

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session
7010
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



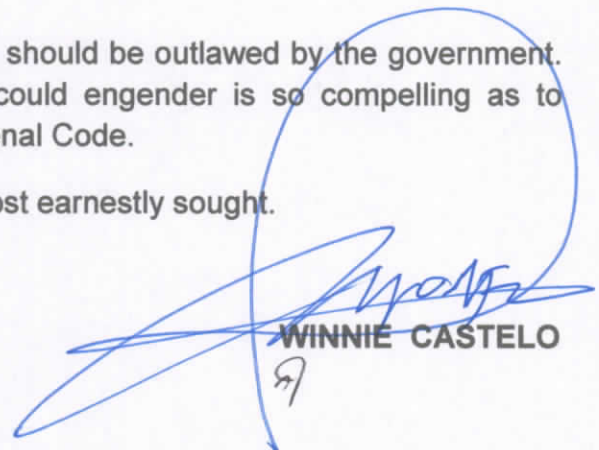
Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Bullets fired into the air by those engaged in indiscriminate firing usually fall back with terminal velocities much lower than their muzzle velocity (or the speed of a projectile at the moment it leaves the muzzle of a gun) when they leave the barrel of a firearm. Nevertheless, people can be injured, sometimes fatally, when bullets discharged into the air fall back down to the ground. Bullets fired at angles less than vertical are more dangerous as the bullet maintains its angular ballistic trajectory and is far less likely to engage in tumbling motion, it therefore travels at speeds much higher than a bullet in free fall.¹

Hence, indiscriminate firing is something which should be outlawed by the government. The random and meaningless loss of life it could engender is so compelling as to include it as a separate crime in the Revised Penal Code.

The immediate passage of this urgent bill so most earnestly sought.



WINNIE CASTELO

¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Celebratory_gunfire viewed January 22,

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AN ACT
DEFINING THE CRIME OF INDISCRIMINATE FIRING WITH CASUALTY, PRESCRIBING PUNISHMENT THEREFOR, INCLUDING IT IN THE CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS AS ARTICLE 254-B, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE THE REVISED PENAL CODE 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. The following shall be included in the Revised Penal Code under Crimes Against Persons:

"Art. 254-B. Indiscriminate Firing with Casualty. – Any person who shall shoot a firearm into the air and whose bullet harms another shall suffer the penalty of *reclusion perpetua* if the shooting results in the death of the victim. If the shooting results in injuries to persons or damage to properties, the offender shall suffer the penalty of *reclusion temporal*. The membership of the offender in any law enforcement agency shall be deemed as an aggravating circumstance.

SEC. 2. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

SEC. 3. All laws, proclamations, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) national newspapers.

Approved,