

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3268



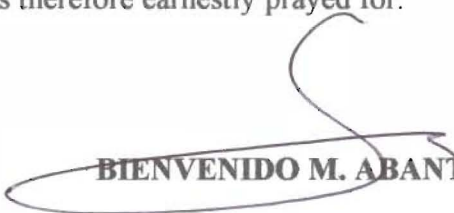
Introduced by Honorable BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Any form of gambling, like the illegal numbers game subject of Republic Act No. 9287, is a national scourge which must be obliterated. It pollutes life and corrodes the financial stability of the humblest home. It is an evil which undermines the social, moral and economic growth of a nation. It is a social menace which dissipates the energy and resources of the people. It must be condemned for it has the effect of causing poverty, dishonesty, fraud and deceit. It has been similarly observed that the cause of the commission of many crimes is a passion for the gambling board. It is therefore better to strike at the root of the tree of crime than merely to whittle off the twigs, only to see them continually renew themselves in fresh branches.

As we try our best to put a stop to the illegal numbers game, our efforts would cost our government huge expenses, hence, imposing FINE as an ADDITIONAL PENALTY becomes relevant. This Bill therefore principally seeks to further increase the penalty for illegal numbers game by imposing fine as an additional penalty which will redound to the benefit of the government and, hopefully, will further deter gambling of this sort.

The early passage of this Bill is therefore earnestly prayed for.


BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.

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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTIONS 3 AND 5 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9287

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

Section. 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 9287 is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 3. Punishable Acts. - Any person who participates in any illegal numbers game shall suffer the following penalties:

- a) The penalty of imprisonment from thirty (30) days to ninety (90) days AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TEN THOUSAND PESOS (P10,000.00) NOR MORE THAN TWENTY (P20,000.00), if such person acts as a bettor;
- b) The penalty of imprisonment from six (6) years and one (1) day to eight (8) years AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00) NOR MORE THAN THIRTY THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000.00), if such person acts as a personnel or staff of an illegal numbers game operation;
- c) The penalty of imprisonment from ten (10) years and one (1) day to twelve (12) years AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN

THIRTY THOUSAND PESOS (P30,000.00) NOR MORE THAN FORTY THOUSAND PESOS (P40,000.00), if such person acts as a collector or agent;

- d) The penalty of imprisonment from ten (10) years and one (1) day to twelve (12) years AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FORTY THOUSAND PESOS (P40,000.00) NOR MORE THAN FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) if such person acts as a coordinator, controller or supervisor;
- e) The penalty of imprisonment from twelve (12) years and one (1) day to fourteen (14) years AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P150,000.00) NOR MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00) if such person acts as a maintainer, manager or operator;
- f) The penalty of imprisonment from fourteen (14) years and one (1) day to sixteen (16) years AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P500,000.00) NOR MORE THAN ONE MILLION PESOS (P1,000,000.00) if such person acts as a protector or coddler.”

Section 2. Section 5 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SEC.5. Liability of Government Employees and/or Public Officials. a) If the collector, agent, coordinator, controller, supervisor, maintainer, manager, operator, financier, or capitalist, PROTECTOR or CODDLER of any illegal numbers game is a government employee and/or public official, shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of not less than twelve (12) years and one (1) day to twenty (20) years and a fine ranging from Three Million Pesos (P3,000,000.00) to Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00) and perpetual disqualification from office

AND ALL HIS RETIREMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS SHALL BE FORFEITED IN FAVOR OF THE GOVERNMENT; PROVIDED THAT IF THE PROTECTOR OR CODDLER IS AN ELECTED PUBLIC OFFICIAL, HE SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT FROM TWENTY (20) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO THIRTY (30) YEARS WHICH SHALL NOT BE BAILABLE WHERE THE EVIDENCE OF GUILT IS STRONG, IN ADDITION TO THE FINE AND OTHER PENALTIES IMPOSED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH.

b.) In the case of failure to apprehend perpetrators of any illegal numbers game, any law enforcer shall suffer THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN SIXTEEN (16) YEARS AND ONE (1) DAY TO TWENTY (20) YEARS. IN ADDITION, HE SHALL BE DISMISSED FROM THE SERVICE AND ALL HIS RETIREMENT AND OTHER BENEFITS SHALL BE FORFEITED IN FAVOR OF THE GOVERNMENT.”

Section 3. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) National Newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,