

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
House Bill No. 6354



Introduced by Honorable Cristal L. Bagatsing

Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to amend RA 7916 particularly section 9 by incorporating in the said law the powers and authority granted to Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Local Government Unit (LGU) in order to efficiently and effectively harmonize their working relationship.

The legal mandate of the BFP under RA 9514 (Revised Fire Code of the Philippines of 2008) that the conduction of fire safety inspection and the issuance of fire safety Inspection Certificate (FSIC), confers the authority to the BFP.

Further it is also provided under this bill that in any given crisis situation the council shall be automatically constituted, taking into consideration the standards set forth in the proposed bill in order not to defeat the intention of the law.

As such, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


CRISTAL L. BAGATSING
Representative
5th District, Manila

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HOUSE BILL No. **6354**

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AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE ECO ZONES AND AUTOMATICALLY INSTITUTING THE CRISIS MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IN A GIVEN CRISIS SITUATION, THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 9 OF RA7916, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE PEZA LAW AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. – *Section 9 of RA 7916* is hereby amended to Read as follows:

“SEC. 9. Defense and Security – The defense of the ECOZONE and the security of its perimeter fence shall be the responsibility of the national government in coordination with the PEZA. Military forces sent by the national government for the purpose of defense shall not interfere in the internal affairs of any of the ECOZONE and expenditure for these military forces shall be borne by the national government. The PEZA may provide and establish the ECOZONES inter security and fire fighting forces.”

IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE ENFORCEMENT OF EXISTING LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING FIRE PREVENTION PROTECTION AND SAFETY, THE IMPLEMENTING/ENFORCEMENT OF THE FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE ECOZONES SHALL REMAIN TO BE THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION: PROVIDED, THAT, IN ANY GIVEN CRISIS SITUATION IN THE ECOZONE THE CRISIS MANGEMENT COUNCIL IS HEREBY CONSTITUTED AUTOMATICALLY AND SHALL BE COMPOSED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. MAYOR OR VICE MAYOR OF THE CITY OR MUNICIPALITY;
- B. HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONLA POLICE.
- C. HIGHEST RANKING OFFICER OF THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION;
- D. THE CHAIRPERSON OR ITS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY;

E. THE CHIEF OF STAFF OR ITS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES PROVIDED THAT IT CONCERNS MILITARY FORCES.

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY PROVISION OF LAWS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, TO THE CONTRARY, THE ISSUANCE OF FIRE SECURITY CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE SHALL BE WITH THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION.

WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT, THE PEZA SHALL ISSUE THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS SECTION IN COORDINATION WITH THE LEAGUE OF CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES, THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING:

- A) THE EFFECT OF ANY POSSIBLE INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE ECOZONE;
- B) THE EFFECT OF THE INTERNAL SECURITY AND FIREFIGHTING FORCES ESTABLISHED BY PEZA;
- C) THE EFFECT OF INTERFERENCE IN CASE OF CRISIS AS TO THE ENTRY AND EXIT OF GOODS AND MERCHANDISE IN THE ECOZONE;
- D) THE GUIDELINES AND TRANSPARENCY FOR THE ISSUANCE OF FIRE SECURITY CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE.

SEC. 2. – Separability Clause. – Any provision of this act or part hereof that may be declared unconstitutional shall not affect the effectivity of the other provisions.

SEC. 3. – Repealing Clause. – Any provision of this act or part hereof that may be declared unconstitutional shall not affect the effectivity of the other provisions.

SEC. 4. – Effectivity Clause. – Any provision of this act or part hereof that may be declared unconstitutional shall not affect the effectivity of the other provisions.

Approved.