

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

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REGISTRATION UNIT BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE	

HOUSE BILL NO. 1449

Introduced by Representative Salvador B. Belaro, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to regulate the usurious practice of many owners of dormitories, boarding houses, and similar student housing and lodging facilities of imposing exorbitant rentals on said facilities.

The studentry is definitely one of the stakeholders the welfare of whom the State is duty-bound to protect. Passing a bill protecting them from said deplorable practice of unscrupulous dormitory owners is a laudable step in that direction.


SALVADOR B. BELARO, JR.

Representative
1-Ang Edukasyon Party List

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AN ACT
REGULATING RENTALS OF SCHOOL DORMITORIES AND
BOARDING HOUSES

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 "Dorm Rent Control Act of 2016."

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all. Toward this end, conditions which make it difficult for students to attain quality education such as the practice of unscrupulous dormitory owners who unreasonably raise the rentals of their dormitories or boarding houses should be regulated by the State.

SEC. 3. *Scope.* This Act shall cover all dormitories, boarding houses, rooms and bedspaces offered to students for lease, rent or board, whether owned by the school where the student goes to school or not.

SEC. 4. Every local government unit shall set the maximum allowable amount for the rental of all dormitories, boarding houses and all other lodging facilities

offered to students in their respective jurisdictions, with due regard to the condition of the facility subject of the lease, rent or board.

SEC. 5. The aforementioned maximum allowable amount shall include a Twenty Percent (20%) discount for the rentals to be paid by all students covered by this Act.

SEC. 6. *Penalty.* a) It shall be unlawful for any owner of a dormitory, boarding house or similar lodging facility to ask for rentals from students in the amount in excess of that set in Sections 4 and 5 above.

b) Penalty for violation shall be three (3) months imprisonment, and a fine ranging from Fifty Thousand pesos (Php50,000.00) to One Hundred Thousand pesos (Php100,000.00) which shall be imposed upon the violating owner and /or manager and/or their responsible office personnel, of a dormitory, boarding house or similar facility person found liable for violation of preceding Section.

SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Education (DepEd), in consultation with the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations, and other parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.