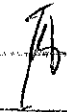


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

8 JUL 21 P2:44

SENATE
S. No. 2445

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Sustained sounds exceeding 100 decibels (dB) can cause permanent hearing damage in humans. In recent testing performed by the Sight and Hearing Association and researchers at the University of Minnesota, seven of fourteen loud toys tested topped 100 dB. A child's mini electric guitar produced noises over 117 dB, louder than a typical chainsaw. This level of sound is unacceptable for children's toys.

In addition to the obvious unwanted effect of hearing loss, noise can cause other health issues as well. It increases blood pressure, has negative cardiovascular effects such as changing the way the heart beats, increases breathing rate, disturbs digestion, can cause an upset stomach or ulcer, can negatively impact a developing fetus, perhaps contributing to premature birth, and makes it difficult to sleep, even after the noise stops. These are preventable health risks which this legislation seeks to address.


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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1 AN ACT REGULATING THE DECIBEL EMISSION OF TOYS

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

4 SECTION 1. *Limit on Decibel Level of Toys.* When used in this Act, the term “toy”
5 shall mean all products designed or intended by the manufacturer to be used by children when
6 they play.

7 SECTION 2. *Prohibition.* No person, firm, corporation, or other legal entity which
8 manufactures or assembles toys shall manufacture, assemble, sell, offer to sell, or distribute a toy
9 that makes or emits noise exceeding one hundred decibels measured at the distance that the
10 product ordinarily would be from the ear of the child using it.

11 SECTION 3. *Agencies Involved.* The Department of Trade and Industry, in consultation
12 with the Department of Health, shall promulgate rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes
13 of this Act. Such rules and regulations shall include testing methods for manufacturers to use in
14 ensuring that their products meet the requirements of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. *Penalty* – Any violation of section 2 of this Act shall be punishable by a
16 civil penalty of Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50, 000.00) for the first offense, One Hundred Thousand
17 Pesos (P100, 000.00) for the second offense, and closure of the business establishment thereafter.

1 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts
2 thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
3 accordingly.

4 SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any provision of this Act is
5 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions hereof which are not
6 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

7 SECTION 7. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
8 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

9 Approved,