

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4060



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

"Scalping" is the practice of buying and selling of tickets for admission to an event by an unauthorized person outside the authorized official booth, outlet, or place designated for the purpose.

Exploitative people see scalping as an easy way to make money by hoarding events tickets and forcing the patrons to buy from them at exorbitant prices. Worse, since scalpers are unauthorized sellers, patrons run the risk of being scammed in the event that the tickets are not delivered or are later on discovered as counterfeit.

Scalping has become so rampant that patrons actually expect to still find ticket sellers right outside the venue of an event before such event starts. Partly, scalpers exist because ticket buyers tolerate them.

Currently, there is no national law that prohibit the act of scalping, only ordinances. In order to completely curb such unscrupulous practice, it is only apt to nationalize the policy on prohibition against scalping.

Thus, this measure seeks to prohibit the act of scalping and impose the penalties of fine and imprisonment upon those who engage in the act of scalping. Further, any person who shall buy admission tickets from scalpers shall also be penalized.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

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AN ACT

PROHIBITING THE PRACTICE OF "SCALPING" OR THE UNAUTHORIZED BUYING AND/OR SELLING OF ADMISSION TICKETS OUTSIDE AUTHORIZED TICKET BOOTHS, OUTLETS, OR PLACES DESIGNATED FOR THE PURPOSE AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Efficient Use of Paper Act".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to protect the interests of the consumer, promote his general welfare and to establish standards of conduct for business and industry.

SEC. 3. *Definition of Scalping.* – Scalping is the unlawful selling or buying of admission tickets outside the authorized official booths, outlets, or places designated for the purpose.

SEC. 4. *Prohibition Against Scalping.* – It shall be unlawful for any person, without the written permission of the owner or operator of the place where an entertainment event is to be held, to sell an admission ticket to such entertainment event outside the authorized ticket booths, outlets or places designated for the purpose, which admission ticket was bought for the purpose of re-selling the same in an attempt to profit from the transaction; *Provided further*, it shall be equally unlawful to buy an admission ticket from persons engaged in scalping; and *Provided finally*, that it shall also be unlawful for any person to finance, manage, or operate ticket scalping activities.

SEC. 5. *Penalties.* – The following penalties shall be imposed upon any person found guilty of violating any act prohibited in Section 4 of this Act:

- a) *First offense* – A fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos (P50,000) or imprisonment of three (3) months, or both, at the discretion of the court.
- b) *Second offense* – A fine of not less than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000) or imprisonment of six (6) months, or both, at the discretion of the court.
- c) *Third offense* – A fine of not less than Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Pesos (P250,000) or imprisonment of one (1) year, or both, at the discretion of the court.

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

SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All issuances, laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof not consistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,