


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SENATE

RECEIVED BY 

P.S. Resolution No. 636

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND COMMERCE TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE OF PYROTECHNICS INDUSTRY IN THE COUNTRY AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7183 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT REGULATING THE SALE, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF FIRECRACKERS AND OTHER PYROTECHNIC DEVICES", WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROTECTING THE PUBLIC FROM UNSAFE AND SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS WHICH ENDANGERS LIVES AND PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, SECTION 1 of Republic Act 7183 makes it the purpose of the law to:

"to regulate and control the manufacture, sale, distribution and use of firecrackers and other pyrotechnic devices consistent with, and in furtherance of, public safety, order and national security, as well as the enhancement of the cultural traditions.";

WHEREAS, the use of fire crackers and fireworks has now become a part of our culture, as with the majority of the world, we have adopted the use of fireworks and other pyrotechnics in ushering in the New Year and in celebrating auspicious occasions;

WHEREAS, various shows involving the use of fire works now abound, this is very evident in the rise of several international competitions involving pyrotechnics being held in the country;

WHEREAS, what is alarming however is that every year, hundreds of people sustain injuries and millions' worth of property are damaged due to firecrackers, fireworks, and other pyrotechnic devices;

WHEREAS, in 2008, the DOH National Epidemiology Center reported that from December 21, 2008 to January 5, 2009, a total of 733 injuries with 714 cases that were fireworks-related, 17 cases were stray-bullet injuries and 2 cases of Watusi or firecracker powder ingestion;

WHEREAS, with most products being manufactured manually in crude and unsupervised manner, ensuring product safety and enforcing standard has become a major challenge for regulating agencies;

WHEREAS, a review of the current regulations must be had in order for the Philippines to conform with the international standards for fireworks and firecracker manufacture and enforce a policy of standardizing the size and chemical content of these devices so that the general public is protected from harm and the other dangers brought about by the use of pyrotechnics and similar devices.

NOW WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the Committee on Trade and Commerce and other appropriate Senate Committees to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the implementation and the reported violations of Republic Act No. 7183 otherwise known as "AN ACT REGULATING THE SALE, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF FIRECRACKERS AND OTHER PYROTECHNIC DEVICES", with the end in view of protecting the public from unsafe and substandard products which endangers their lives and properties.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR