

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

SENATE
S. No. 1501

20 MAY 4 P 4 03

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

RECEIVED BY: 

**AN ACT
TO PROTECT FILIPINO CONSUMERS FROM SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS,
MANDATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "TIMBANGAN
CENTER" IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MARKETS IN THE COUNTRY,
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER II OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394,
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES"**

Explanatory Note

The height, weight, and other measurements are the primary indicators of the quality of a product. If the actual measurements of a product do not meet what is published, then it is a likely indicator that it is defective or even substandard.

Filipino consumers must be protected from these defective and/or substandard products. Thus, this measure seeks to mandate the establishment of "Timbangan Centers" in all public and private markets, supermarkets, groceries, stores, and malls. Such Timbangan Centers shall be publicly accessible locations where instruments for determining weights and measures is available free of charge to any individual who may want to verify the accuracy of the quantity and measurement of the products which they purchased.

Furthermore, market supervisors shall ensure the safekeeping and maintenance of such instruments. Market supervisors shall likewise keep a record of all products found to be waning in quantity or substandard in dimension, the establishment where the same were bought, and the name of the proprietor or manager thereof.

Thus, the speedy approval of this measure is eagerly sought.

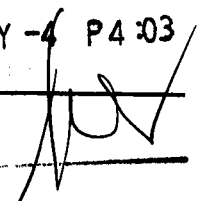

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Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

1 Section 1. Short Title.- This Act shall be known as the "*Timbangan sa*
2 *Merkado Act*".

3 Sec. 2. Amendatory Provision.- A new Article 62-A is inserted in Chapter II of
4 Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the "*Consumer Act of the Philippines*",
5 which shall read as follows:

6 **ARTICLE 62-A. ESTABLISHMENT OF TIMBANGAN CENTERS.-**
7 **ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS) SHALL ESTABLISH A**
8 **"TIMBANGAN CENTER", IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MARKETS,**
9 **SUPERMARKETS, GROCERIES, STORES, AND MALLS WITHIN THEIR**
10 **JURISDICTION.**

11 **FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS ACT, A "TIMBANGAN CENTER"**
12 **SHALL BE A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION WHEREIN**
13 **INSTRUMENTS FOR DETERMINING THE LENGTH, WEIGHT, AND**
14 **OTHER MEASUREMENTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FREE OF**
15 **CHARGE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO WISHES TO VERIFY THE**
16 **ACCURACY OF THE MEASUREMENT OF THE PRODUCTS WHICH THEY**
17 **WILL PURCHASE.**

1 **THE SAFEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE OF SAID**
2 **INSTRUMENTS SHALL BE UNDER THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION**
3 **OF THE MARKET SUPERVISOR WHO SHALL LIKEWISE KEEP A**
4 **RECORD OF ALL PRODUCTS FOUND TO BE WANTING IN QUANTITY**
5 **OR SUBSTANDARD IN DIMENSION, THE ESTABLISHMENT WHERE**
6 **THE SAME WERE BOUGHT, THE NAME OF THE PROPRIETOR OR**
7 **MANAGER THEREOF.**

8 **A CERTIFICATION DULY ISSUED BY THE MARKET**
9 **SUPERVISOR OR HIS AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE REFLECTING**
10 **THE CONTENTS OF SUCH RECORD SHALL BE CONSIDERED PRIMA**
11 **FACIE EVIDENCE OF VIOLATION OF THE ACTS PROHOBITED UNDER**
12 **ARTICLE 64 OF THIS ACT.**

13 *Sec. 3. Implementing Rules and Regulations.*- Within thirty (30) days from the
14 effectivity of this Act, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the
15 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall issue the rules and
16 regulations necessary for the speedy and effective implementation of this Act.

17 *Sec. 4. Separability Clause.* — If, for any reason, any part, section or
18 provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions not
19 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

20 *Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.* — All laws, decrees, orders, rules, regulations and
21 other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
22 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

23 *Sec. 6. Effectivity Clause.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
24 publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,