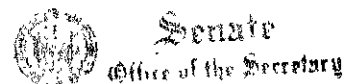


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 JUN -8 P4:35

SENATE
S. No. 2823

RECEIVED BY: Y

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
CREATING AN AMUSEMENT PARKS SAFETY BOARD

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 13 provides:

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

The policy recognizes the importance of the youth in nation-building and to achieve this, the state needs, first and foremost, to protect their physical well-being. In line with this, various measures are crafted to ensure the safety of our young people. For instance, there is Republic Act No. 7610 or the "Special Protection of Children against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act" and Presidential Decree No. 603 also known as the "Child and Youth Welfare Code."

This bill seeks to protect children while they are riding amusement park attractions. In September 2006, a kid fell from the Wild River ride of Star City in Pasay. In December 2006, another child was killed and several others were injured following an accident at a mini-carnival in Marikina City when the cable car from one of the rides the children were in fell to the ground.

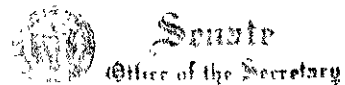
These tragedies could have been prevented had there been a board that monitors and approves carnival rides aside from the local civil engineer. This bill aims to create an amusement ride board which will ensure that the amusement rides in the Philippines

are safe for our children.¹

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
78

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

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AN ACT
CREATING AN AMUSEMENT PARKS SAFETY BOARD

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Amusement Parks
2 Safety Board Act”.

3 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State
4 to recognize the vital role of the youth in nation-building and to promote and protect their
5 physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. Towards this end, an
6 amusement ride safety board is deemed essential to protect the physical well-being of the
7 youth while they are on amusement rides.

8 SECTION 3. *Creation and Composition.* – There is hereby established an
9 “Amusement Park Safety Board” to be composed of seven members, one of whom shall
10 be the Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection or his designee. The remaining six members
11 of the board shall be appointed by the president. Each member appointed by the president
12 shall have a term of five years. The president shall fill any vacancy on the board for the
13 remainder of the unexpired term with a representative of the same interest as that of the
14 member whose term is vacant. Two members of the board shall represent the interests of
15 small amusement ride businesses. Two members of the board shall represent the interests
16 of the fixed amusement ride parks. Two members of the board shall be mechanical

1 engineers knowledgeable of amusement rides. The Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection
2 shall call the first meeting of the board within 60 days after all members have been
3 appointed and qualified. The Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection shall serve as
4 chairperson. After the initial meeting the members shall meet at the call of the
5 chairperson, but shall meet at least three times per year. Five members of the board shall
6 constitute a quorum.

7 SECTION 4. *Powers and Functions.* – The amusement ride safety board shall
8 have the following powers and functions:

9 1) To issue permits to operate for all amusement parks, small or fixed, already
10 existing or new. The year after the all members have been appointed and qualified, all
11 amusement parks must get a permit to operate from the Board, on top of existing local
12 permit requirements, in order for it to operate in the country.

13 2) To allow or disallow the operation of an amusement park if it deems that
14 the amusement park is unsafe.

15 3) To consult with engineering authorities and organizations who are
16 studying and developing amusement ride safety standards.

17 4) To adopt a code of rules and regulations governing maintenance, testing,
18 operation, and inspection of amusement rides including the amount of permit fee that it
19 deems reasonable. The board shall have the power to adopt a safety code for all
20 amusement rides.

21 5) To make recommendations to the Chief of the Bureau of Fire Protection
22 concerning the board's findings on safety issues related to amusement rides.

23 SECTION 5. *Compensation.* - The members of the Commission shall be entitled
24 to per diems for meetings attended, not exceeding five hundred pesos per meeting and not
25 exceeding Ten Thousand Pesos (₱10,000) a month. The members of the board shall

1 receive no other compensation for their services but they shall be reimbursed for their
2 actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

3 SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* - The amount of Five Million Pesos (₱5,000,000) is
4 hereby set aside for the operations of the Board.

5 SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
6 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other
7 provisions hereof.

8 SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or
9 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby
10 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

11 SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
12 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/mat4June2015