

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **5316**



Introduced by Honorable Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Filipino psyche of our young children in school is under attack – right here and now.

Planking, beyond being an art or a game that found acceptance as a fad or trend on many youngsters, now rears its ugly head as a form of redress of grievance against the status quo.

Parents and teachers have reason to be alarmed if this mindset will soon have a viral effect upon the youth such that all street rallies or similar protest actions will have as a scheme and scene otherwise warm and living bodies laid down across street highways as though they are offerings to the gods.

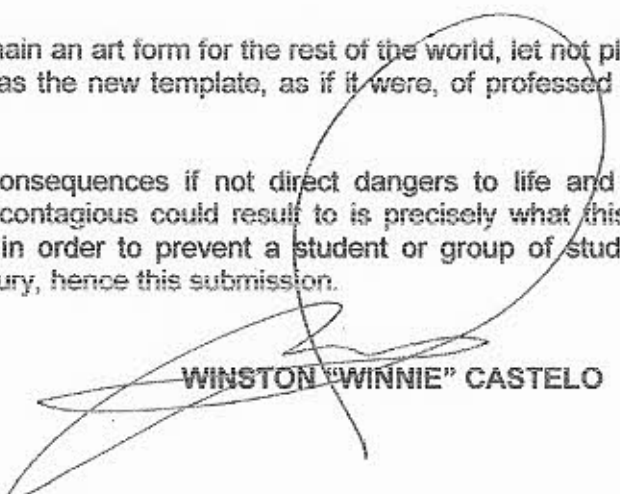
The brakes have to be applied by at least, a congressional feat, so that the danger to life and limb by a student or a group of students who will transform an art into an act to extract vengeance on government will come to a halt.

The scene of September 19 where members of the League of Filipino Students went into planking the busy highway of Espana, Sampaloc, Manila as a sign of their support to the massive transport strike launched by PISTON flies in the opposite direction with what is universally regarded as principled, proper, and disciplined action that may be resorted to by anyone with redress against the status quo.

Not planking.

If planking were to remain an art form for the rest of the world, let not planking be introduced in the Philippines as the new template, as if it were, of professed legitimate dissent.

The possibly grave consequences if not direct dangers to life and limb that planking when gone viral or contagious could result to is precisely what this piece of legislation seeks to address in order to prevent a student or group of students from potential risks like death or injury, hence this submission.


WINSTON "WINNIE" CASTELO

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AN ACT
PRESCRIBING A UNIVERSAL CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT WHEREBY
PLANKING BY A STUDENT OR GROUP OF STUDENTS DURING STREET RALLIES
OR SIMILAR PROTEST ACTIONS AS A FORM OF REDRESS OF GRIEVANCE BE
STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND APPLYING APPROPRIATE SANCTIONS THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Anti-Planking Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. A universal Code of Student Conduct is hereby prescribed where planking as a form of redress of grievance be strictly prohibited and appropriate sanctions be applied for violations thereof.

SEC. 3. Under this Act, planking is when a student or group of students lies face down in unusual locations especially in streets or other public places, keeping the hands along the body and the feet outstretched and especially where such act is meant as a form of redress of grievance against government.

SEC. 4. Every bonafide student from any school, college or university shall conduct himself with high degree of discipline and propriety.

SEC. 5. The Department of Education in the case of elementary and high school students and the Commission on Higher Education in the case of college students shall draft a universal Code of Student Conduct to carry out the provisions of this Act.

Further, DepEd and CHED, respectively shall issue appropriate rules and regulations to effectively carry out intent and purpose of this Act.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect ninety (90) days after its publication in the Official Gazette and in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,