



MEMORANDUM ORDER

No. 54
Series of 2024

SUBJECT: TEMPORARY BAN ON THE IMPORTATION OF DOMESTIC AND WILD BIRDS AND THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING POULTRY MEAT, DAY-OLD CHICKS, EGGS AND SEMEN ORIGINATING FROM *California, USA*

WHEREAS, Book IV Chapter 2 Section 6 and 7 (2) and (4) of Executive Order no. 292, s. 1987 provides the authority and responsibility for the exercise of the mandate of the Department and for the discharge of its powers and functions shall be vested in the Secretary, who shall have supervision and control of the Department, to establish the policies and standards for the operation of the Department pursuant to the approved programs of government and promulgate administrative issuances necessary for the efficient administration of the offices under the Secretary and the proper execution of the laws relative thereto;

WHEREAS, Section 1770 of Act No. 2711 (Revised Administrative Code of 1917) which was adopted by incorporation together with Sections 1761-1769, in Section 5 of Act 3639 (Charter of BAI) empowers the Department Head to issue a general order preventing the entry of animals, animal effects, parts or products from any country with dangerous communicable animal disease;

WHEREAS, based on the official report submitted by Deputy Administrator and Chief Veterinary Officer, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) on 25 October 2024, that there is additional outbreak of H5 subtype High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza in *California, United States of America* affecting domestic birds confirmed by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL), Ames, Iowa;

WHEREAS, the rapid spread of H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) in the United States of America (USA) in short period of time since its first laboratory detection necessitates a wider coverage of trade restriction to prevent the entry of HPAI virus and protect the health of the local poultry population;

WHEREAS, given the geographical land mass of the USA, there has been a mutual HPAI-related agreement in 2016 between the veterinary authorities of the USA and the Philippines that a state-wide ban shall only be imposed if there are three (3) or more counties affected with HPAI in one state;

WHEREAS, the abovementioned state has three (3) or more counties affected with HPAI as reflected in their official reports in the WOA;H;

¹ Heat-Treated products are acceptable following Chapter 10.4 of the WOA Terrestrial Animal Health Code of 2019 provided that in addition to the Veterinary Health Certificate (VHC), the competent authority will include in the certification the following:

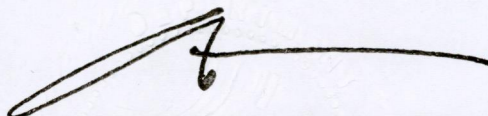
1. Temperature and duration of heating or pasteurization of products; and
2. There is no commingling of raw materials with any other materials of animal origin

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR.**, Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, by the powers vested in me by law, do hereby institute the following emergency measures for the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products from *California, United States of America*;

1. Banning the importation of domestic and wild birds and their products, including poultry meat, day old chicks, eggs and semen;
2. Immediate suspension of the processing, evaluation of the application and issuance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) import clearance to the above stated commodities;
3. All shipments coming from *California, United States of America* that are IN TRANSIT/LOADED/ACCEPTED UNTO PORT before the official communication of this Order to the US authorities shall be allowed provided that the products were slaughtered/produced on or before 11 October 2024.
4. Shipments which have not complied with the conditions set forth in Item 3 shall be dealt with as per DA AC 06 S. 2022 Article V, Section II. E.;
5. Stoppage and confiscation of all shipments of the above-stated commodities into the country by all Veterinary Quarantine Officers/Inspectors at all major ports of entry.

This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately and shall remain enforced unless revoked in writing. All orders inconsistent herewith are deemed revoked.

Done this 26th day of NOVEMBER 2024.



FRANCISCO P. TIU LAUREL JR.
Secretary



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