

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

5 JUL 14 2005

SENATE  
S. No. 2005

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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

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### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Illegal numbers and/or letters games in our country, like jueteng, continue to proliferate through time in spite of law enforcement efforts. Illegal numbers and/or letters games have become so entrenched in our society that it must first be effectively controlled and regulated by the State before it can be eventually eradicated completely.

This bill proposes to effectively control and regulate numbers and/or letters games by allowing it in a city or municipality only upon Ordinance by the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* or the *Sangguniang Bayan* duly approved by its constituents in a referendum election called for this purpose. After complying with this requirement, the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) shall then undertake the responsible operation of numbers and/or letters games in a city or municipality.

With this effective means of control, all other illegal or unauthorized numbers and/or letters games within a city or municipality can now be easily identified and prosecuted by the law enforcement under Republic Act No. 9287, increasing the penalties for illegal numbers games. Through proper regulation, illegal numbers and/or letters games can be curbed and corruption related to its illegal operation can be severed.

At the same time, this mode of control and regulation of illegal numbers and/or letters games can provide additional funding for financing micro, small, and medium enterprises; and salaries, allowances, and equipage of personnel of the Philippine National Police (PNP). This bill proposes that thirty percent (30%) of the proceeds from regulated numbers and/or letters games be allocated to the PNP, and as much as fifty percent (50%) be allocated for financing micro, small, and medium enterprises through loan operations similar to the model of Grameen Bank in the city or municipality to provide better livelihood opportunities for our people so that they may learn to work hard and look forward to a better future based on industry and not gambling.

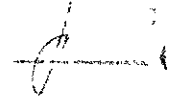
  
**RICHARD J. GORDON**  
Senator

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
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5 JUL 14 P1:31

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**AN ACT TO EFFECTIVELY CONTROL AND REGULATE  
NUMBERS AND/OR LETTERS GAMES**

*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 “Numbers and/or Letters  
2 Games Act.”

3 Sec. 2. *Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to effectively control and regulate  
4 numbers and/or letters games as a means to eradicate the vice of widespread illegal  
5 gambling and create a culture of enterprise among the people.

6 Sec. 3. *Definitions.* – For purposes of this Act,

7 (1) “Numbers and/or letters games” refers to any form of gambling activity, which  
8 uses numbers and/or letters or combinations thereof as factors in giving out jackpots,  
9 including but not limited to jueteng, masiao, and last two;

10 (2) “PAGCOR” refers to the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation;

11 (3) “PCSO” refers to the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office; and

12 (4) “PNP” refers to the Philippine National Police.

13 Sec. 4. *Numbers and/or Letters Games in a City or Municipality.* – Upon Ordinance  
14 by the *Sangguniang Panlungsod* or the *Sangguniang Bayan* duly approved by its  
15 constituents in a referendum election called for this purpose, a city or municipality may allow  
16 numbers and/or letters games operations in its locality in accordance with this Act.

17 Sec. 5. *Numbers and/or Letters Games Operations.* – PAGCOR is hereby authorized  
18 to operate numbers and/or letters games or to grant a franchise to a natural or juridical  
19 person to operate numbers and/or letters games in a city or municipality that has complied  
20 with Sec. 4 of this Act. The numbers and/or letters games franchise shall be valid for a

1 period of one (1) year, which may be renewable. All numbers and/or letters games  
2 operations under this Act shall be under the control and supervision of PAGCOR.

3 *Sec. 6. One Operator or Franchisee per City or Municipality.* – There shall only be  
4 one (1) numbers and/or letters games operator or franchisee per city or municipality.

5 *Sec. 7. Conduct of Numbers and/or Letters Games.* – The conduct of numbers  
6 and/or letters games shall be subject to similar mechanics and standards as lotto and other  
7 similar games. For this purpose, PAGCOR and PCSO shall promulgate minimum  
8 mechanics and standards in the form of rules and regulations in the conduct of numbers  
9 and/or letters games.

10 A city or municipality may impose additional rules and regulations that it deems  
11 appropriate in the conduct of numbers and/or letters games in its locality.

12 *Sec. 8. Allocation of Proceeds from Numbers and/or Letters Games.* – Proceeds  
13 from numbers and/or letters games shall be allocated as follows:

14 (1) Fifty percent (50%) shall be allocated for financing micro, small, and medium  
15 enterprises in the city or municipality;

16 (2) Thirty percent (30%) shall be allocated for the salaries, allowances, and equipage  
17 of personnel of the PNP; and

18 (3) Twenty percent (20%) shall be allocated for numbers and/or letters games  
19 operations, including payments to winners of numbers and/or letters games in the city or  
20 municipality.

21 *Sec. 9. Penal Provision.* – Any person who violates any provision of this Act shall be  
22 punished with the penalty of six (6) years to twelve (12) years imprisonment, or a fine  
23 ranging from fifty thousand pesos (PhP50,000) to five hundred thousand pesos  
24 (PhP500,000), or both.

25 *Sec. 10. Illegal or Unauthorized Numbers and/or Letters Games.* – Any person who  
26 participates in illegal or unauthorized numbers and/or letters games shall be punished with  
27 the same penalties as provided in Republic Act No. 9287.

28 *Sec. 11. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or  
29 other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
30 repealed or modified accordingly.

31 *Sec. 12. Appropriation.* – The initial funding to carry out the provisions of this Act  
32 shall be charged against the current year's appropriation. Thereafter, such sums as may be  
33 necessary shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

1           Sec. 13. *Separability Clause.* – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared  
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provisions not affected thereby shall  
3 remain in force and effect.

4           Sec. 14. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following the  
5 completion of its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general  
6 circulation in the Philippines.

7           Approved,