

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

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10 JUL 21 08:33

SENATE  
S. No. 1687

RECEIVED BY: *pw*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Prank callers are, in a word, obnoxious. Thousands of people are bothered by one form of prank caller or another every day. Prank calls range from annoying hang-ups to false calls to emergency services or bomb threats. Some prank calls may even waste the time and resources of emergency services. Although prank calls may easily be traced through Caller ID, most telephone companies permit callers to withhold the identifying information from calls.

This bill prohibits local exchange telecommunications companies from offering services which allow the blocking of information from caller identification devices including per-call blocking and per-line blocking in order to identify the caller's identification number and minimize the number of prank callers. <sup>1</sup>

*acv*  
*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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AN ACT

PROHIBITING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY FROM PROVIDING SERVICES WHICH PREVENT CALLER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION FROM BEING SHOWN BY A DEVICE CAPABLE OF DISPLAYING CALLER IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION.

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act may be known as the "*Caller Information Disclosure Act*".

SECTION. 2. *Prohibition* - No local exchange telecommunications company shall offer a service which prevents caller identification information from being shown by a device capable of displaying caller identification information, including, but not limited to, per-call blocking or per-line blocking.

SECTION 3. *Exemptions* - A service which prevents caller identification information from being shown by a device capable of displaying caller identification information may be offered by a local exchange telecommunications company to law enforcement agencies, physicians and health care providers for their cell-phones and home telephone numbers, and other entities or individuals upon certification by the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) that the service is needed for reasons of public health and safety. The NTC shall promulgate, such rules and regulations as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

SECTION. 4. *Penalties.* - Any director, officer or agent of a corporation who shall authorize, order or perform any of the acts or practices constituting in whole or in part a violation of Section 2, , shall upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00) but not more than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than two (2) months but not more than one (1) year, or both upon the discretion of the court.

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

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

34           SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
35 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

36           Approved.