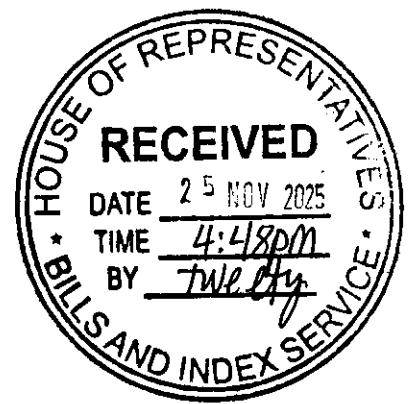


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. **6369**



Introduced by Honorable Edwin Ledesma Cruzado, M.D.

1 AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 4 AND 12 OF THE REPUBLIC ACT 9514,
2 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES OF 2008”

3
4 **EXPLANATORY NOTE**
5

6 The Fire Code of the Philippines of 2008 (Republic Act No. 9514) is the country’s
7 primary legal framework for fire safety, prevention, and risk mitigation. Over the past decade,
8 however, the Philippines has undergone rapid urban growth, expansion of special economic
9 zones, and major technological and industrial changes. These developments have introduced
10 increasingly complex fire hazards that were not fully contemplated when the law was enacted.

11
12 Recent national assessments show that fire incidents continue to rise—averaging more
13 than 16,000 fires annually, based on Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and Philippine Statistics
14 Authority (PSA) data—causing billions in damages each year.¹ Studies by the Philippine Institute
15 for Development Studies (PIDS) highlight persistent regulatory blind spots in fire-prone sectors,
16 including high-density residential areas, industrial estates, and ecozones, which remain
17 insufficiently covered by existing safety enforcement mechanisms.² Similarly, risk analyses by
18 the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) identify airports,
19 ports, petroleum facilities, tourism zones, and IT parks as high-risk environments requiring
20 updated, uniform fire safety standards.³

¹ Bureau of Fire Protection; Philippine Statistics Authority (2023). Annual Fire Incident Statistics, showing
25 rising fire incidents nationwide, particularly in urban and high-density areas.

² Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) (2020). Regulatory and Safety Gaps in Urban and
23 Industrial Zones. Identifies fire safety blind spots in ecozones, industrial parks, and high-growth urban
24 spaces.

³ National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) (2021). National Risk Profile.
21 Highlights airports, seaports, petroleum terminals, and IT/business hubs as high-risk fire environments
22 requiring enhanced regulation.

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26 This legislative measure addresses these long-standing gaps by expanding the
27 applicability of the Fire Code to all persons, buildings, structures, facilities, and high-risk
28 environments—including those situated in economic zones, IT parks, tourism estates, freeports,
29 ports, airports, transport hubs, industrial complexes, and petroleum installations. This ensures
30 that all fire-prone sectors adhere to the same robust fire safety requirements, thereby promoting
31 public safety, business resilience, and national economic protection.

32

33 The bill also strengthens the funding mechanisms of the BFP by modernizing its fee
34 structure, including the assessment of clearances based on floor area and hazard classification.
35 National reviews—such as those by the Commission on Audit (COA)—have repeatedly
36 underscored the need for sustainable funding to support the Bureau’s modernization goals,
37 equipment upgrades, and manpower expansion.⁴ Updating these mechanisms ensures that the
38 BFP remains capable, well-equipped, and responsive to modern fire risks.

39

40 In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this measure is earnestly sought to
41 fortify the nation’s fire safety framework, ensure accountability across all sectors, and better
42 protect lives, property, and economic assets from the increasing complexity of fire hazards.

43

44

45

46


Hon. Edwin Ledesma Cruzado, M.D.
Representative 1st District of Cotabato

⁴ Commission on Audit (COA), Annual Audit Reports on the Bureau of Fire Protection (Various Years),
47 consistently citing resource gaps, equipment shortfalls, and the need for improved revenue mechanisms
48 to support BFP operations.

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49 **AN ACT AMENDING SECTIONS 4 AND 12 OF THE REPUBLIC ACT 9514,**
50 **OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES OF 2008"**

51

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

54

55 **SECTION 1.** *Section 4 of Republic Act No. 9514 is hereby amended to read as follows:*

56

57 "SECTION 4. Applicability of the Code. The provisions of the Fire Code shall
58 apply to all persons and all private and public buildings, facilities or structures
59 erected or constructed before and after its effectivity including *those that are*
60 *classified as economic zone, agro-industrial economic, free ports and special*
61 *economic zone, Information Technology (IT) parks and centers, tourism economic*
62 *zones, and other similar entities."*

63

64 **SECTION 2.** *Section 12 of Republic Act No. 9514 is hereby amended to read as follows:*

65

66 "SEC. 12. *Appropriation and Sources of Income. -*

67 a. To support the manpower, infrastructure and equipment needs of the fire
68 service of the BFP, such amount as may be necessary to attain the
69 objectives of the Fire Code shall be appropriated and included in the
70 annual appropriation of the BFP.

71 b. To partially provide for the funding of the fire service, the following taxes
72 and fees which shall accrue to the general fund of the National
73 Government, are hereby imposed:

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1. Fees to be charged. for the issuance of certificates, permits and licenses as provided for in Section 7(a) of RA 9504;
2. One-tenth of one per centum (0.1%) of the verified estimated value of buildings or structures to be erected, from the owner thereof, one half to be paid prior to the issuance of the building permit, and the balance, after final inspection and prior to the issuance of the occupancy permit;
3. One-hundredth of one per centum. (0.010%) of the assessed -value of buildings or structures annually payable upon payment of the real estate tax, except on structures used as single family dwellings;
4. Two per centum (2%) of all premiums, excluding reinsurance premiums for the sale of fire, earthquake and explosion hazard insurance collected by companies, persons or agents licensed to sell such insurances in the Philippines;
5. Two per centum (2%) of gross sales of companies, persons or agents selling firefighting equipment, appliances or devices, including hazard detection and warning systems; and
6. Two per centum (2%) of the service fees received from fire, earthquake, and explosion hazard reinsurance surveys and post loss service of insurance adjustment companies doing business in the Philippines directly through agents.

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97 **SECTION 3. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** Within sixty (60) days from the
98 effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior and Local Government shall issue the rules
99 and regulations for its effective implementation.

100

101 **SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.*** In case any provision of this Act or any portion
102 thereof is declared constitutional or invalid, the other provision not affected thereby shall remain
103 in full force and effect.

104

105 **SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulation, or parts
106 therefor, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
107 accordingly.

108

109 **SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
110 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

111

112 *Approved,*