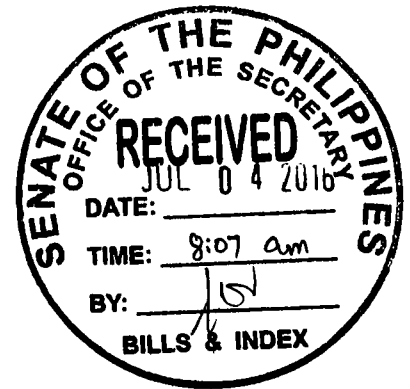


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session }



SENATE
S.B. No. 218

Introduced by SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

**AN ACT
BANNING THE USE OF FIRECRACKERS
EXCEPT IN DESIGNATED AREAS DONE BY PROFESSIONALS**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Section 5, Article II of the Philippine Constitution provides:

"The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy."

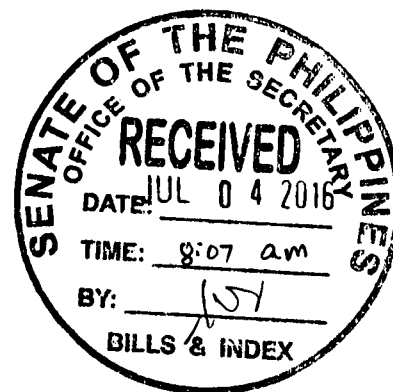
According to the Department of Health Secretary Janet Garin, there were more firecracker-related injuries this year compared to last year, and victims were getting younger. Moreover, from December 21, 2015 to January 5, 2016, the agency recorded 929 firecracker-related injuries and one death. This is eight percent higher compared to the same period last year. Of these cases, 33 needed amputations. More than 500 victims were aged 14 and below.

To prevent this yearly mishap, total ban on the use of firecrackers is necessary. The bill seeks to have an orderly, safe and peaceful celebration of events without risk of injury or death.

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


VICENTE C. SOTTO III

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

1 SECTION 1. **Short Title.** - " This Act shall be known as the "The
2 Firecracker Ban Act of 2016".

3 SECTION 2. **Declaration of Policy.** - Section 5, Article II of the
4 Philippine Constitution provides:

5 *"The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of*
6 *life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general*
7 *welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the*
8 *people of the blessings of democracy."*

9 SECTION 3. **Prohibition on the use of Firecrackers.** - The use
10 of firecrackers and/or pyrotechnic devices, in any place, and regardless
11 of any occasion is strictly prohibited except in cases provided by this act.

12 SECTION 4. **Exception on the use of Firecrackers.** - The use of
13 firecrackers and/ or pyrotechnic devices may only be allowed in areas
14 specifically designated and authorized by the head of the local
15 government unit and shall be done only by professionals who are
16 technically equipped with skills and knowledge on the use of firecrackers.

17 SECTION 5. **Penalties.** - Any person who violates Section 3 of this
18 Act shall be punished by a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos
19 (P 10,000.00) nor more than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P 50,000.00), or

1 imprisonment of not less than six (6) months nor more than one (1) year,
2 or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court.

3 SECTION 6. **Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The
4 Secretary of Interior and Local Government shall promulgate the rules
5 and regulations to implement this Act within sixty (60) days from its
6 effectivity.

7 SECTION 7. **Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is
8 declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are
9 not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

10 SECTION 8. **Repealing Clause.** - Any law, presidential decree or
11 issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule
12 or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with any provision of this Act as
13 hereby amended or modified accordingly.

14 SECTION 9. **Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take fifteen (15)
15 days following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2)
16 newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,