THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)

OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

SENATE
S.B. No. 2191

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The cost of appearance enhancement services such as hairdressing, barbering and cosmetology, as well as other personal services like dry cleaning, tailoring and shoe repair, is an important factor that customers take into consideration when they shop for such services. It becomes the case, however, that a customer gets a shock when the time comes for him to settle the bill. As the service has already been rendered, the customer has no option left but to pay. Thus, it is important for a customer to be aware how much he or she will have to pay before contracting any person for the performance of any service.

This bill seeks to protect consumers from unexpected price charging by requiring persons engaged in image enhancement and other services to post a clear and conspicuous sign of the prices they charge for their services in plain view to all customers and potential customers. Such a measure will also prevent the performers of such services from charging different customers different prices for the same service.

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SENATE S.B. No. **2191** HECEIVED BY:

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AN ACT

REQUIRING PERSONS ENGAGED IN APPEARANCE ENHANCEMENT AND OTHER SERVICES TO POST A CLEAR AND CONSPICUOUS SIGN OF THE PRICES THEY CHARGE FOR THEIR SERVICES IN PLAIN VIEW TO ALL CUSTOMERS AND POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Price Posting Act of 2005,"

SECTION 2. Purpose. – It is a policy of the State to promote the general welfare of the people. Pursuant to this policy, this Act seeks to protect consumers from unexpected price charging by requiring persons engaged in image enhancement and other services to post a clear and conspicuous sign of the prices they charge for their services in plain view to all customers and potential customers.

SECTION 3. Price Posting by Persons Engaged in Hairdressing, Barbering or Cosmetology. —Any person who is directly or indirectly engaged in the practice of hairdressing, barbering or cosmetology or who holds himself out to the public as being able to do so, shall post a clear and conspicuous sign, in plain view to all customers and potential customers, which shall state the price to be charged for each and every service offered.

Where more than one person practices in a single facility and where such persons charge the same price for each and every service provided, a single posting shall satisfy the requirements of this section. However, where persons practicing within a single facility do not charge the same price for each and every service offered, each practitioner shall post a sign in accordance with this section.

SECTION 4. Price Posting by Persons engaged in Dry Cleaning, Tailoring or Shoe Repair. – Every owner, operator or person engaged in dry cleaning, tailoring, shoe repair, or similar services who cleans, presses, alters, repairs, or dyes articles belonging to a consumer shall post a clear and conspicuous sign in plain view to all customers and potential customers which shall state the prices the customer is to be charged for all services offered by such owner, operator or person.

SECTION 5. Penalties. - Failure by any person under Sections 3 and 4 to comply with the price posting requirement therein shall be punished with a penalty of imprisonment of arresto menor, or a fine ranging from One Thousand Pesos (P1,000.00) to Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000.00), or both, at the discretion of the court, taking into consideration all attending circumstances.

If entity responsible for failure to comply with Sections 3 or 4 is a corporation, trust or firm, partnership, association or any other entity, the penalty of imprisonment shall be imposed on the entity's responsible officers, including, but not limited to, the president, vice-president, chief executive officer, general manager, managing director or partner directly responsible therefor.

SECTION 6. Separability Clause. – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. - Any law, presidential decree, issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions 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,