S. No. 775

## "eventh Congress of the Republic of the Philippines

## Fighth Special Session

Begun and held in the City of Manila on Friday, the twentyeighth day of July, nineteen hundred and seventy-two

## [REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6552]

AN ACT TO PROVIDE PROTECTION TO BUYERS OF REAL ESTATE ON INSTALLMENT PAYMENTS

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Realty Installment Buyer Protection Act".

SEC. 2. It is hereby declared a public policy to protect buyers of real estate on installment payments against onerous and oppressive conditions.

SEC. 3. In all transactions or contracts involving the sale or financing of real estate on installment payments, including residential condominium apartments but excluding industrial lots, commercial buildings and sales to tenants under Republic Act Numbered Thirty-eight hundred forty-four as amended by Republic Act Numbered Sixtythree hundred eighty-nine, where the buyer has paid at least two years of installments, the buyer is entitled to the following rights in case he defaults in the payment of succeeding installments:

(a) To pay, without additional interest, the unpaid installments due within the total grace period earned by him, which is hereby fixed at the rate of one month grace period for every one year of installment payments made: *Provided*, That this right shall be exercised by the buyer only once in every five years of the life of the contract and its extensions, if any.

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(b) If the contract is cancelled, the seller shall refund to the buyer the cash surrender value of the payments on the property equivalent to fifty per cent of the total payments made and, after five years of installments, an additional five per cent every year but not to exceed ninety per cent of the total payments made: *Provided*, That the actual cancellation of the contract shall take place after thirty days from receipt by the buyer of the notice of cancellation or the demand for rescission of the contract by a notarial act and upon full payment of the cash surrender value to the buyer.

Down payments, deposits or options on the contract shall be included in the computation of the total number of installment payments made.

SEC. 4. In case where less than two years of installments were paid, the seller shall give the buyer a grace period of not less than sixty days from the date the installment became due. If the buyer fails to pay the installments due at the expiration of the grace period, the seller may cancel the contract after thirty days from receipt by the buyer of the notice of cancellation or the demand for rescission of the contract by a notarial act.

SEC. 5. Under Sections 3 and 4, the buyer shall have the right to sell his rights or assign the same to another person or to reinstate the contract by updating the account during the grace period and before actual cancellation of the contract. The deed of sale or assignment shall be done by notarial act.

SEC. 6. The buyer shall have the right to pay in advance any installment or the full unpaid balance of the purchase price any time without interest and to have such full payment of the purchase price annotated in the certificate of title covering the property.

SEC. 7. Any stipulation in any contract hereafter entered into contrary to the provisions of Sections 3. 4, 5 and 6, shall be null and void. 075068 SEC. 3. If any provisions of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, no other provision shall be affected thereby.

SEC. 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. Approved,

President of the Senate

CORNELIOT. VULLAREAL Speaker of the House of Representatives

This Act, which originated in the Senate, was finally passed by the same on April 27, 1972.

ELISEO M/ TENZA

Secretary of the Senate

SEP

14, 1972

FERDENAND E. MARCOS

President of the Philippines

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Finally passed by the House of Representatives on August 8, 1972.

INOCENCIO B. PAREL Secretary of the House of Configures entatives