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SENATE

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Senate Bill No. 3101

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A great number of tragic incidents that involve firecrackers have occurred one after the other just recently which massively injured and killed a lot of people and destroyed properties.

Most of the time, these incidents are just being considered as mere accidents. But be it an accident or not, the person or persons who is/are responsible for such incidents should be held liable for violation of the provisions of Republic Act No. 7183 or the law which regulates the sale, manufacture, distribution and use of firecrackers and other pyrotechnic devices.

However, the penalties provided under Republic Act No. 7183, which was enacted almost two decades ago, has become negligible already at this time considering that the fine is set at a maximum of thirty thousand pesos (P30,000.00) or an imprisonment of up to one (1) year, or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the court.

The said penalties seemed to be so insignificant for the countless invaluable human lives and properties that are lost and destroyed. As such, the person or persons who are responsible for such incidents should be penalized with stiffer penalties in order that the provisions of the aforementioned law must be strictly followed and carried out.

Hence, this bill seeks to amend Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7183 so as to provide stiffer penalties by increasing the amount of fine and the years of imprisonment for any person who shall violate the law. The bill provides for a fine of not less than five hundred thousand pesos (P500,000.00) but not more than one million pesos (P1,000,000.00) and an imprisonment of not less than six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years, in addition to the cancellation of the violator's license and business permit and the confiscation by the government of his/her inventory or stock.


The immediate passage of this bill is hereby earnestly sought.



MANNY VILLAR

OFFICE OF THE CLERK
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**AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 11 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7183, ENTITLED "AN ACT
REGULATING THE SALE, MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF
FIRECRACKERS AND OTHER PYROTECHNIC DEVICES" BY PROVIDING
STIFFER PENALTIES THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7183 is hereby amended to read
2 as follows:

3 "Sec. 11. *Penalties.* – Any person who manufactures, sells,
4 distributes or uses firecrackers and other pyrotechnic devices in
5 violation of the provisions of [this Act] **REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7183** shall
6 be punished by a fine of not less than [Twenty] **FIVE HUNDRED**
7 thousand pesos [(P20,000.00)] **(P500,000.00)** nor more than [Thirty
8 thousand] **ONE MILLION** pesos [(P30,000.00)] **(P1,000,000.00)**, [or]
9 **AND AN** imprisonment of not less than six (6) [months] **YEARS** nor
10 more than [one (1) year] **TWELVE YEARS (12 YEARS)**, [or both such
11 fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court] in addition to the
12 cancellation of his/**HER** license and business permit and the
13 confiscation by the Government of his/**HER** inventory or stock."

14 **SEC. 2. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect 15 days after its
15 complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

16 Approved,