

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9 SEP 29 PM 49

SENATE
S. B. No. 3464

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This proposed bill is intended to require every cable television ("CATV") company providing CATV reception service to subscribers in the Country to disclose the cost of each component of a bundled package of CATV programming services including, but not limited to, the amount of any discount attributable to a subscriber's purchase of a bundled package as compared to the cost of each component if purchased separately from the CATV company.


Although there is no law which fully regulates the rates charged by CATV companies, the purpose of this bill is to require disclosure by CATV companies of the relative cost of components of a bundled package of CATV programming services purchased by subscribers so that subscribers understand how the cost of the bundled package is calculated.

Since CATV subscribers are required to choose a bundled package of CATV programming services without the option of choosing separate channels that they want to subscribe to, subscribers should be entitled to information which gives the comparative cost of each component of the bundled package.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

9 SEP 29 P3:49

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THE
CABLE TELEVISION DISCLOSURE ACT

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

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SECTION 1. *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Cable Television Disclosure Act"

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SECTION 2. *Disclosure Requirement.* - Every cable television company which provides cable television reception service to subscribers in the Country shall identify and disclose in clear and conspicuous language on each monthly or periodic bill for cable television service sent to a subscriber, the cost of each component of the subscriber's package of cable television programming services including, but not limited to, an estimate of the amount of discount, if any, attributable to the subscriber's purchase of a bundled package of programming services as compared to the cost of each component if purchased separately by the subscriber from the cable television company.

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SECTION 3. *Format and Process* - The disclosure of information required by this Act shall be provided in accordance with a format and process approved by the National Telecommunications Commission.

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SECTION 4. *Penalties.* - Any director, officer or agent of a corporation who shall authorize, order or perform any of the acts or practices constituting in whole or in part a violation of this Act, shall upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than One hundred thousand pesos (P100,000.00) but not more than One Million Pesos (P1,000,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years, or both upon the discretion of the court.

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In case the violation is committed by, or in the interest of a juridical person duly

25 licensed to engage in business in the Philippines, such license to engage in business shall
26 also be immediately revoked.

27 SECTION 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof, is held
28 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise
29 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

30 SECTION 6. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
31 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,
32 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended
33 accordingly.

34 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
35 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.