



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

20 FEB 11 A10 :11

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SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT No. 44

Submitted by the Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship on  
**FEB 11 2020**

RE: Senate Bill No. 779

Recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

**MR. PRESIDENT:**

The Committee on Trade, Commerce and Entrepreneurship, to which was referred **Senate Bill No. 779**, introduced by Senator Leila M. De Lima, *entitled*:

**"AN ACT  
PROTECTING CONSUMERS AND USERS AGAINST FORCED E-BILLING,  
ADDING FOR THIS PURPOSE A NEW PROVISION AND AMENDING  
CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND PROVIDING  
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF"**

has considered the same and has the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved without amendment.

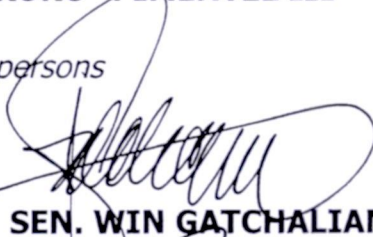
Respectfully submitted:

*Chairperson*

  
**SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III**

*Vice-Chairpersons*

  
**SEN. GRACE POE**

  
**SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN**

*Members*

  
**SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

  
**SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON**

  
**SEN. SONNY ANGARA**

  
**SEN. MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

  
**SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" PANGILINAN**

  
**SEN. LEILA M. DE LIMA**

*Ex-Officio Members:*

  
**SEN. RALPH G. RECTO**  
President Pro-Tempore

  
**SEN. JUAN MIGUEL "MIGZ" F. ZUBIRI**  
Majority Floor Leader

  
**SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON**  
Minority Floor Leader

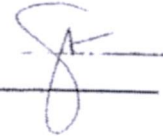
**HON. VICENTE SOTTO III**  
Senate President  
Senate of the Philippines  
Pasay City

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SENATE

S. No. 779

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Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

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**AN ACT**  
**PROTECTING CONSUMERS AND USERS AGAINST FORCED E-BILLING,**  
**ADDING FOR THIS PURPOSE A NEW PROVISION AND AMENDING**  
**CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394, OTHERWISE**  
**KNOWN AS THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES, AND**  
**PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF**

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

1           Section 1. – A new Article 51-A is hereby inserted in Republic Act No. 7394.  
2 otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines, to read as follows:

3           “SEC. 51-A. BILLING STATEMENTS AND OTHER TRANSACTION  
4 DOCUMENTS MAY BE SENT IN PRINTED OR ELECTRONIC  
5 FORM AT THE OPTION OF, AND WITHOUT ANY ADDITIONAL  
6 COST, TO CONSUMERS. THE CONSUMERS’ RIGHT TO SELECT  
7 THE MODE IN WHICH THEY RECEIVE THEIR BILLING  
8 STATEMENTS AND OTHER TRANSACTION DOCUMENTS MAY  
9 NOT BE CONDITIONED ON THE VALUE OF THE PRODUCTS OR  
10 SERVICES PROVIDED IN THE TRANSACTION.”

11           Sec. 2. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, executive orders, presidential decrees,  
12 presidential proclamations, letters of implementation, rules and regulations or parts  
13 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
14 accordingly.

1           Sec. 3. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or  
2 unconstitutional, the provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force  
3 and effect.

4           Sec. 4. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect upon its approval fifteen (15)  
5 days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of  
6 general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,