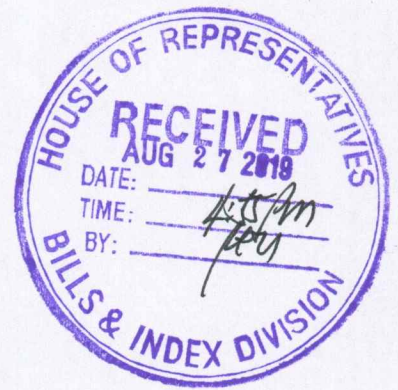


Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila



**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**

First Regular Session

**4199**

**HOUSE BILL NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

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**INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill was approved on Third Reading on August 29, 2018 by the House of Representatives and transmitted to the Senate on August 30, 2018 for their appropriate action.

The bill was tackled extensively by the Committee on Trade and Industry with the participation of different stakeholders.

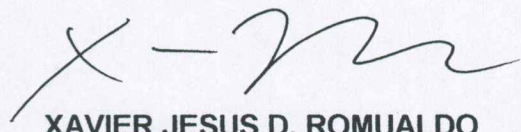
The objective of this bill is to provide the buying public an effective means of checking the accuracy of the weight and quantity of goods that they are buying while at the same time discourages dishonest vendors from committing any irregularity or unlawful act.

Chapter II of Republic Act NO. 7394, otherwise known as the "Consumer Act of the Philippines" is amended to establish Timbangan ng Bayan Centers. All local government units through their respective treasurers, shall establish a Timbangan ng Bayan Center in all markets nationwide where instruments for determining weights and measures shall be open for and accessible to the general public or any user who wants to verify the accuracy of the quantity and measurement of the products that they intend to buy or have bought from the market.

Market supervisors are mandated to safekeep and maintain the Timbangan ng Bayan. It shall be under the control and supervision and they shall likewise be in charge of keeping a record of every product found to be wanting in quantity or substandard in dimension as well as the establishment where the product was bought including the name of the proprietor or manager of said establishment. A certification duly issued by the market supervisor or an authorized representative reflecting the contents of such record shall be prima facie evidence of violation of the prohibited acts provided in Article 64 of the Consumer Act.

The penalties for alteration, tampering, vandalizing or destruction of a Timbangan ng Bayan that is already officially sealed shall be penalized with a fine or imprisonment, the rates and length of service of imprisonment has been likewise updated so as to discourage would-be violators and deter any illegal act.

With the protection of our consumers in mind, let us support the early passage of this bill.

  
**XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO**



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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4199

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE XAVIER JESUS D. ROMUALDO

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**AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TIMBANGAN NG BAYAN CENTER  
IN ALL MARKETS NATIONWIDE, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE CHAPTER II OF  
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7394, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CONSUMER ACT OF  
THE PHILIPPINES"**

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

1           SECTION 1. A new article to be denominated as Article 62-A is hereby inserted after  
2   Article 62, Chapter II of Republic Act NO. 7394, otherwise known as the "Consumer Act of the  
3   Philippines", to read as follows:

4           **"ART. 62-A. ESTABLISHMENT OF TIMBANGAN NG BAYAN CENTERS. – ALL**  
5   **LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS, THROUGH THEIR PROVINCIAL, CITY, OR MUNICIPAL**  
6   **TREASURERS, SHALL ESTABLISH A TIMBANGAN NG BAYAN CENTER IN ALL**  
7   **MARKETS NATIONWIDE, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE, INCLUDING FLEA MARKETS OR**  
8   **TIANGGES, WHERE INSTRUMENTS FOR DETERMINING WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**  
9   **SHALL BE OPEN FOR AND ACCESSIBLE TO ANYONE WHO NEEDS TO VERIFY THE**  
10   **ACCURACY OF THE QUANTITY AND MEASUREMENT OF THE PRODUCTS THEY**  
11   **PURCHASE.**

