

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5876



Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The tragic incident at the Resorts World Manila that claimed the lives of thirty-eight people last June 2, 2017 baffles the mind. It is inconceivable how the fatalities needlessly succumbed to suffocation or inhalation of smoke or toxic fumes from burning objects. Had there been a smoke extraction/ventilation system, the victims could have been saved.

Smoke extraction/ventilation system removes smoke and heat from a burning building and keeps escape routes free of smoke. This mechanism can save lives inasmuch as the majority of fatalities in fires are caused by smoke inhalation or suffocation and not by the fire itself.

If we are to circumvent the occurrence of similar tragedies in the future, we cannot but impose the installation of such life-saving mechanism.

The immediate passage of this proposed measure is thus most earnestly sought.


WINNIE CASTELO

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AN ACT

MANDATING THE INSTALLATION OF A SMOKE EXTRACTION/VENTILATION SYSTEM IN EVERY MAJOR ESTABLISHMENT AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the 'Smoke Extraction System Act.'

SEC. 2. There shall hereby be installed a Smoke Extraction/Ventilation System in every major establishment in order to prevent deaths due to inhalation of smoke or suffocation in cases of fire outbreaks.

SEC. 3. Any person, natural or juridical, found to have violated the provisions of this Act shall be penalized with a fine of not less than One Million Pesos (1,000,000.00) but not exceeding Two Million Pesos (P2,000,000.00) or imprisonment of not less than one (1) year but not more than three (3) years, or both at the discretion of the court.

SEC. 4. If any part, section or provision of this Act shall be held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected by such declaration shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby modified and repealed.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,