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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

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LAW N° 19.558

MODIFIES D.L. N° 3.557, OF 1981, ON AGRICULTURAL PROTECTION RULES

Considering that the Chilean National Congress has passed the hereinbelow:

Draft bill:

"Single Article.- The modifications hereinbelow are introduced to decree law N° 3.557, of 1981, which establishes provisions on agricultural protection:

N° 1.- Paragraph two in article 1 is replaced by the following

"Likewise the Livestock and Agricultural Service – SAG shall supervise compliance with the above rules and measures applying, in case of infraction, the corresponding sanctions in accordance with the procedure in paragraph IV in Law N° 18.755, Constitutional Organic Law of the Livestock and Agricultural Service – SAG, without prejudice to the powers corresponding to the criminal courts of justice when the above infractions are criminal offences".

N° 2.- Article 21 is replaced by the following:

"Article 21.- Vegetable or animal origin products seeking entrance into the country shall be checked by the SAG before entrance. After the checking, SAG can order some of the following measures: freedom of importation, re-exportation, disinfection or disinfestation, industrialization, quarantine or elimination. The expenses corresponding to the execution of the above measures shall be paid for by the importers.

The vegetable or animal products or by-products transported in people's baggages shall be declared under oath in special forms by the interested party or holder. The above forms shall indicate the vegetables, animals, vegetable or animal products and by-products whose importation is prohibited by SAG.

The above rules shall apply to all and every kind of luggage, including that of diplomats and officials of the country, of foreign governments and of international organisms.

Refusal to fill the sworn statement as required by competent authority, in the form in the above paragraph, shall be sanctioned with a fine.

He who shall fail to make a truthful declaration shall be sanctioned as the author of perjury as stated in article 210 in the Penal Code."

N° 3.- In article 42, the expression "21, paragraph 4", followed by a comma (,) shall be inserted between numbers "17" and "28".

Considering that the Chilean National Congress has passed the observations submitted by the Executive; then this is to be promulgated and put into effect as Law of the Republic of Chile.

Santiago, March 17, of 1998.- EDUARDO FREI RUIZ-TAGLE, President of the Republic, Carlos

Mladinic Alonso, Minister of Agriculture.

Which I transcribe to you for your knowledge.

Very sincerely yours, Jean Jacques Duhart Saurel, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.