

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4579



Introduced by Rep. Precious Hipolito Castelo

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill contemplates on keeping in check the hazards brought about by misuse of drones or remotely-piloted aircraft systems (RPAS). Drones in the country, which now number by the thousands, are potential airspace hazards. They also put at risk the safety of people outdoors when operated wrongly.

Drones have been spotted flying too close to airports as airplanes are taking off. A drone crashed near the White House in January of 2017, and an 18-month old boy's eye was sliced in half after he was hit in the head by a crashing drone.¹

Drones are not toys, though they are increasingly marketed that way. The fact that drones gain more and more popularity among toy collectors, the more risk to lives and limbs we have to grapple with.

Hence, there is an immediate need to regulate the operation of drones in order to contain their potential hazards to both lives and properties.

The swift passage of this bill is thus most earnestly sought.


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

¹ <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/i-registered-my-drone-heres-why-you-should-too> 2018-12-21

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AN ACT
REGULATING THE OPERATION OF DRONES OR REMOTELY-PILOTED AIRCRAFT
SYSTEMS (RPAS) AND PRESCRIBING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Drone Regulation Act."

SEC. 2. No individual shall operate a drone or Remotely-Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) unless he or she has undergone education in safe airspace practices or operating remote-controlled aircraft.

SEC. 3. The Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines shall undertake the seminar and issue the necessary certificates of completion.

SEC. 4. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines shall issue the necessary rules, regulations and guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. Any person found guilty of violating the provisions of this Act shall pay a fine of not less than Three Hundred Thousand Pesos but not more than Five Hundred Thousand Pesos and/or imprisonment of one (1) year.

SEC. 6. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed accordingly.

SEC 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days upon publication in the Official Gazette and in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,