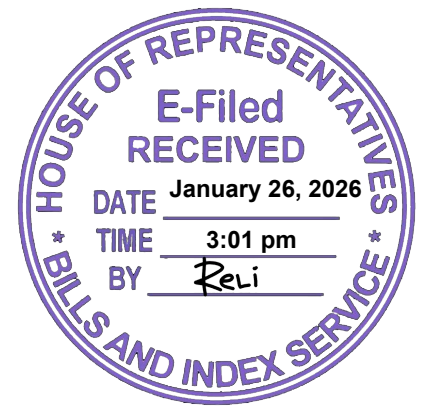


TWENTIETH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
HOUSE BILL No. 7309

Introduced by **REP. CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM**

**AN ACT MANDATING ESTABLISHMENTS WITH PARKING FACILITIES TO
PROVIDE FREE OVERNIGHT PARKING DURING TYPHOONS AND OTHER
NATURAL CALAMITIES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 9 of the 1987 Constitution declares that the State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation, and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services and improve the quality of life for all.¹ Moreover, Article II, Section 5 mandates the State to maintain peace and order and to protect life, liberty, and property as essential conditions for the enjoyment of the blessings of democracy.²

The Philippines is among the most disaster-prone countries in the world, frequently experiencing typhoons, floods, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and other natural calamities. During such events, many families are compelled to evacuate their homes and are unable to secure their vehicles, which are often left exposed to floodwaters, falling debris, and other hazards, resulting in damage or total loss of property.³

This proposed measure mandates commercial and institutional establishments with ample parking facilities to allow free overnight parking during declared typhoons and natural calamities, in order to provide the public with safe and secure temporary shelter for their vehicles. This is a practical and compassionate form of assistance that will help reduce property damage, promote public safety, and strengthen community solidarity during emergencies.⁴

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


CLAUDINE DIANA D. BAUTISTA-LIM
DUMPER PTDA Party-List

¹1987 Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 9.

²1987 Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 5.

³National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act of 2010 (R.A. No. 10121).

⁴1987 Constitution, Art. II, Sec. 13 and Art. XIII, Sec. 1.

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Free Emergency Parking During Calamities Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect life and property and to promote community resilience and cooperation during typhoons and other natural calamities by ensuring the availability of safe and accessible facilities, including temporary parking shelters.

SEC. 3. Mandatory Free Overnight Parking. – All government-owned and privately owned establishments with parking facilities open to the public, including but not limited to shopping malls, office buildings, hospitals, schools, hotels, and transport terminals, shall provide free overnight parking to the public during:

- (a) Typhoons under any Tropical Cyclone Wind Signal as declared by the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA); and
- (b) Other natural calamities declared by the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) or by the concerned Local Government Unit (LGU) under a state of calamity.

SEC. 4. Coverage and Conditions. – (a) The free overnight parking shall be available to the general public for the duration of the typhoon or declared calamity and for such reasonable period thereafter as may be provided in the implementing rules and regulations.

(b) Establishments may impose reasonable safety and security measures, provided that no parking fees shall be collected during the covered period.

SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – The Department of Transportation (DOTr), in coordination with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), and the

NDRRMC, shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act.

SEC. 6. Penalties. – Any establishment that unjustifiably refuses to comply with the provisions of this Act shall be subject to administrative sanctions and fines as may be provided in the implementing rules and regulations, without prejudice to other liabilities under existing laws.

SEC. 7. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 8. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,