

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 3120

Introduced by HON. MA. AMELITA A. CALIMBAS – VILLAROSA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This measure proposes to establish a *Timbangan ng Bayan Center* in all public markets throughout the country via an appropriate amendment to the Consumer Act of the Philippines.

Our crippled economy continues to propel prices of prime commodities to prohibitive heights making it more and more difficult for the average Filipino household to afford nutritious meals on their tables. Gripped with seemingly unending financial crisis, the last thing that our people need is to fall prey to unscrupulous businessmen who give them much less than precious money's worth.

By establishing a *Timbangan ng Bayan Center* in all public markets nationwide, the buying public will be provided an immediate means of checking the accuracy of the weight and quantity of the goods they are buying while dishonest vendors will think twice before committing any irregularity because of the imminence of getting caught in flagrante delicto.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this measure is earnestly recommended.



MA. AMELITA A. CALIMBAS - VILLAROSA

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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A *TIMBANGAN NG BAYAN* CENTER IN ALL PUBLIC MARKETS NATIONWIDE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE, CHAPTER II OF THE CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES

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

SECTION 1. Chapter II of Republic Act No. 7394 otherwise known as the Consumer Act of the Philippines is hereby amended to include the following Article:

Article 62 – A. ***Establishment of Timbangan ng Bayan Centers.***
All local government units, through their provincial, city or municipal treasurers, shall establish a *Timbangan ng Bayan Center* in all public markets nationwide where instruments for determining weights and measures shall be open for and accessible to any one who wants to verify the accuracy of the quantity and measurement of the products that they purchased.

The safekeeping and maintenance of said instruments shall be under the control and supervision of the Market Supervisor who shall likewise be in charge of keeping a record of every product found to be wanting in quantity or substandard in dimension as well as the circumstances surrounding the sale thereof, including but not limited to, the name of the buyer, the price paid, and the name of the establishment where the same was bought including the name of the proprietor or manager thereof. A certification duly issued by the Market Supervisor or his authorized representative reflecting the contents of such record shall be *prima facie* evidence of violation of the prohibited acts provided in Article 64.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Approved,