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



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.

Introduced by Representative Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

With the passage of the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, the country takes a step closer to accessible quality education. However, it is also important to note that in receiving quality education, tuition fees and other related fees are not only the expenses that come into play.

A lot of students leave home in pursuit of better higher education. Lodging is one of the expenses that heavily impact their considerations, so much so that the availability of affordable accommodation might affect their decision to enroll. Sadly, some dormitory and boarding house owners impose exorbitant rental fees that many students could not afford.

This Act seeks to regulate the rental fees imposed by dormitories, boarding houses, and similar student housing facilities in order to ensure affordable lodging and accommodation options for students.

GABRIEL H. BORDADO, JR.

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 5087

Introduced by Representative Gabriel H. Bordado Jr.

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"

- SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the rights of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all. Towards this end, conditions that 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 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 to 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 (Php 50,000.00) to One Hundred Thousand pesos (Php 100,000.00) which shall be imposed upon the violating owner and/or manager and/or other responsible office personal of a dormitory, boarding house, or similar facility 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 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.