

3

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'22 AUG -4 P 6 :22

SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

P. S. RES. NO. 100

Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S OF THE SENATE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES TO HARNESS THE POTENTIAL OF THE SALT PRODUCTION INDUSTRY AS A JOB GENERATOR AND AS AN INSTRUMENT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WHEREAS, as of 2021, it was reported that the country is importing anywhere between 91% to 93% of the country's salt requirement.¹ This is a stark contrast to the figure in 1990, where only 15% of the country's salt requirement was imported;²

WHEREAS, in a study conducted by the National Center of the Philippines in 2010, it was found that at least 30% of salt producers have closed compared to 1990 figures. Several salt farms have also been non-operational or converted to residential or commercial lots.³ Salt iodization are also most often characterized by manual process instead of using motor iodine sprayers and iodization machines.⁴ Subsistence and small-scale producers also often used different non-standardized techniques of salt iodization;⁵

¹ March 27, 2021. P100M boost: PH starts mission to revive salt industry. Manila Bulletin. Retrieved from: <https://mb.com.ph/2021/03/27/%E2%82%B1100m-boost-ph-starts-mission-to-revive-salt-industry/> (date last accessed: August 1, 2022).

² February 24, 2017. PH Salt Industry Reeling from Climate Change. Retrieved from: <https://su.edu.ph/ph-salt-industry-reeling-from-climate-change/> (date last accessed: August 1, 2022).

³ A Survey of Salt Importers, Producers and Traders in the Philippines: an Evaluation of Internal and External Quality Assurance and Control. Nutrition Center of the Philippines at p. 55. December 2020. Retrieved from: <http://www.ncp.org.ph/uploads/4/5/5/3/45531383/ncp-2010-salt-survey-final-report.pdf> (date last accessed: August 1, 2022).

⁴ *Id.* at 57.

⁵ *Id.* at 58.

WHEREAS, the study further found that among the primary concerns of local salt producers are (i) the need for a proper storage facility; (ii) purchase of new equipment such as water pumps; (iii) boats for hauling and storing salt. In addition, support for acquiring new salt production strategies, through additional training and equipment, was also cited as an urgent action point;⁶

WHEREAS, in 2017, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) helped Occidental Mindoro in adopting a new technology that will allow production of salt, regardless of weather conditions. Occidental Mindoro is one of the biggest salt-producing provinces in the country. Accordingly, salt production in the province accounted for 18% of the country's annual salt requirement in 1990. Currently, however, it only supplies 12% of the national salt requirement;⁷

WHEREAS, in 2021, the National Government provided Php100 million to revive the salt industry in the Ilocos region, particularly in enhancing small-scale salt production by providing better storage systems, hygienic handling, marketing and laboratory tests. A road map for salt is also being drafted;⁸

WHEREAS, in June 2022, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) announced its plan to harness the potential of the salt production industry to create up to 100,000 jobs in the Philippines, and its plan to create a road map for the salt industry;⁹

WHEREAS, as the country recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, and continues to grapple with the looming global economic recession, unprecedented inflation and rising fuel prices, there is a need to look at the available and planned government programs to assist the salt industry and harness its potential for job generation and economic development;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, that the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development and other appropriate committees of the Senate, to inquire and review, in aid of legislation, the current and planned programs and initiatives of the government to harness the potential of the salt production industry to create jobs and to spur economic development.

Adopted,


SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA *ps*

⁶ *Id.* at p. 52.

⁷ May 24, 2017. DOST Eyes Salt Industry Enhancement in Occidental Mindoro Using New Technology. DOST. Retrieved from: <https://region4b.dost.gov.ph/dost-eyes-salt-industry-enhancement-in-occidental-mindoro-using-new-technology/> (date last accessed: August 1, 2022).

⁸ March 26, 2021. Ilocos Region salt industry gets boost from nat'l gov't. Philippine News Agency. Retrieved from: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1134944> (date last accessed: August 1, 2022).

⁹ June 9, 2022. DOLE eyes revival of PHL salt-making industry in coastal areas to create jobs. Business Mirror. Retrieved from: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2022/06/09/dole-eyes-revival-of-phlsalt-making-in-dustry-incoastal-areas-to-create-jobs/> (date last accessed: August 1, 2022).