THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

SENATE 898 S.B. NO.

## Introduced by Senator JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It is a matter of public knowledge that our housing program has not been adequate as would optimally address the issue of shelter for our growing population notwithstanding the incentives already allowed under existing laws and rules and regulations. The first indication of this inadequacy is the sharp increase in the price of real states particularly those located in heavily populated urban areas like Metro Manila. The economic adjustments have put the bare costs of purchasing a piece of land and building a house beyond the reach of many.

On top of these, calamities have visited our country with the end effect of depriving those who have houses and dwelling places.

In view of the foregoing, it has become necessary for government to grant more incentives to developers, owners and builders of residential buildings and housing projects. This bill proposes to exempt them from the payment of real state taxes while the construction is in progress up to the time of the completion of said residential buildings and housing projects. The probable loss of revenues arising from the approval of his bill is more than compensated by the encouragement it gives to those who would contribute to the availability of more dwelling places.

Senator

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## AN ACT

PROVIDING TAX INCENTIVES TO DEVELOPERS AND BUILDERS OF RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AND/OR HOUSING PROJECTS BY EXEMPTING THEM FROM THE PAYMENT OF REAL STATE TAXES, DEFINING THE CONDITION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. **Declaration of Policy**. - It is hereby declared to be the national policy to encourage the development and construction of residential buildings and housing projects as means of realizing the objectives of the national shelter program of the government.

SECTION 2. Exempting from Real Estate taxes. — Any provision of law, decree, executive order and rules and regulations to the contrary notwithstanding, all developers, owner and/or builders or residential buildings and housing projects shall be exempt from the payment of real estate taxes imposable on said residential or housing projects while the construction is in progress and until their completion. The said privilege may also be availed of by any person owning a unit in said residential buildings or housing projects.

SECTION 3. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,