Article 1. Revised Version of the Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Sugar

The Law of the Republic of Lithuania on Sugar shall be amended to read as follows:

“REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

LAW ON SUGAR

Article 1. Purpose of the Law

The purpose of this Law is to establish the relations of participants in the sugar market and public authorities.

Article 2. Main Definitions

1. “Sugar” means a sweet crystalline or liquid product processed from raw materials.

2. “Raw material” means sugar beet, raw sugar (a product of the unfinished sugar production which is obtained upon processing sugary plants), molasses.

3. “Sugar regime” means the totality of regulatory measures approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or a body authorised by it, in respect to sugar beet growing, raw material import, processing, sugar market.

4. “Products to which the sugar regime is applicable” means a list of products whose production, import and export may influence a total balance of sugar production in
Lithuania; the said list is approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or a body authorised by it.

5. “Sugar market” means the sphere of exchange comprising the purchase and sale, import and export of sugar, raw material, and the products to which the sugar regime is applicable.

6. “Participants in the sugar market” means sugar beet growers, producers, importers, traders, and users of sugar, raw material and sugar containing products to which the sugar regime is applicable.

7. “Quota for sugar beet growing, purchase and processing” means a quantity of sugar beet which the sugar industry must purchase and process.

8. “Routine import licensing” means the granting of a permit (licence) in all import cases when an undertaking fulfils the requirements established for obtaining a permit (licence).

Article 3. State Sugar Policy

The State shall provide necessary conditions of growing and processing of local raw material - sugar beet, promote the development of the said sphere, ensure that the sugar beet growing in the regions of the present zones of growing (Kėdainiai, Marijampolė, Panevėžys and Pavenčiai) shall be preserved.

Article 4. State Regulatory Measures

1. In the Republic of Lithuania sugar beet growing and processing, purchase and sale of locally-produced sugar, import and export of sugar, raw material, products to which the sugar regime is applicable shall be regulated by the State and carried out in accordance with the sugar regime approved by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or a body authorised by it. The regime shall comprise the following:

   1) procedure of formation of the balance for sugar;
   2) procedure of determining an annual quantity of sugar needed by the market;
   3) rules pertaining to the determining of an obligatory quantity of sugar beet to be purchased, minimum marginal purchase prices;
   4) list of sugar, raw material and products to which the sugar regime is applicable, regulation and control of the import thereof;
   5) control of the production and sale of sugar, routine licensing of the import and export of sugar, raw material.
2. The Government of the Republic of Lithuania or a body authorised by it may apply other regulatory measures of the sugar market, which protect the interests of sugar beet growers, sugar producers and user.

3. Where, as a result of natural disasters or poor crop, sugar produced from sugar beet is in short supply in the domestic market, import of raw material or sugar shall be regulated by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania or a body authorised by it.

Article 5. Sugar Sale, Storage and Transportation Requirements

In the Republic of Lithuania, undertakings shall be prohibited from selling, storing and importing sugar without accounting documents having a legal power.

Article 6. Sugar Beet Growing, Purchasing and Processing

1. Quotas for sugar beet growing, purchasing and processing shall be used for production of sugar from sugar beet and for determining the relations of sugar beet growers.

2. The State shall guarantee economic safety of quotas for sugar beet growing, purchasing and processing.

3. The quota for sugar beet growing, purchasing and processing must be harmonised with an annual sugar production amount and may not be less than the quantity of white sugar consumed within the country.

4. The Government or a body authorised by it shall fix an annual state quota for sugar beet growing; the Agricultural Chamber shall adjust quotas for the regions.

5. The Agricultural Chamber shall settle disputes arising between the growers.

6. The quotas of growers may be transferred to other growers of the same region in accordance with the procedure established by co-operatives of sugar beet growers.

7. When changing overall quotas for sugar beet growing, purchasing and processing, they shall be proportionally increased or reduced for all quota holders.

8. In the case of increase of the quotas of growers, 5 per cent of the increased quota shall be allocated to new sugar beet growers from that zone.

9. Actual costs of the delivery of sugar beet, purchased according to quotas, from growers’ temporary storage sites to sugar factories shall be compensated from the funds of sugar growers.

To propose to the Government to solve the issue concerning the compensation of actual costs of the delivery of sugar beet, purchased according to quotas, to sugar factories."

I hereby promulgate this Law passed by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania.

PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC       VALDAS ADAMKUS