EXPLANATORY NOTE

Vandalism are acts which constitutes willful defacement of public and private property by writing on walls, drawings, and markings. It also includes, posting or displaying of any posters, placards, advertisement, and bills. As an effect, every property affected will undergo repair or rehabilitation which means additional expenses. On the part of the government, it will have to allocate additional budget which could have been used for a more productive endeavor.

The effect of such distressing conduct likewise affects the community. The defacement caused becomes an eyesore to the people and create a feeling of uneasiness to the onlookers. Finding a solution has been the greatest challenge. In fact, Local Government Units enforced local ordinances to prohibit vandalism. However, the government needs to endorse a law national in scope to strengthen its prevention and implementation. It is for such reason that this bill is being sought to prohibit acts of vandalism and impose stricter penalties for violations thereof.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

Rep. Ramon V. Guico III
AN ACT PROHIBITING ANY ACT OF VANDALISM AND PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREOF

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

SECTION 1. Short Title.—This Act shall be known as the “Anti-Vandalism Act of 2019”.

SEC. 2. Definition of terms. — For purposes of this Act, these terms are defined as follows:

Vandalism - is the destruction or defacing of someone else's property without the consent of the owner or occupant of a private property or any authorized officer or representative of the Government for government owned properties.

The act of vandalism shall be in the form of any of the following:

(a) writing, drawing, painting, marking or inscribing on any public property or private property any word, slogan, caricature, drawing, mark, symbol or other thing; or

(b) affixing, posting up or displaying on any public property or private property any poster, placard, advertisement, bill, notice, paper or other document; or

SEC. 3. Penal Provision. -Any person who shall commit any of the aforementioned acts of vandalism shall, in addition to payment of the expenses for restoration of the property vandalized, suffer the following penalties:
a. For the First Offense, the payment of a fine in the amount of P5,000;

b. For the Second Offense, the payment of a fine in the amount of P10,000; and

c. For the Third Offense, the payment of a fine in the amount of P15,000, plus imprisonment of not less than 30 days but not more than one (1) year depending on the gravity of the infraction. In determining the gravity of the infraction, the court shall consider the extent and the amount of the damage caused to the property in question.

SEC. 4. Repealing Clause. – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of other provisions hereof.

SEC. 6. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect within fifteen (15) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,