Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session

2916

HOUSE BILL NO. \_



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The Holy Scriptures give us profound wisdom concerning covetousness and avarice – elements that constitute gambling: "And He said to them, "Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." (Luke 12:15 (NKJV)). "He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves abundance with its income. This too is vanity." (Ecclesiastes: 5:19 (NASB)).

Moreover, any gambling activity is counterproductive and engenders fatalistic attitude among participants. It promotes greed and the wanton desire to covet inordinate and undeserved wealth. More particularly, one entering a gambling institution presupposes his intent to idle away precious time and take on his fortune. He would spend countless hours trying to recoup his loss until all of his money is all gone. For the most part, people taking part in gambling activities incur bane more than boon. They lose a great deal of money and opportunity costs. Had they spent their time on some other gainful, honorable activities, they would have certainly been more productive.

It is upon this premise that this humble measure contemplates on prohibiting all government officials, employees from playing in gambling institutions. It would be in the best interest of these personnel to steer clear from gambling centers and keep them from wasting away their hard-earned money. They also have to set good examples in the society by leading upright and honorable lives. Engaging in gambling activities strains one's moral values and begs the question of his worthiness as a public servant.

The immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

PRESIOUS MIPOLIPO CASTELO

## Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

## **EIGHTEETH CONGRESS**

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2916

Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

## AN ACT

PROHIBITING ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES FROM PLAYING IN GAMBLING INSTITUTIONS AND PRESCRIBING FINES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Gambling Institution Ban Act."

- SEC. 2. All government officials and employees shall hereby be prohibited from playing in gambling institutions.
- SEC. 3. To effectively implement the provision of this Act, such personnel caught playing in Casinos shall be fined with P500,000.00 for violation hereof.
- SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect upon fifteen (15) days upon its approval, its publication in the Official Gazette, and in at least three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.