

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

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 845

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Introduced by HON. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA  
4<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, BULACAN

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EXPLANATORY NOTE


The State must ensure its citizens a uniform standard of safeguards by preventing them from falling into culverts and other similar forms of drainage, especially during flooding.

Presently, however, during typhoons, children often loiter around flooded streets. Suddenly and without any warning they would wander into culverts or drainage systems, endangering both life and limb, for all they care.

This bill seeks to prevent the exposure of children's lives to possible danger.

During the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, this bill was filed but due to time constraints, it was not taken up. This same bill is re-filed for the consideration of the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress..

Support for the enactment of this measure is earnestly requested.



REP. LINABELLE RUTH R. VILLARICA



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AN ACT PROVIDING FOR SAFETY MEASURES FOR CULVERTS OR OTHER SIMILAR  
FLOOD OR DRAINAGE SYSTEMS MAINTAINED BY GOVERNMENT ENTITIES

*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 Culvert Safety Act of 2014”

SEC. 2 The State shall promote the general welfare of the people. It shall therefore provide for safety measures for culverts or other similar flood drainage systems managed by governmental entities.

SEC. 3. Every governmental entity shall:

- (A) Ensure that the intake to each culvert or other enclosed flood or drainage system that the entity is responsible for maintaining is protected by a bar, grate, or other appropriate covering sufficient to ensure that a child may not be swept into the system;
- (B) Ensure that a sign warning of the hazard for a child, including the danger for injury or drowning, is clearly posted at the intake to each culvert or other enclosed flood or drainage system that the entity is responsible for maintaining;
- (C) Ensure that each culvert or other enclosed flood or drainage system that the entity is responsible for maintaining has a hinged opening or other type of opening and closing mechanism to permit emergency services personnel to access the system.

For purposes of this Act, the term culvert shall mean a sewer or drain crossing under a road or embankment, the part of a road or embankment that passes over such a sewer or drain, or the channel or conduit for such a sewer or drain.

SEC. 4. If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof shall remain valid and effective.

SEC. 5. All laws, decrees, orders, proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general publication.

Approved,