

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 717

Introduced by REP. JUDY J. SYJUCO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

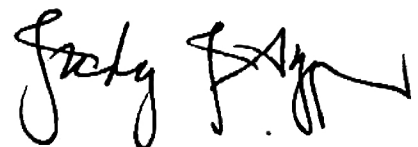
The Philippine earned the monicker as the texting capital of the world **and** giant telecommunication companies like Globe Telecom, Inc. and Smart Communications, Inc, among others have since grown into multi-billion industries. This is brought about by a progressively increasing number of subscribers from all social classes who patronize **these electronic commodities** readily found in the markets.

It is only fitting and proper and as these industrial companies rake so **much** profit from the manufacture and sale of these cellphone units that they shall be **prohibited** to sell pre-paid and post-paid subscription plans beyond their peak-load carrying capacity.

The present condition of **poor** interconnection, delayed messages and network clogging reflects that this matter has been seemingly left overlooked and **is now** seriously affecting the **consumers** of the wireless communications industry as a consequence. Clearly, the number and bulk of cellphone subscribers/ consumers is not proportionate to these network's load capacity and inadequate to handle the volume of traffic from the wireless consumer sector.

It is high time that hapless consumers of the wireless telecommunication get protection from such capitalist networks. The democratic way of life, after all, cannot prosper on the basis of mere propaganda; much less subsist on continuous **and** incessant deception and the habitual cultivation of false imaged that such **wireless** telecommunication firms projects to its consumers.

In view of the foregoing, **the** approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



JUDY J. SYJUCO

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AN ACT
PROHIBITING TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES, SUCH AS THOSE
PROVIDING WIRELESS TELEPHONE SERVICES, FROM SELLING TO THE PUBLIC
PRE-PAID AND POST-PAID SUBSCRIPTION PLANS THAT WILL RESULT TO
CONSUMER USE EXCEEDING THE PEAK-LOAD CARRYING CAPACITIES OF
SUCH COMPANIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1: It is declared the policy of the State to promote and recognize the vital role of communication and information in nation-building. It is also hereby declared the prime duty of the Government to serve and protect the consuming public from errant wireless telecommunication companies.

SECTION 2: Under the Implementing Rules and Regulations for Republic Act No. 7925, otherwise known as the *Public Telecommunications Policy Act of 1995*, the National Telecommunications Commission, as an attached agency of the Department of Transportation and Communications shall monitor the implementation of RA 7925, in accordance with its mandate to achieve its responsibility for the development and maintenance of a long term strategic national plan for telecommunications.

SECTION 3: This Act prohibits telecommunications companies, such as those providing wireless telephone services, from selling to the public pre-paid and post-paid subscription plans that will result to consumer use exceeding the peak-load carrying capacities of such companies.

SECTION 4: Any violation found and proven thereafter will mean foreclosure of such wireless telecommunication company and a penalty of Fifty Million Pesos (P50,000,000).

SECTION 5: The Secretary of the Department of Transportation and Communications shall prescribe rules and regulations to implement the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 6: This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after completion of its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,