAL SERVICES, AND MAINTENANCE AND OPERATING EXPENSES, FIFTEEN PERCENT (15%) FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, AND FIFTY-FIVE PERCENT (55%) FOR SALT FARMERS' ASSISTANCE, TRAINING, TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS, AND OTHER SUCH ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND PROJECTS NECESSARY TO IMPROVE THE SALT INDUSTRY PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT.</p> | <p>3 YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT. The amount necessary for the implementation of the OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PSIDR and this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the agencies concerned as may be appropriated, under the current General Appropriations Act.</p> <p>A Salt Development Fund shall be created and funded from the tariffs on salt imports. This fund shall be used to partially fund the identification, construction, and development of government-funded salt farms as specified in this Act.</p> | |
| <p>Implementing Rules and Regulations</p> | <p>Sec. 33 The ASIN DeRO created under Section 5 of this Act shall be created and convened within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act. Thereafter, it shall issue the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act within one hundred twenty (120) days from approval of this Act.</p> | | <p>SEC. 23. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, THE DA, THE DOST AND THE DTI, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MEMBERS OF THE TASK FORCE AND OTHER RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS, SHALL PROMULGATE THE NECESSARY RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT.</p> | |

| | <p style="text-align: center;">HB 1976 Introduced by Rep. Ron P. Salo</p> <p>An Act Revitalizing the Salt Industry, Creating a Comprehensive Plan for Its Development, Providing Incentives to Salt Farmers and Exporters, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">HB 5537 Introduced by Rep. Ramon N. Guico, Jr.</p> <p>An Act Establishing the Philippine Advanced Salt Innovation (ASIN) Center to Promote and Enhance the Salt-Making Industry in the Philippines and for Other Purposes</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">HB 5676 Introduced by Rep. Wilbert T. Lee</p> <p>An Act Defining Salt as an Aquatic Resource and Establishing a Comprehensive Salt Industry Development Program, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8550, Otherwise Known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998", and for Other Purposes</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Remarks</p> |
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| Separability Clause | Sec. 34 Any portion or provision of this Act that may be declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying the other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portion or provision can still subsist and be given effect. | SEC. 21. If any part or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts not otherwise affected shall remain in full effect and force. | SEC. 24. Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions of this Act. | |
| Repealing Clause | Sec. 35 All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly. | SEC. 20. All laws, EXECUTIVE ORDERS, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly: PROVIDED; HOWEVER, THAT NOTHING IN THIS ACT SHALL AMEND, MODIFY OR REPEAL THE PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7160, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE. | xxx | |
| Effectivity | Sec. 36 This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or any two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines. | SEC. 22. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) NEWSPAPERS OF GENERAL CIRCULATION. | xxx | |