12           **"THE SAFEKEEPING AND MAINTENANCE OF SAID INSTRUMENTS SHALL BE**  
13   **UNDER THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE MARKET SUPERVISOR WHO SHALL**  
14   **LIKEWISE BE IN CHARGE OF KEEPING A RECORD OF EVERY PRODUCT FOUND TO BE**  
15   **WANTING IN QUANTITY OR SUBSTANDARD IN DIMENSION, AS WELL AS THE**  
16   **ESTABLISHMENT WHERE THE SAME WAS BOUGHT, INCLUDING THE NAME OF THE**  
17   **PROPRIETOR OR MANAGER THEREOF. A CERTIFICATION DULY ISSUED BY THE**  
18   **MARKET SUPERVISOR OR AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE REFLECTING THE**



1 CONTENTS OF SUCH RECORDS SHALL BE *PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE* OF A VIOLATION  
2 OF ARTICLE 64 OF THIS ACT.

3 "THE PROHIBITED ACTS RELATIVE TO WEIGHTS AND MEASURES PROVIDED  
4 UNDER ARTICLE 64 SHALL LIKEWISE APPLY TO TIMBANGAN NG BAYAN  
5 INSTRUMENTS."

6  
7 SEC. 2. Article 4, Chapter II of Republic Act NO. 7394, otherwise known as the  
8 "Consumer Act of the Philippines" is hereby amended to read as follows:

9 *ART. 64. Fraudulent Practices Relative to Weights and Measures.* – The following acts  
10 relating to weights and measures are prohibited:

11 "xxx

12 "(j) for any person to fraudulently alter, **TAMPER, VANDALIZE OR DESTROY** any  
13 scale, balance, **TIMBANGAN NG BAYAN**, weight or measure after it is officially sealed,"

14 "xxx."

15  
16 SEC. 3. Article 65 of Republic Act No. 7394, otherwise known as the "Consumer Act of  
17 the Philippines", is hereby amended to read as follows:

18 "ART 65. *Penalties.* – a) Any person who shall violate the provisions of paragraphs (a) to  
19 (f) and paragraph (l) of Article 64 **OF THIS ACT** or its implementing rules and regulations shall,  
20 upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than [Two hundred pesos (P200.00)] **FIFTY**  
21 **THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00)** but not more than [One thousand pesos (P1,000.00)]  
22 **THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P300,000.00)** or by imprisonment of not [more] **LESS**  
23 than one (1) year **BUT NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5) YEARS** or both upon the discretion of the  
24 court.

25 "b) Any person who shall violate the provisions of paragraph (g) of Article 64 **OF THIS**  
26 **ACT** [for the first time] shall, **UPON CONVICTION**, be subject to a fine of not less than [Five  
27 hundred pesos (P500.00)] **FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT NOT MORE THAN**  
28 **THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P300,000.00)** or by imprisonment of not less than  
29 one (1) [month] **YEAR** but not more than five (5) years or both[,] upon the discretion of the court.

30 "c) The owner,[-] possessor or user of instrument of weights and measure enumerated in  
31 paragraphs (h) to (k) of Article 64 **OF THIS ACT** shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of  
32 not less than [Three hundred pesos (P300.00)] **FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) BUT**



1 NOT MORE THAN THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P300,000.00) or BY  
2 imprisonment OF not (exceeding) LESS THAN one (1) year BUT NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5)  
3 YEARS[,] or both [,] upon the discretion of the court.

4 "Provided, further, That two (2) successive violations of this Act shall automatically result  
5 in the cancellation of the business permit of the violator, whether natural or juridical."  
6

7 SEC. 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Trade and Industry  
8 (DTI) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), in consultation with the  
9 Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), League of Provinces of the Philippines  
10 (LPP), League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), League of Municipalities of the Philippines  
11 (LMP), and appropriate stakeholders shall, within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act,  
12 promulgate the rules and regulations necessary to effectively implement the provisions of this  
13 Act.  
14

15 SEC. 5. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions of Section 1  
16 of this act shall be charged against the internal revenue allotment and other funds of the local  
17 government unit concerned.  
18

19 SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* – If for any reason, any article or provision of this Act, or  
20 any portion thereof, or the application of such article, provision, or portion thereof to any person,  
21 group, or circumstance is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act shall not  
22 be affected by such declaration.  
23

24 SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations or parts  
25 thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.  
26

27 SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the  
28 *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of general circulation.  
29

30 Approved,  
31