

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



'16 JAN 26 P3 02

SENATE
S. No. 3142

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
PROHIBITING A MANUFACTURER FROM DISTRIBUTING PERSONAL AUDIO
PLAYERS UNLESS THERE IS A WARNING LABEL ON THE PRODUCT
WHICH PROVIDES THAT IT MAY CAUSE HEARING DAMAGE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

According to scientific studies, noise from personal music players threatens permanent hearing loss for many people who use them. People who use these personal music players do not realize the damage until years after it is done.

Scientific studies indicate that those who listened for only five hours a week at high-volume settings exposed themselves to more noise than permitted in the noisiest factory or workplace. Maximum volume on some devices can generate as much noise as an airplane taking off nearby.

This bill is in response to the harmful volume levels at which users of portable audio players (e.g., MP3 players or iPods) are able to listen. This bill prohibits a manufacturer from distributing a personal audio player unless the manufacturer affixes a warning label on the personal audio player that reads as follows: "WARNING: This product may cause hearing damage. A volume level of 115 decibels may cause permanent hearing damage after 15 minutes of exposure."¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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¹ This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session.

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act may be known as the “*Music Player Noise*
2 *Warning Act*”.

3 SECTION 2. *Definitions.* – For purposes of this Act, the term:

4 A. “*Manufacturer*” – means a person who manufactures or imports a personal audio
5 player for distribution; and

6 B. “*Personal Audio Player*” – means a personal, electronic device that allows the
7 user to listen to audio while mobile.

8 SECTION 3. *Prohibition.* – No manufacturer shall distribute a personal audio
9 player unless the manufacturer affixes a warning label on the personal audio player that
10 reads as follows: “**WARNING:** This product may cause hearing damage. A volume
11 level of 115 decibels may cause permanent hearing damage after 15 minutes of
12 exposure.”

13 SECTION 4. *Penalties.* – Any manufacturer who violates this Act, shall be liable
14 to a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00).

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

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

8 **SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
9 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general
10 circulation.

Approved,

/ctrs25Nov2015