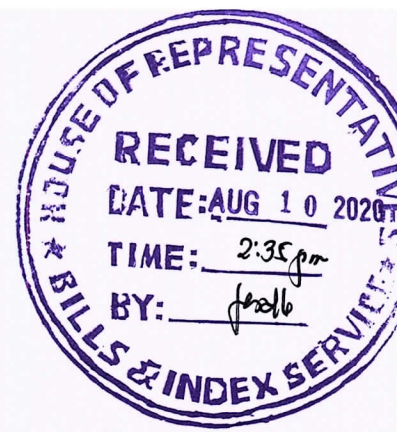


Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7340



INTRODUCED BY
REP. ALFRED VARGAS

AN ACT
TO PROTECT FILIPINO CONSUMERS FROM SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS,
MANDATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "TAPAT
NA TIMBANGAN CENTER" IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MARKETS IN
THE COUNTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER II OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7395, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Quality standards are requirements, specifications, guidelines, or characteristics that ensure that materials, products, processes and services are fit for their purpose. They imbibe the producers' commitment to upholding the rights of consumers to honest and quality service.

This bill seeks to mandate the establishment of "Tapat na Timbangan Centers" in all public and private markets, supermarkets, groceries, stores, and malls. Such Centers shall be publicly accessible locations where scales and other instruments for determining weights and measures is available free of charge to any consumer who may want to verify the accuracy of the weight and measurement of the products they purchased. The market supervisors shall likewise keep a record of all products found to be substandard and the establishment where the said products were bought.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

ALFRED VARGAS

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 7340

**INTRODUCED BY
REP. ALFRED VARGAS**

**AN ACT
TO PROTECT FILIPINO CONSUMERS FROM SUBSTANDARD PRODUCTS,
MANDATING FOR THIS PURPOSE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "TAPAT
NA TIMBANGAN CENTER" IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MARKETS IN
THE COUNTRY, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER II OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7395, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
"CONSUMER ACT OF THE PHILIPPINES"**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Tapat na Timbangan Center Act."

SECTION 2. Amendatory Provision. – It is hereby added a new Article 62-A in Chapter II of Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the "Consumer Act of the Philippines", which shall read as follows:

"ARTICLE 62-A. ESTABLISHMENT OF TAPAT NA TIMBANGAN CENTERS. – ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUS) SHALL ESTABLISH A "TAPAT NA TIMBANGAN CENTER", IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MARKETS, SUPERMARKETS, GROCERY STORES, AND MALLS WITHIN THEIR JURISDICTION.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS ACT, A "TAPAT NA TIMBANGAN CENTER" SHALL BE A PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE LOCATION WHEREIN INSTRUMENTS FOR DETERMINING LENGTH, WEIGHT, AND OTHER MEASUREMENTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO

WISHES TO VERIFY THE ACCURACY OF THE MEASUREMENT OF THE PRODUCTS WHICH THEY WILL PURCHASE.

THE SAFEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE OF SAID INSTRUMENTS SHALL BE UNDER THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE MARKET SUPERVISOR WHO SHALL LIKEWISE KEEP A RECORD OF ALL PRODUCTS FOUND TO BE WANING IN QUALITY OR SUBSTANDARD IN DIMENSION, THE ESTABLISHMENT WHERE THE SAME WERE BOUGHT, AND THE NAME OF THE PROPRIETOR OR MANAGER THEREOF.

A CERTIFICATION DULY ISSUED BY THE MARKET SUPERVISOR OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE REFLECTING THE CONTENTS OF SUCH RECORD SHALL BE CONSIDERED PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE OF VIOLATION OF THE ACTS PROHIBITED UNDER ARTICLE 64 OF THIS ACT."

SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall formulate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.

SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – Any portion or provision of this Act that is declared unconstitutional or invalid shall not have the effect of nullifying other portions or provisions hereof as long as such remaining portions can still subsist and be given effect in their entirety.

SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, ordinances, rules, regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,