

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
**Second Regular Session**

**House Bill No. 11451**



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INTRODUCED BY **HONORABLE JANICE V. DEGAMO**

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

It is the policy of the State to safeguard life, health, property, and public welfare, consistent with the principles of environmental management and control. However, the Philippine streets and sidewalks are still among the world's most dangerous for pedestrians.<sup>1</sup> Our sidewalks remain to be unpassable due to poor conditions and obstructions at the expense of our citizens.

Reports show that motorcycles and jeepneys passing through the sidewalks has been a common practice in some areas in the country. In one instance, this has led to a student acquiring phobia in an accident with a motorcycle while crossing the sidewalk.<sup>2</sup> Unfortunately, this is just one of the pervasive cases caused by sidewalk obstruction.

Illegally parked vehicles, store extension, signages, construction of pens or cages of animals among others, also pose threat to the welfare of our citizens. The Department of Transportation even observed the danger of the current state of our sidewalks, thus, the need to remove obstructions to give importance to our pedestrians.<sup>3</sup>

Efforts have been made to curb this prevalent dilemma through issuances of DILG Memorandum Circulars 019-121, 2020-027, 2020-145, and 2022-085. However, despite these national directives in place, proper implementation to clear out our sidewalks remains to be a challenge.

Mobility is public service. Mobility is a right.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://opinion.inquirer.net/178416/unsafe-roads>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/topstories/nation/849537/pedestrians-lament-being-eased-out-of-sidewalks-by-vehicles/story/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/2152758/edsa-sidewalk-repairs-to-begin-in-early-2026-dotr-dpwh>

With the passage of this bill, a stronger legal mechanism will be strongly enforced to ensure that we return the sidewalk to our People.

In the best interest of our Pedestrians, the immediate passage of this bill is urgently sought.



**JANICE V. DEGAMO**

*Representative, 3rd District of Negros Oriental*

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**AN ACT REGULATING THE USE AND MAINTENANCE OF SIDEWALKS  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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

**SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the “Sidewalk Use Act of 2026”

**SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** – It shall be the policy of the State to regulate the use and maintenance of sidewalks, and to clear the same of illegal commercial and private structures in order to facilitate the safe and convenient use thereof in line with the declared policy of the State to safeguard life, health, property, and public welfare, consistent with the principles of environmental management and control.

**SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.*** – For purposes of this Act, the following term shall have the corresponding meaning:

(a) *Sidewalk* means that portion of a roadway assigned for use by pedestrians, which must be free from all forms of physical obstructions for anything found on it, whether of value or not, shall be treated as common garbage;

(b) *Sidewalk Obstruction* means any structure, whether permanent or temporary, immovable or movable, erected along, standing on, adjoining or in any manner impeding safe and convenient passage through any public road or sidewalk; the conduct of business by sidewalk vendors; and any belonging or thing found therein, which shall all be deemed nuisance per se and treated as common garbage subject to summary abatement and/or disposal as provided for under this Act. Provided, that property of the government

including official road signs, and structures erected and installed for the purpose of regulating the flow of traffic shall not be considered as such;

(c) *Street* means any public open space for the continuous flow of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, including the air space above it;

(d) *Curb and Gutter* means any physical structure that segregates the road from the sidewalk and its accompanying structure where water flows toward a canal, and for purposes of this Act shall form part of the term sidewalk; and

(e) *Sidewalk vendor* any person who sells or offer for sale any consumer products, whether agricultural or manufactured, cooked foods and/or dry goods, items or articles, including any person who attends to these products, intended to be sold at any temporary location, sidewalk, alley, vacant space or portion thereof.

**SEC. 4. *Regulation of Sidewalks and other similar public space.*** – The use of streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, alleys, bridges, public parks and other similar places for commercial and personal purposes shall be prohibited, including but not limited to the following activities along sidewalks and streets.

