


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

5 JUN -8 P1:59

SENATE
S. No. 2041

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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Mobile phones have become indispensable tools of communication. Reports from law enforcement agencies, however, reveal a high incidence of thievery of mobile phones, commonly known as cellphone snatching, thereby adversely affecting the personal security of our people and their means of communication.

There is an urgent need to protect our people from cellphone snatchers as well as thieves of other related gadgets such as personal digital assistants and laptop or notebook computers which are devices for information and communication.

This bill proposes to punish with stiffer penalties malefactors who take away mobile phones and other related gadgets which have become important instruments of modern life.


RICHARD J. GORDON
Senator

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**AN ACT PUNISHING THE SNATCHING OF MOBILE PHONES
AND OTHER RELATED GADGETS**

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Anti-Cellphone Snatching
2 Act.”

3 Sec. 2. *Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect its people and their property,
4 especially mobile phones and other related gadgets.

5 Sec. 3. *Definitions.* – For purposes of this Act,

6 (1) “Mobile phone” refers to a portable telecommunications device which may be
7 used in a cellular network.

8 (2) “Other related gadget” refers to a personal electronic device which may be used
9 as information or communication tool, including but not limited to personal digital assistants,
10 and laptop or notebook computers.

11 (3) “Cellphone snatching” refers to the taking away by any mean, method or scheme,
12 without the consent of the owner, of any mobile phone or other related gadget with intent to
13 gain whether committed with or without violence against or intimidation of any person or
14 force upon things.

15 Sec. 4. *Penal Provision.* – Any person convicted of cellphone snatching shall,
16 irrespective of the value of the mobile phone or other related gadget involved, be punished
17 by *prision mayor* in its maximum period to *reclusion temporal* in its medium period, if the
18 offense is committed without violence against or intimidation of persons or force upon
19 things. If the offense is committed with violence against or intimidation of persons or force
20 upon things, the penalty of *reclusion temporal* in its maximum period to *reclusion perpetua*
21 shall be imposed. If a person is seriously injured or killed as a result or on the occasion of

1 the commission of cellphone snatching, the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* to death shall be
2 imposed.

3 Sec. 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or other
4 issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
5 modified accordingly.

6 Sec. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
7 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain
8 in force and effect.

9 Sec. 7. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the
10 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general
11 circulation in the Philippines.

12 Approved,