

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

Thirteenth Congress
Third Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5944



Introduced by Honorable MILES M. ROCES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Philippine government passed a law, known as the Clean Air Act, to address the worsening air pollution in the country. One of the sectors closely monitored, as part of the implementation of this act, is the transportation sector, which according to study, the everyday emissions coming from vehicles significantly contributes to air pollution. Both the local and national government have already put up measures to reduce air pollution in the country in compliance with the said law. However, we may have overlooked in one area in which air pollution from car emissions accumulates unnoticeably – the enclosed parking areas, including the ones in buildings that usually have inadequate ventilation system or none at all.

Air pollution generated by cars in enclosed parking areas may seem insignificant as compared to the air pollution outside. On second look, however, the fumes inside the parking areas are as alarming since without proper ventilation, it would just go around the place creating a concentration of toxic fumes in the area. This, of course, poses a threat to the health of people using parking spaces located in enclosed areas.

According to a World Health Organization research, the emissions from car exhausts are responsible for more deaths than road accidents.

Although the Clean Air Act could not directly address this air pollution problem inside buildings, the Building Code of the Philippines could be amended to comply with the requirements of the Clean Air Act.

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


MILES M. ROCES

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

Thirteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5944

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AN ACT
REQUIRING THE ADOPTION OF ADEQUATE VENTILATION SYSTEM IN
ALL PARKING AREA BY AMENDING SECTION 5.01.01 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 6541, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL BUILDING CODE OF
THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. Section 5.01.01 of the Republic Act 6541 is hereby amended to read as follows:

TITLE – LIGHT, VENTILATION AND SANITATION
Chapter 5.01 – LIGHT AND VENTILATION
SECTION 5.01.01: General

- (a) Subject to the provisions of the Civil Code on easement of light and view, and to the provisions of this Title, every building shall be designed, constructed, and equipped as to provide adequate light and ventilation.
- (b) All building erected shall face a street or public alley or private street which has been officially approved.
- (c) No building shall be altered nor arranged so as to reduce the size of any room or the relative area of windows to less than that provided for buildings under this Code, or so as to create an additional room, unless such additional room conforms to the requirements of this Code.
- (d) No building shall be enlarged, so that the dimensions of any required court yard would be less than that prescribed for any such building.

(E) NO PARKING AREA SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED WITHOUT OBSERVATION AND ADOPTION OF ADEQUATE VENTILATION SYSTEM; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT ENCLOSED PARKING AREA AND COVERED PARKING AREA OF MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED SQUARE METERS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO INSTALL APPROPRIATE EXHAUST DUCTS AND FRESH AIR INTAKE VENTS; PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT PARKING AREAS SHALL BE MAINTAINED TO PREVENT THE ACCUMULATION OF TOXIC FUMES; PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT, FOR THIS PURPOSE, PARKING AREA REFERS TO A CONSTRUCTION, OR BUILDING OR PART THEREOF ACTUALLY OR DIRECTLY USED OR INTENDED FOR THE STORAGE OR PARKING OF ANY MOTOR VEHICLE, INCLUDING MOTOR BOATS, MOTOR BICYCLES AND TRAILERS.

SECTION 2. All provisions of laws, order, decrees, including rules and regulations inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. The Department of Public Works and Highways, in coordination with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of Section One of this Act within six (6) months following the effectivity of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication of the Official Gazette or at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,