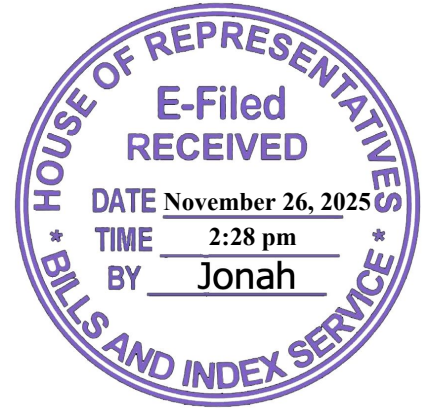


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
20TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6417



Introduced by: **REP. JOEL R. CHUA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Fire knows no boundaries. Yet, as our cities rise, our industries expand, and special economic zones multiply across the nation, the gaps in the enforcement of our fire safety laws have become more evident—and more dangerous. Republic Act No. 9514, the Fire Code of the Philippines of 2008, must evolve to meet these new realities.

This bill strengthens the Fire Code by expressly extending its applicability to economic zones, freeports, IT parks, tourism estates, and similar areas that have become vital engines of national growth. By doing so, we ensure that no community—whether in a bustling metropolis or a rapidly developing special zone—remains vulnerable to inconsistent fire safety standards.

The measure likewise reinforces the funding framework of the Bureau of Fire Protection, recognizing that fire prevention and response cannot succeed without the manpower, equipment, and infrastructure needed to match the scale of today's risks. A stronger, better-supported BFP means safer homes, safer workplaces, and safer lives.

The threat of fire is ever-present. This bill seeks to ensure that our laws and our fire bureau are not left-behind.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this legislative measure is earnestly sought


JOEL R. CHUA

Representative, 3rd District, Manila

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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House Bill No. 6417

Introduced by: **REP. JOEL R. CHUA**

AN ACT
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES
THEREBY AMENDING SECTIONS 4 AND 12 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9514

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

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

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

"SEC. 12. Appropriation and Sources of Income. –

- a.) To support the manpower, infrastructure and equipment needs of the fire service of the BFP, such amount as may be necessary to attain the objectives of the Fire Code shall be appropriated and included in the annual appropriation of the BFP.
- b.) To partially provide for the funding of the fire service, the following taxes and fees which shall accrue to the general fund of the National Government, are hereby imposed:
 - (1) Fees to be charged for the issuance of certificates, permits and licenses as provided for in Section 7(a) hereof;
 - (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. (0.10%) 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.

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

Section 4. *Separability* - If any provision or part of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall continue to be in full force and effect.

Section 5. *Repealing Clause* - All laws, executive orders, and administrative orders or parts thereof inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

Section 6. *Effectivity Clause* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the online version of the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or with an established internet website presence.

Approved,