

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL No. **592**



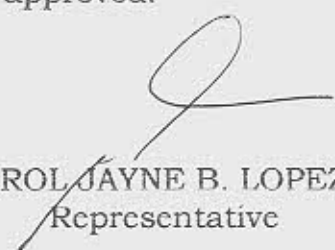
Introduced by Hon. Carol Jayne B. Lopez

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It has been the policy of the State to promote the interest of consumers (Article 2 of the Consumer Act of the Philippines or Republic Act No. 7304). To achieve this, the government must strive to put up adequate mechanisms that will ensure that consumers are protected while at the same time encouraging more trade to the end that a good environment for businesses is set in place.

One area of concern that affects the ordinary and day-to-day conduct of consumer lives is the matter of provision for parking. Most establishments and business centers charge and collect parking fees for the use of their parking areas notwithstanding the fact that the reason for the use of their parking area is that the car owner intends, in general, to conduct business and in particular, to patronize the products or services marketed thereat. What makes matters worse at times is the fine print provision found in parking tickets that denies any liability on the part of management in case of loss of the vehicle or any personal property inside such vehicle. It will thus be for the interest of the consuming public that shopping malls and such other establishments such as markets, schools, hospitals, and other similar establishments provide its clients adequate parking that is free-of-charge.

It is thus requested that the attached bill be approved.


CAROL JAYNE B. LOPEZ
Representative

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HOUSE BILL No. _____

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AN ACT REQUIRING OWNERS OF BUSINESS ESTABLISHMENTS SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO SHOPPING MALLS, MARKETS, SCHOOLS, HOSPITALS TO PROVIDE FOR FREE ADEQUATE PARKING AREAS FOR THEIR CLIENTELE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. It is the policy of the state to promote the general welfare and in particular to protect the interest of the consuming public.

SECTION 2. Pursuant thereto, owners of business establishments such as but not limited to shopping malls, markets, school, hospitals are required to provide for free adequate parking areas to their clientele and sanction the imposition of any form of parking fee or charge.

SECTION 3. Persons, natural or juridical, found violating the provisions hereof shall be meted the penalty of fine in an amount not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (Php 50,000.00) nor more than One Hundred Thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00) and imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more than one (1) year or both, at the discretion of the court. In cases of offending juridical persons, it is understood that the officials thereof directly involved shall be liable therefore.

SECTION 4. All laws, executive orders or issuances, or any part of thereof which are inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.