

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session
HOUSE BILL NO. 3267



Introduced by Honorable BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is the policy of the State to promote and protect the moral, intellectual and social well-being of the youth, promote just and dynamic social order, and develop moral character and personal discipline. Innate in the nature of man is to do evil, hence, we have laws which address this evil nature.

Apparently, due to our culture, movies continue to pose a great impact and influence in the minds and lives of our countrymen, especially those who have a low level of education and those who were not privileged enough to go to school. As a result, many of our countrymen end up idolizing either the hero or the villain, more so if the movie is all about violence, criminal activities or the lives of well-known criminals. The influence is so powerful that when regularly exposed to such kind of movies, the viewer, especially in his idle moments, would be thinking of, if not already planning to commit, the crime or violence committed by his "idol" in such movies.

These kinds or classes of movies, therefore, have no social, moral, intellectual or cultural values, and on the contrary, they weaken, if not destroy, moral fiber and personal discipline which the State seeks to develop among its people. The strong moral fiber and personal discipline of the people is the strength of a nation. This Bill, consequently, seeks to prohibit and penalize movies that cater to violence or glorify criminals.

The approval of this Bill is therefore earnestly requested.


BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

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HOUSE BILL NO. 3267

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AN ACT

PROHIBITING THE PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, SALE, COPYING, LEASE, SHOWING OR EXHIBITION, IMPORTATION AND EXPORTATION OF VIOLENT MOVIES AND THOSE GLORIFYING CRIMES OR CRIMINALS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

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

Section. 1. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to develop moral character and personal discipline among its people, and to promote and protect the moral, intellectual and social well-being of the youth. Towards this end, the government shall see to it that no movie shall be produced, distributed, sold, copied, showed or exhibited, imported or exported that mainly cater to violence or glorify crimes or criminals with no social, intellectual or moral value.

Sec. 2. Definition of Terms. – As used in this Act the following terms shall mean:

- a) **Glorify.** –that which praise or makes it appear beautiful or gives importance to a crime or the life of a criminal.
- b) **Violent.** – There is excessive or unnecessary use of violence, or where the dominant feature is violence or the use thereof.
- c) **Crime.** –an act or omission defined and penalized by law.

- d) Criminal. –a person convicted by final judgment for the commission of a crime.
- e) Television Broadcast. – Public showing by transmitting sound or images by television or similar equipment, including cable television, and other limited audience distribution.

Sec. 3. Prohibited Acts. – It is hereby declared unlawful and prohibited to produce, import, export, distribute, sell, copy, lease, exhibit or show, or cause the showing or exhibition, in moviehouses, and other similar establishments, including television broadcasts, movies that are violent or that glorify crimes or criminals.

Sec.4. Penalty. –Any person, whether natural or juridical who shall-

- a) produce, import, export or distribute any movie prohibited under this Act shall, suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than five (5) years nor more than seven (7) years and a fine of not less than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00) nor more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00).
- b) Exhibit or show, or cause the exhibition or showing in moviehouses and other similar establishments, including television broadcast, of any movie prohibited under this Act shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than four (4) years nor more than five (5) years and a fine of not less than One Hundred Fifty Thousand Pesos (P150, 000.00) nor more than Three Hundred Thousand Pesos (P300, 000.00).
- c) Sell, copy or lease any movie prohibited under this Act shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than three (3) years nor more than four (4) years and a fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) nor more than Two Hundred Thousand (P200,000.00).

In any case, should the violation of this Act be committed by a juridical person, the President, Manager, Partner and members of the Board of Directors

shall be criminally liable and the penalty of fine herein provided shall be imposed upon them individually.

Section 5. Disposition of Materials. - Any movie, and the materials containing the same, which are prohibited under this Act to be produced, imported, or to be exported, distributed, sold, copied, leased, or shown or exhibited shall be confiscated and destroyed.

Section 6. Separability Clause. - If for any reason, any section or provision of this Act, or any portion thereof, or the application of such section, provision or portion thereof to any person, group or circumstance, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions of this Act shall not be affected by such declaration and shall remain in force or effect.

Sec. 7. Repealing Clause. - The provisions of other laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly,

Section 8. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,