

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 6699



Introduced by Representative Ron P. Salo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Optical Media Board was created by virtue of Republic Act No. 9239, otherwise known as the Optical Media Act of 2003. It was created in order to ensure the protection and promotion of intellectual property rights. Towards this end, the law was passed to institute a means to regulate the manufacture, mastering, replication, importation and exportation of optical media.

The law was passed during the advent of video rental shops during the latter part of the 20th Century and the beginning of the new millennium when video rental shops sprouted left and right with big names such as Video City and ACA Video catering to those who prefer quality viewing over price considerations. However, it did not take long before these establishments started to die down because of the increasing competition from pirated versions of films and compact discs. Later on, online piracy and streaming services have also greatly affected the industry.

As it stands today, the very reason that the Optical Media Board sought to promote and regulate, is an obsolete industry that does not contribute any meaningful impact to the socio-economic and cultural aspects of our society. Thus, for the reasons stated, it is proposed in this measure that the Optical Media Board be abolished.

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


RON P. SALO
KABAYAN Partylist

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AN ACT
ABOLISHING THE OPTICAL MEDIA BOARD, CREATED BY VIRTUE OF
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9239, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE OPTICAL MEDIA ACT
OF 2003, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Abolishing the Optical Media Board (OMB). – The Optical Media Board created by virtue of Republic Act No. 9239, otherwise known as the Optical Media Act of 2003 is hereby abolished.

SEC. 2. Transitory Provisions. – Officers and employees of the OMB holding permanent appointments shall be given preference for appointment in other agencies if they meet the qualification requirements of the positions therein.

Officers and employees who are separated from the service as a result of the abolition of the OMB shall receive separation benefits under the provisions of Republic Act No. 6656: *Provided*, That those who are qualified to retire under existing laws shall be allowed to retire and receive retirement benefits to which they may be entitled under applicable laws, rules and regulations.

SEC. 3. Transfer of Rights, Assets and Liabilities. – The Philippine National Police shall, by virtue of this Act, be subrogated to all the rights and assume all the obligations and liabilities of the Optical Media Board. All records, property, assets, equipment, and funds of the Optical Media Board, including unexpended appropriations or allocations, shall be transferred to the Philippine National Police.

SEC. 4. Separability Clause. – Should any provision herein be declared unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect

SEC. 5. Repealing Clause. – All laws, decrees, executive orders or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the online version of the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.