

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

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2129



Introduced by Honorable Lucy Torres-Gomez

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In the urban jungle that is Metro Manila, numbers of residences and establishments are sometimes not so easy to find. On the other hand, houses and business firms in the provinces, especially in remote areas, do not fare any better inasmuch as in many cases the numbers are entirely missing.

Modern community planning, however, requires a more systematic numbering of houses and other structures. These numbers serve as the postal addresses of the residential units and business establishments in the country. Apart from orderliness and convenience in contemporary social life, numbering of structures would have some security dimensions since the identification of the owners/occupants of a unit as well as the activities undertaken thereat, is facilitated for purposes of peace and order. In an ordered society, therefore, the numbering of units could not remain optional on the part of the owners or the dwellers.

On the basis of the foregoing premises, the early approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

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LUCY TORRES-GOMEZ
Representative
Fourth District of Leyte

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AN ACT
MAKING MANDATORY THE NUMBERING OF DWELLING
UNITS AND OTHER BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTRY

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
“Philippine Numbering of Houses and Buildings Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. *Mandatory Numbering of Houses and Other Buildings.* –
All dwelling houses and other buildings erected or to be erected on any
street, alley, lane, or any other place within the limits of every barangay in
the country shall be numbered in accordance with the system and plan
hereinafter provided.

Churches, chapels, government buildings, such as municipal
buildings, administrative buildings, schoolhouses, hospitals, clinics, public
markets, fire stations and barracks, are exempt from the provisions of this
Act.

SEC. 3. *Duty of the Municipal or City Engineer.* – In order to have a systematic and accurate numbering of houses or buildings, the Municipal or City Engineer is authorized to cause the numbering and renumbering of houses or buildings within the territorial jurisdiction of the local government unit. It shall be his duty to assign a number to each and every dwelling house or building in accordance with a system and plan duly adopted by his office. The owner or occupant may purchase or cause the manufacture of the plate number from any store or hardware of his choice and following the class, form, shape, design and location of the plate of his/her preference, provided he/she adopts or utilizes the specific number so assigned to his house or building unit by the Municipal or City Engineer.

To implement the provisions of this Act, the Municipal or City Engineer shall send appropriate notices to the concerned house or building owner or occupant. For building owners or occupants, they shall not be issued a certificate of occupancy unless they comply with the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 4. *Duty of Owner or Occupant of the Structure.* – It shall be the duty of every owner, or in his/her absence or prolonged unavailability, the occupant(s), of the house or building erected or to be erected in every barangay of the country to place the corresponding plate number assigned

to the said house or building within a period of fifteen (15) days from the date he or she receives the notice to that effect.

Further, it shall be unlawful for the owner, occupant or any other person to take down, alter, or deface any number plate, or retain an improper number, or to substitute any number on the house or building other than the one given by the Municipal or City Engineer. This notwithstanding, the replacement of worn-out or illegal number by a new plate bearing the same design and number as the old one, shall be allowed.

SEC. 5. *Penalty.* - Any person who violates of the provisions of this Act, specifically Section 4 hereof, shall be subject to a fine of not less than Five Hundred Pesos (Php 500.00) nor more than Ten Thousand Pesos (Php 10,000).

The Municipal or City Engineer is hereby empowered to issue notices of violation and summons for breach of any provision of this Act. Upon a finding of liability at the conclusion of summary proceedings therefor, the concerned owner or occupant is given a period of one (1) week to comply with the regulations. Thereafter, the Municipal or City Legal Officer, for and in behalf of the local government unit, shall institute the appropriate collection suit in a court of law.

SEC. 6. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) shall issue the necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All acts, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations and other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended.

SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* - If for any reason, any portion or provision of this Act be declared unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

SEC. 9. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication either in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. S. S.", with a long horizontal line extending to the left and a checkmark-like flourish to the right.