

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Manila

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
THIRD REGULAR SESSION

House Bill No. 6689



Introduced by Representative **Anthony Rolando T. Golez, Jr.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is widely accepted that the Lupang Hinirang is a great symbol of the pride and honor that Filipinos have for our country; its continuous playing will further instill nationalism to all Filipinos. With the fast-paced lives that we have today, people need to be reminded about having national pride and love for the Philippines and this can be done by having people listen to the National Anthem being played. People today often crowd malls and commercial centers, and it is the best place to play the Lupang Hinirang. Government offices should also lead the way in instilling the national pride by playing the National Anthem in their office premises.

Requiring the National Anthem to be played in government offices, malls and commercial centers three times a day will definitely increase national pride among Filipinos. Christmas songs and advertisements are usually played in public places and it will not be a burden for malls and commercial centers to require them to play the Lupang Hinirang three times a day. Our nation have millions of citizens outside the country for work and vacation; before they leave and when they come back, they can easily be reminded of national pride when they hear the National Anthem being played in government offices, malls, and commercial centers.

Nationalism and pride for the Philippines should be strengthened. Love for country can be furthered with Lupang Hinirang being played three times a day.

Approval of the bill is earnestly sought.

ARGUMENTS

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Introduced by Representative **Anthony Rolando T. Golez, Jr.**

**"AN ACT STRENGTHENING NATIONAL PRIDE
BY MANDATING THE PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
THREE TIMES A DAY
IN ALL MALLS, COMMERCIAL CENTERS,
AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES"**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as "Strengthening National Pride Act".

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Principle.* - The State recognizes the need for all Filipinos to extremely love the Philippines so that it can ensure a better, stronger, and more progressive future. The National Anthem of the Philippines, the Lupang Hinirang, echoes the love and pride that the Filipinos have for our country and repeatedly playing it will instill further nationalism and pride to all Filipinos.

SECTION 3. *National Anthem in Main Government Offices.* - The Office of the President, the Senate of the Philippines, the House of Representatives and the Supreme Court shall play the Lupang Hinirang in the premises of their offices three times a day; at 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 4:00 PM every day. Provided that, when the government offices conducts a flag-raising ceremony in any given day, the playing of the National Anthem during that occasion shall be already counted and can be deducted from the the number of times that the National Anthem need to be played in a particular government office pursuant to this Section.

SECTION 4. *National Anthem in Other Government Offices.* - The President of the Republic of the Philippines shall designate other government offices that will be required to play the National Anthem within their premises three times a day, considering the transactions that the public has before said offices. The National

Anthem shall be played at 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 4:00 PM every day in the other government offices that will be required by the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

SECTION 5. *National Anthem in Malls and Commercial Centers.* - All malls and commercial centers shall be required to play the Lupang Hinirang three times a day within their corridors and hallways every day when they are open. The National Anthem shall be played at 10:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 4:00 PM every day in all malls and commercial centers.

SECTION 6. *Action of Persons Inside Places Where the National Anthem is Required to be Played Three Times a Day.* - All persons inside main government offices, government offices identified by the President of the Republic Philippines pursuant to Section 4 hereof, and malls and commercial centers shall be required to stand still, listen, and stop what they are doing every time the Lupang Hinirang is being played. Filipinos inside the malls and commercial centers are encouraged to also sing while the Lupang Hinirang is being played.

SECTION 7. *Volume of National Anthem When Being Played* - The main government offices, government offices identified by the President of the Republic Philippines pursuant to Section 4 hereof, and malls and commercial centers shall make sure that the Lupang Hinirang will be played loudly and clearly when complying with the requirements of this Act.

SECTION 8. *Penalties.* - All violators of the requirements laid down in this Act shall be penalized as follows:

a. **Penalty Against Head of Government Offices.** - Subject to existing laws, all heads of government offices or the division of a particular government office, tasked with making sure that the provisions of this Act shall be properly implemented, shall be charged with serious neglect for non-compliance with the requirements of this Act and shall be removed from public office with forfeiture of all retirement and separation benefits.

b. **Penalty Against Owners of Malls and Commercial Centers.** - Malls and Commercial Centers who fail to comply with the requirements of this Act shall be imposed with a fine of Twenty Five Thousand Pesos (P 25,000.00) Pesos for every time they fail to play the National Anthem pursuant to the requirements stated in this Act.

c. **Penalty for Violation of Section 6.** - All persons who violate Section 6 of this Act shall be imprisoned for one (1) month and be imposed with a fine of One Thousand Pesos (P 1,000.00).

SECTION 9. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Legal Affairs Office of the Office of the President shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations of

this Act within thirty (30) days after it has been signed by the President of the Republic of the Philippines.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect immediately after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

APPROVED,