

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5677



Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The use of firecrackers and other pyrotechnic devices in the Philippines, while a deeply entrenched cultural practice, particularly during New Year celebrations, continues to pose significant public safety and health risks.

Despite the existence of Republic Act No. 7183 (An Act Regulating the Sale, Manufacture, Distribution and Use of Firecrackers and Other Pyrotechnic Devices), which aims to manage these dangers, annual reports consistently show high numbers of injuries, fatalities, and property damage resulting from illegal or careless use of these materials.

A primary challenge in the effective enforcement of RA 7183 lies in the perceived insufficient deterrence offered by the current schedule of penalties, particularly the fines, which have not been updated since the law's enactment in 1992.

This bill seeks to address this gap by substantially increasing the monetary fines and duration of imprisonment prescribed in Section 11 of the Act. By mandating stricter penalties for both manufacturers/distributors and end-users of illegal firecrackers and pyrotechnic devices, this measure aims to Enhance compliance with existing regulations and provide a stronger deterrent against the illegal trade and use of these items.

This bill, also amends certain provision of the Act, by introducing a subsection that calls for the use of an appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for workers in the fireworks manufacturing business.

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

SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.

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Introduced by: **REP. SALVADOR A. PLEYTO, SR.**

**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7183, OTHERWISE
KNOWN AS “AN ACT REGULATING THE SALE, MANUFACTURE,
DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF FIRECRACKERS AND OTHER PYROTECHNIC
DEVICES”**

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

SECTION 1. Section 7(a) and 7(b) of Republic Act No. 7183, otherwise known as “An Act Regulating the Sale, Manufacture, Distribution and Use of Firecrackers and Other Pyrotechnic Devices”, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 7. Safety Guidelines. — Strict compliance of the following safety precautions, rules and regulations shall be observed by manufacturers, distributors and users of firecrackers and pyrotechnic devices:

- (a) A zone shall be designed by the local government unit where a manufacturing complex may be established. The outer perimeter of this zone shall be at least five hundred (500) meters away from the nearest residential units. Once a zone has been defined, no residential unit shall be permitted nearer than five hundred (500) meters from the perimeter of such zone;”

SEC. 2. There shall be another subsection to be added at the end of Section 7(b) of Republic Act 7183 to be known as Section 7(b)(4) to read as follows:

“Sec. 7. Safety Guidelines. - xxx

(b) - xxx

(4) – Employees / workers of the fireworks manufacturing business must wear appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) inside the manufacturing area.

SEC. 3. Section 11 of Republic Act No. 7183 is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 11. *Penalties.* – Any person who manufactures, sells, distributes, or uses firecrackers and pyrotechnic devices in violation of the provisions of this Act shall be punished by a **fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) nor more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00), or imprisonment of not less than six (6) months nor more than three (3) years, or both,** such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court."

"The penalty of a fine of not less than Two Hundred Thousand Pesos (P200,000.00) nor more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00), and imprisonment of not less than two (2) years nor more than five (5) years, shall be imposed upon any person who manufactures, sells, or distributes illegal firecrackers and pyrotechnic devices defined under Section 3 (1) of this Act, in addition to the cancellation of his/her business permit and license and the confiscation and forfeiture of the illegal items."

"The amount of **fine shall be subject to review and adjustment by the Secretary of Trade and Industry every three (3) years** based on the prevailing consumer price index, upon consultation with the Secretary of Finance."

SEC. 4. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 5. *Repealing Clause* – Republic Act No. 7183 is hereby repealed. All other laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulation, and other issuances or part thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

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

Approved,