

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

NINETEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 6962



INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE JURDIN JESUS M. ROMUALDO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This is a refiled bill from the 17th Congress and 16th Congress version of former Representative Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo and from the 15th Congress version of the late Representative Pedro P. Romualdo.

The Explanatory Note of House Bill No. 3515 of former Representative Xavier Jesus D. Romualdo is hereby adapted to form part of the explanatory note for this bill and the purpose for refiling this bill:

“Illegal gambling is a universally recognized social ill that is known to result in the squandering of income and the disintegration of families, lead to the commission of crimes, and is a source of corruption. Hence, the State condemns and criminalizes illegal gambling activities. However, despite the campaign against illegal gambling, it continues to subsist and remain prevalent in the country.

The suppression of illegal gambling will require a comprehensive approach from and the joint efforts of both the government and the public. In the meantime, Congress should adopt more stringent measures against illegal gambling as part of its contribution to the campaign against the same. This proposed measure is a step in that direction as it seeks to increase the penalties against those who engage in illegal gambling activities. The imposition of heavier penalties will show the seriousness with which Congress views the problem of illegal gambling and is in fulfillment of Congress’s responsibility of ensuring that laws of the land are able to meet and respond to the challenges of the present times”.

It is high time that Congress revisit the provisions of Presidential Decree No.1602 and provide stiffer penalties to curb illegal gambling and mitigate the effects of this addicting vice and protect the foundation of society, the Family.

The favorable support of the Members of Congress for the prompt and timely passage of this measure is earnestly sought.”


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AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 1 OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE NO. 1602, PRESCRIBING
STIFFER PENALTIES ON ILLEGAL GAMBLING

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of Presidential Decree No. 1602 is hereby amended, as follows:

Section. 1 Penalties. The following penalties are hereby imposed:

(a) The penalty of prision correccional in its [medium] MAXIMUM period [or] AND a fine ranging from FIFTY THOUSAND [P50,000.00] TO ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND (P100,000.00) PESOS, and in cases of recidivism, the penalty of prision mayor in its (medium) MAXIMUM period [or] AND a fine ranging from [five thousand to ten thousand] ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND (P100,000.00) TO ONE HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (P150,000.00) PESOS shall be imposed upon.

1
2 **(1) XXX**
3

4 (2) Any person who shall knowingly permit any form of gambling referred to in the
5 preceding sub-paragraph to be carried on in an inhabited or uninhabited place or in any
6 building, vessel or other means of transportation owned or controlled by him. If the place
7 where gambling is carried on has a reputation of a gambling place or that prohibited
8 gambling is frequently carried on therein, or the place is or government building or
9 barangay hall, the malefactor shall be punished by [prision correccional] PRISION
10 MAYOR in it [maximum] MINIMUM period and the fine of [six thousand] ONE HUNDRED
11 FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P150,000.00).
12

13 (b) The penalty of [prision correccional in its maximum] PRISION MAYOR IN ITS
14 MEDIUM period [or] AND a fine of [six thousand] TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS
15 (P200,000.00) shall be imposed upon the maintainer or conductor of the above gambling
16 schemes.
17

18 (c) The penalty of prision mayor in its [medium] MAXIMUM period with [temporary]
19 PERPETUAL absolute disqualification [or] AND a fined of [six thousand] TWO HUNDRED
20 FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P250,000.00) shall be imposed if the maintainer, conductor
21 or banker of said gambling schemes is a government official, or where such government
22 official is a player, promoter, referee, umpire, judge or coach in case of game-fixing, point-
23 shaving and machination.
24

25 (d) The penalty of prision correccional in its (medium) MAXIMUM period [or] AND a fine
26 ranging from [four hundred to two thousand] TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS (P20,000.00)
27 TO FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) shall be imposed upon any person who
28 shall, knowingly and without lawful purpose in any hour or any day, possess any lottery
29 list, paper pertaining to or in any manner used in the games of jueteng, jai alai or horse

1 racing, bookings, and similar games of lotteries and numbers which have taken place or
2 about to take place.

3
4 (e) The penalty of [temporary] PERMANENT absolute disqualification shall be imposed
5 upon any barangay official who with knowledge of existence of a gambling house or place
6 in his jurisdiction fails to abate the same or take action in connection herewith.

7
8 (f) The penalty of prision [correccional] MAYOR in its [maximum] MINIMUM period [or]
9 AND a fine ranging from [five hundred pesos to thousand pesos] TWENTY THOUSAND
10 PESOS (P20,000.00) TO FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) shall be imposed
11 upon any security, security guard, watchman, private or house detective of hotels,
12 villages, buildings, enclosures, and the like which have the reputation of a gambling place
13 or where gambling activities are being held.

14
15 SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders and issuances, rules and regulations,
16 and other issuances, or parts thereof, that are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act
17 are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

18
19 SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official
20 Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

21
22 Approved,

