CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS Second Regular Session

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 7174

BY REPRESENTATIVES VARGAS, VILLANUEVA (E.), RIVERA, DIMAPORO (M.K.), FERRER (J.M.), BABASA, DEFENSOR (L.), REVILLA, SAVELLANO AND TORRES-GOMEZ

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE ACTIVE USE AND DISPLAY OF COMMERCIAL BILLBOARDS DURING TYPHOONS

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

SEC. 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Bawal Billboard Tuwing
 Bagyo Act".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to mitigate the risk
of billboard-related accidents during typhoons. For this purpose, the operation of
billboards during weather disturbances shall be strictly prohibited as a public safety
measure for the motorists and pedestrians.

SEC. 3. Prohibition on the Active Use of Billboards During Typhoons. -7 8 All advertising materials shall be automatically taken down by the billboard operator within twelve (12) hours from an official announcement and/or release of a Typhoon 9 Signal No. 1 bulletin, or any other significant weather disturbance by the Philippine 10 11 Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA). This 12 prohibition shall be in effect for the duration of the weather disturbance. 13 For this purpose, contents on tarpaulin-based billboards shall be taken down, while electronic-based billboards shall be switched off during this period. 14

SEC. 4. Penal Clause. – Any billboard operator or person who shall violate the
provisions of this Act shall be subject to a fine of not less than Three hundred thousand
pesos (Php 300,000), or imprisonment of not less than six (6) months but not more
than one (1) year, upon the discretion of the court.

5 SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Public 6 Works and Highways (DPWH), in consultation with the Metro Manila Development 7 Authority (MMDA), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), other 8 metropolitan councils and other relevant agencies, shall promulgate and issue the 9 implementing rules and regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days from the effectivity 10 thereof.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations
 or any part thereof inconsistent herewith are deemed repealed or modified
 accordingly.

14 SEC. 7. Separability Clause. – If any part or provision of this Act shall be 15 declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of the law or the provision not 16 otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation, whichever
 comes earlier.

20 Approved,

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