

[BAI, May 18, 1998]

**IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS PURSUANT TO
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8485, "THE ANIMAL WELFARE ACT OF 1998"**

REPUBLIC ACT 8485: An Act to Promote Animal Welfare in the Philippines Otherwise Known as "The Animal Welfare Act of 1998"

WHEREAS, Section 3 of Republic Act 8485 otherwise known as "The Animal Welfare Act of 1998" hereinafter referred to as RA 8485 and signed into law on February 11, 1998, mandates: "The Director may call upon any government agency for assistance consistent with its powers, duties and responsibilities for the purpose of ensuring the effective and efficient implementation of this Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder";

WHEREAS, Section 5 of RA 8485 further mandates: "There is hereby created a Committee on Animal Welfare, hereinafter referred to as The Committee, attached to the Department of Agriculture which shall be subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, issue the necessary rules and regulations for the strict implementation of the provisions of this Act, including the setting of safety and sanitary standards within thirty (30) calendar days following its approval";

WHEREAS, Section 10 of RA 8485 set the effectivity of RA 8485 at 15 days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation"; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of Agriculture, hereinafter referred to as the Secretary, created a Multisectoral, Inter-Office and Inter-Departmental Committee on Animal Welfare whose first task was to draft the IRR pursuant to RA 8485. The Committee met often and worked intensively, submitting several drafts up to a final version of the IRR and its pertinent sections. The various versions were discussed in conferences and hearings with representatives of all concerned parties and stakeholders, both private and public.

NOW, THEREFORE, these IRR are hereby issued to guide the Department of Agriculture, hereinafter referred to as the Department, the Bureau of Animal Industry, hereinafter referred to as the Bureau, and all other concerned departments, offices, agencies and stakeholders, in the implementation of RA 8485.

A. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS

Rule 1. These rules and regulations shall be referred to as the "The Implementing Rules and Regulations Pursuant to Republic Act 8485."

Rule 2. To facilitate the implementation of Section 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 of RA 8485, several task forces are hereby created to formulate the various rules and regulations for the registration, inspection and monitoring of pet shops, kennels, veterinary clinics, veterinary hospitals, stockyards corral, stud farms or stock farm,