

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

15th Congress
First Regular Session

H. No. 3233

Introduced by Representative Malapitan

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The attached bill seeks to require owners of shopping malls, markets, schools, hospitals, hotels and other similar commercial establishments to provide free adequate parking areas to its clientele in accordance with Article 2 of R.A.No. 7304, otherwise known as the "Consumer Act of the Philippines" which provides that it is the policy of the State to protect the interests of the consumer, promote the general welfare and to establish standards of conduct for business and industry.

A barrage of complaints from the public about the prevalent practice of most commercial establishments and shopping centers to charge and collect parking fees from customers who use their parking areas, notwithstanding the fact that they are patrons of said establishments. The customers have no choice but to accept the terms and conditions, printed in small letters at the back of the parking ticket, which are often unconscionable, lopsided and disadvantageous to them, thus depriving them of their rights as consumers.

Moreover, commercial centers and shopping malls management always deny responsibility for loss of any vehicle or any personal property left inside the car, even if the carjacking or robbery occurred inside their guarded parking areas.

In order to protect the consumers, approval of the attached bill is urgently urged.


OSCAR G. MALAPITAN

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AN ACT

TO PROVIDE ADEQUATE FREE PARKING AREAS FOR CUSTOMERS OF SHOPPING MALLS, MARKETS, HOTELS, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS, AND OTHER SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENTS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF.

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

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the State to protect the interests of consumers, promote their general welfare and to establish standards of conduct for business and industry.

SEC. 2. In pursuance to such policy, it is mandated that owners of shopping malls, markets, hotels, schools, hospitals, and other similar commercial establishments to provide adequate free parking areas for their clientele and prohibiting the exaction of parking fees thereof.

SEC. 3. Any person violating the provision of the preceding section shall be fined of not less than fifty thousand pesos (Php 50,000.00) but not exceeding One hundred thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00) and imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than two (2) years or both fine and imprisonment upon the discretion of the Court. If the offender is a corporation, organization or any similar entity, the officials thereof directly involved shall be liable therefore.

SEC. 4. Any provision of law, presidential decree, executive orders and rules and regulations or parts thereof, contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in any two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,