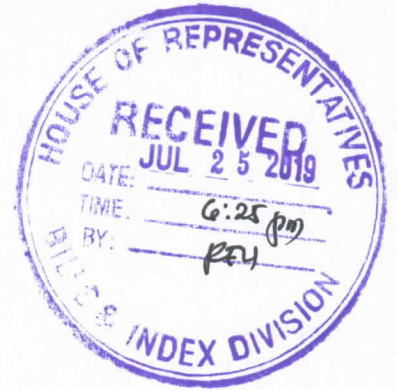


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
2924
HOUSE BILL NO. _____



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A series of fires gutted down highly populated areas in Quezon City thereby dislocating a significant number of victim-families whose lives, house, and other properties were razed by fire of often un-validated origin or cause.

Apparently, an emerging scenario show some property owners, without appropriate court order, fence, secure or acquire immediately after the fire has gutted the area inhabited by informal settlers thus placing them in much more humiliating conditions of misfortunes and uncertainty.

Indeed, when an area or property that used to be the place of residence to many urban poor families will be automatically condoned off to prevent informal settlers from occupying them again raises serious constitutional issues worthy of review.

In this light, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought since many urban poor families, easily in the millions might be adversely affected if owners of otherwise idle, unproductive lands or property can automatically secure for themselves the absolute use of the same to the detriment of a general population.

Under this bill, no purported owner can isolate the area or property to his exclusive use until the court has disposed of the case and allowed him to do so by way of court order.

The swift passage of this bill is thus earnestly prayed for.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
2924

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

AN ACT
PROHIBITING PERIMETER FENCING, SECURING, AND ACQUIRING AREA OF
PROPERTY OCCUPIED BY INFORMAL SETTLERS AFTER A FIRE WHILE CASE IS
PENDING IN COURT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted in the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in Congress assembled`

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as “Informal Settlers Protection Act.”

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes that the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential to the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.

SEC. 3. *Prohibition.* – Any person is prohibited to put up a perimeter fence around an area or property inhabited by informal settlers after the same is gutted by fire or otherwise secure and acquire it without cause while case is pending in court.

SEC. 4. *Exception.* – However, exceptions may be made if the owner of such area or property or its purported owner can show a duly-signed court order allowing fencing, securing, and acquiring the same.

SEC. 5. *Penalties.* – Any violation of the provisions of this Act shall be punished accordingly by judgment of a competent court.

SEC. 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect upon its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,