

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

10 JUL -8 AM '52

SENATE

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S. No. 945

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the right of every consumer to demand an accurate weighing method for the consumable goods that he/she buys, especially if the price of the product being sold is associated with its weight. This is so in the sale of meat, fish, rice, vegetables and many other goods.

With regard to liquid petroleum products, the quantity of the product sold is measured by the gasoline pump, the calibration of which is regulated by the Energy Regulatory Board (ERB). Liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) is sold in tanks, and the net weight of the tank's contents is left wholly to the dealer/distributor to determine. The buyer has no way of ascertaining the actual weight of the LPG he/she is buying.

Many consumers complain of instances where the contents of the LPG tanks do not necessarily conform to specifications as indicated in the tank.

This bill proposes to protect the consumer by requiring that every dealer or distributor of LPG should have a weighing scale in his store or establishment in order to enable the customer to ascertain the real weight of the LPG.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.



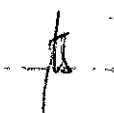
MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

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AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL RETAILERS OF LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM
GAS (LPG) TO HAVE A DULY-INSPECTED AND ACCURATE
WEIGHING SCALE OR WEIGHING MACHINE IN THEIR
STORES OR ESTABLISHMENTS AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *LPG Weight Accuracy.* - Every retailer of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) is required to have in his/her establishment or store a duly-inspected and accurate weighing scale or weighing machine in order to give the buying public an opportunity to check the correctness of the weight of every LPG tank that they are buying.

SEC. 2. *Prohibited Act.* - In the event that the actual weight of the LPG sold in the retail store outlet is lesser than what is indicated in the LPG tank, the LPG retailer is prohibited from selling the LPG unit to the general public.

SEC. 3. *Penalty Clause.* - Any person who shall be found guilty of violating any of the provisions of Section 1 and 2 of this Act shall be punished with a prison term of six (6) months and one (1) day plus a fine of Ten Thousand pesos (Php10,000.00).

SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - The Secretary of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall, within thirty (30) days after the approval of this Act, promulgate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) as may be necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and

regulations or parts thereof not consistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* -If any provision or part of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of this Act shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation whichever comes earlier.

Approved,