SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



13 JUL 29 P2:33

RECTIVE BY:

SENATE S. No. **1143**

)

)

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 12 of states:

SEC. 12. The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual and social wellbeing. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

As technology progresses further, more and more recreational activities are being created. Video games in particular, offer a wide range of selection for all kinds of consumer. However, not all video games are meant for children. Many video games present ideas and images that are violent, indecent and corrupt, which may not be properly appreciated by our young consumers.

By strengthening our campaign to properly limit the sale and distribution of video games for mature audience to the people who are old enough to appreciate them, we would be able to safeguard the moral foundation of our society and avoid unnecessary miseducation of our youth.

This bill seeks to establish an age rating system for video games and enjoin the distributors and sellers to operate their video game businesses in accordance with such system.¹

MIRIAM DEFINSOR SAN

¹ This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session.

Gilice of the Secretary .

'13 JUL 29 P2:33

SENATE S. No. **1143**

)

)

)

	nai	N.
REPORT 12 114:		ł

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT

TO REGULATE THE DISTRIBUTION AND SALE OF VIDEO GAMES

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

3 SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Video Game Rating
4 Enforcement Act."

5 SECTION 2. *Definition*. – For the purpose of this Act, the term:

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC

OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

1

2

- A. "Age-Based Content Rating Label" means, with respect to a video game, a label
 that describes the age appropriateness of the content of such video game that is
 determined by the Department of Trade and Industry.
- 9 B. "Department" means the Department of Trade and Industry.

10 SECTION 3. *Prohibited Acts.* – It shall be unlawful for any person to ship or otherwise 11 distribute in commerce, or to sell or rent, a video game that does not contain an age-based 12 content rating label, in a clear and conspicuous location on the outside packaging of the video 13 game.

14 It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to sell or rent, or attempt to sell or rent any 15 video game that has an age-based content rating of "Adults Only" (as determined by the 16 Department) to any person under the age of 18.

SECTION 4. Rules for Posting Ratings Information. - Not later than 180 days after the
 date of the enactment of this Act, the Department shall promulgate rules that require all retail

establishments engaged in the sale of video games to display, in a clear and conspicuous
 location, information about the content rating system. Such rules shall prescribe the information
 required to be displayed concerning the basic age-based content ratings.

SECTION 5. *Penalties.* - Any person who shall violate Section 3 of this Act shall upon
conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than One thousand pesos (₽1,000.00) but not more
than fifty thousand pesos (₽50,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than two (2) months but not
more than one (1) year, or both upon the discretion of the court.

8 SECTION 6. *Separability Clause*. – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or 9 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain 10 valid and subsisting.

11 SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive 12 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent 13 with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

2