(a) Selling of goods by sidewalk vendors, or offering for sale of foods, beverages, magazines, newspapers, cigarettes, jewelries, shoes, and other footwear, and other analogous items;

(b) Conduct of shoe-shine activity and other similar occupations;

(c) Bathing, washing of clothes, and hanging of clothes;

(d) Vehicle garage and litter;

(e) Dumping of garbage and litter;

(f) Setting up of basketball court or goal;

(g) Use of sidewalk in constructing pens or cages of animals;

(h) Storing soft drinks or bottled drinks and cases;

(i) Drinking liquor and beverages and holding of picnics or parties;

(j) Storing of household appliances and furniture, as well as, junks and recyclable materials;

(k) Use of sidewalk for storage of construction materials;

(l) House extension or store extension including installation of roofs or awnings;

(m) Installation of permanent fence or gate;

- (n) Use of sidewalks for plants, trees and plant boxes;
- (o) Installation of signs or signboards on or above sidewalks and detached from the business establishment; and
- (p) Use of any portion of the sidewalk or street for religious activities including the giving of sermon and conduct of solicitation.

**SEC. 5.** *Sidewalk obstruction as nuisance per se, and treatment thereof as common garbage.* – All prohibited activities conducted along public roads and sidewalk are hereby declared nuisance per se and illegal subject to summary abatement

Likewise, all sidewalk obstructions, including belongings and things found therein, whether of value or not, shall be presumed or treated as common garbage, subject to forfeiture and disposal without need of judicial proceedings.

**SEC. 6.** *Summary abatement, forfeiture and disposal of sidewalk obstructions.* – All local government units other than barangay, and in Metro Manila with the assistance of the MMDA, are hereby authorized to summarily abate, forfeit and dispose any obstruction found within their respective territorial jurisdiction.

Provided, that concerned local government units and the MMDA shall be free from any liability arising from the lawful forfeiture and disposal of sidewalk obstructions as prescribed herein.

Provided, further, that all the costs related to the abovementioned forfeiture and disposal shall be charged at the expense of the violator of this Act.

**SEC. 7.** *Additional duties of the owner, lessee, and occupants of residential and business establishments.* – The owner or lessee or occupant of both residential and commercial establishments shall undertake to clean the sidewalk and passage way fronting their establishments.

It shall likewise be the duty of the above cited persons to place their garbage and litter in sanitary garbage placed inside their yards and/or building and bring the same out only when the garbage collector passes by.

**SEC. 8.** *Permit for Temporary Use of Sidewalks and Streets.* – Local government units shall have the power to grant permit for the temporary use of sidewalks and streets during special local occasions, such as fiesta and other similar gatherings, and for civil or charitable purposes, according to the rules and regulations that shall hereinafter be promulgated.

Provided, that the proper licensing authority shall clearly designate the portions of the sidewalk and/or street which may be utilized, as well as, the specific duration of the use.

**SEC. 9. *Penalties.*** – The principal penalty for any violation of the provisions of this Act or its implementing rules shall be summary abatement, dismantling, forfeiture and disposal of the subject sidewalk obstruction/s.

In addition, any person, corporation, trust, firm, partnership, association or entity found violating this Act or the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder shall be punished by a fine of Ten Thousand Pesos (P10,000.00) which shall accrue to the Local Treasury or imprisonment of not more than 30 days, or both, at the discretion of the court.

An officer of the duly designated enforcement agency who neglect or fails to enforce the provisions of this Act shall be administratively liable and in addition, punished by a fine of not less than Thirty Thousand Pesos (P30,000.00), without prejudice to the filing of appropriate administrative charges.

**SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Local government units, in coordination with MMDA if applicable, shall promulgate the rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

**SEC. 11. *Funding.*** – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act shall be included in the budget of concerned government agencies in the General Appropriations Act of the year following its enactment into law and thereafter.

**SEC. 12. *Information Dissemination.*** – The Philippine Information Agency, in coordination with the MMDA, DILG, LGUs, DepEd, and other relevant government agencies shall ensure proper and adequate information dissemination of the contents of, and the rights and duties contained in, this Act to pertinent entities in all provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays.

**SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, executive orders, department or memorandum orders and other administrative issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified, superseded, or repealed accordingly.

**SEC 28. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved*