


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 P4:23

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2359

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been noted that Article 202 of the Revised Penal Code which penalizes vagrancy has resulted, in many instances, in the arrest, prosecution and harassment of peddlers, ambulant vendors such as sellers of "balot", "palamig", balloon, softdrinks, as well as persons from the provinces who come to the city in their desire to sell their goods to a wider market. Thus, poor people who seek to earn an honest living are penalized.

Therefore, it is imperative that the law be clarified and correspondingly amended so as to remove the impression in the minds of the poor people that they are being denied the right to earn an honest living. The present law has been the cause for the condemnation of the poor in their struggle for survival when the government should, instead, provide them with basic services and help free from poverty.


Accordingly, the urgent passage of the bill is hereby recommended.


MANNY VILLAR

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2357

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

**AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE TWO HUNDRED TWO
OF ACT NUMBERED THIRTY EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTEEN,
AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
REVISED PENAL CODE**

*Be^{it} enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in congress assembled:*

Section 1. Article 202 of the Revised Penal Code is hereby
amended to read as follows:

"ART. 202. *Vagrants and prostitutes – Penalty-* The
following are vagrants:

1. Any person having no apparent means of subsistence, who has the physical ability to work and who neglects to apply himself or herself to some lawful calling;
2. Any person found loitering about public or semi-public buildings or places or tramping or wandering about the country or the streets without visible means of support;
3. Any idle or dissolute person who lodges in houses of ill-fame; ruffians or pimps and those who habitually associate with prostitutes;
4. Any person who, not being included in the provisions of other articles of this Code, shall be found loitering in any inhabited or uninhabited place belonging to another without any lawful or justifiable purpose;

PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PROVISIONS ABOVE ENUMERATED SHALL NOT APPLY TO OR INCLUDE AND PENALIZE AMBULANT VENDORS SUCH AS SELLERS OF 'BALOT', 'PALAMIG', BALLOON, SOFTDRINKSK AND THE LIKE AS WELL AS PERSONS FROM THE PROVINCES WHO COME TO THE CITY TO MARKET THEIR GOODS."

Section 2. Any law, decree, order, rule or regulation or part thereof which is inconsistent with this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Section 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,