NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) Third Regular Session)

24 DEC -3 P1:25

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SENATE

_{S. No.} 2886

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF CONDOMINIUMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 4726, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE CONDOMINIUM ACT"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Condominium properties offer benefits to communities and households in terms of economy, efficiency and convenience. Condominium development aliows for the economic use of land for the construction of housing units and amenities, and allows multiple households to share the cost of residential amenities such as gyms, pools, landscaping and security services, among others. Condominium developments, particularly those constructed in proximity to urban centers or tourist destinations, provides families easy access to business districts, schools, hospitals, transportation hubs, leisure activities, commercial establishments, and other facilities. These factors contribute to the increasing popularity of condominium unit acquisition among homeowners and real estate investors alike.

While there is an increasing preference for condominium units, the law that regulates the ownership, operation and administration of condominium units, has remained relatively unchanged since the late 1960s when it was enacted. While the laws have been put in place to ensure the safety of condominium dwellers and the security of condominium ownership, the restrictive provisions of condominium regulation make it difficult to uphold such noble intents of the laws.

Recognizing the wisdom of House Bill No. 10173 approved on Third Reading by the House of Representatives on May 15, 2024, and Senate Bill Nos. 2726 and 2697 filed by Sen. Joseph Victor Ejercito and Sen. Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, respectively, this bill likewise seeks to amend a fifty-eight-year-old law, and make the same more responsive to the needs and exigencies on condominium ownership, operation, and management. More specifically, it aims to rationalize the voting requirements for *en bloc* condominium sale or redevelopment, which would make the same at par with global practices, and would ensure that unit owners are not bogged down with decrepit or deteriorating assets. Additionally, to protect the interests of the unit owners, this bill seeks to ensure that maintenance, repairs and other necessary construction works are timely performed, that condominium dues remain reasonable, and that the advanced payment of their respective shares in the proceeds of condominium sale are immediately extended.

With the intention of ensuring the safety and security of residential properties in the country, maximizing land use efficiency particularly in urban areas, stimulating economic growth, and improving the overall quality of life of all Filipinos, the swift passage of the proposed measure is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted.

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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 "Condominium
 Redevelopment Act".

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. — It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
establish sustainable communities that are livable and provide equitable, inclusive,
and resilient opportunities for the improvement of human well-being while contributing
to the economic vitality of the community.

7 It is likewise the policy of the State to ensure the safety and integrity of existing
8 and future condominium developments to protect the public against hazards of aged
9 buildings that pose threats to the owners and the general public.

To this end, the State shall establish rules for the proper maintenance, repair, reconstruction, and redevelopment of condominium projects, ensuring that the property rights of unit owners are respected while addressing the needs of the community and improving the overall quality of life of Filipinos.

SEC. 3. Scope. – This Act shall cover all condominium projects as defined in
 Republic Act No. 4726, otherwise known as "The Condominium Act", including those

that are now in existence, that are under construction, or that may be constructedhereinafter.

3 SEC. 4. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 4726, as amended, is hereby further
4 amended to read as follows:

SEC. 4. The provisions of this Act shall apply to property divided
or to be divided into condominiums only if there shall be recorded in the
Register of Deeds of the province or city in which the property lies and
duly annotated in the corresponding certificate of title of the land, if the
latter had been patented or registered under either the Land
Registration or Cadastral Acts, an enabling or master deed which shall
contain, among others, the following:

12 "x x x.

"The enabling or master deed may be amended or revoked upon 13 registration of an instrument executed by a simple majority of the 14 registered owners of the property: Provided, That in a condominium 15 project [exclusively] for [either] residential, [or] commercial, OR 16 **MIXED** use, simple majority shall be on a per unit of ownership basis, 17 [and that in the case of mixed use, simple majority shall be] OR on a 18 floor area of ownership basis, AS DETERMINED IN THE MASTER 19 DEED: Provided, further, That prior notifications to all registered 20 owners are done: and Provided, finally, That any amendment or 21 revocation already decided by a simple majority of all registered owners 22 shall be submitted to the [Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board] 23 OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEPARTMENT 24 **DEVELOPMENT** and the city/municipal engineer for approval before it 25 can be registered. Until registration of a revocation, the provisions of 26 this Act shall continue to apply to such property." 27

28 Sec. 5. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read as 29 follows:

"Sec 5. Any transfer or conveyance of a unit or an apartment, 1 2 office or store or other space therein, shall include the transfer or conveyance of the undivided interests in the common areas or, in a 3 proper case, the membership or shareholdings in the condominium 4 corporation: Provided, however, That where the common areas in the 5 6 condominium project are owned by the owners of separate units as co-7 owners thereof, no condominium unit therein shall be conveyed or 8 transferred to persons other than Filipino citizens, or corporations at least sixty percent of the capital stock of which belong to Filipino citizens, 9 except in cases of hereditary succession. Where the common areas in a 10 condominium project are held by a corporation, no transfer or 11 conveyance of a unit shall be valid if the concomitant transfer of the 12 appurtenant membership or stockholding in the corporation will cause 13 the alien interest in such corporation to exceed the limits imposed by 14 existing laws. 15

16 "ANY TRANSFER OR CONVEYANCE OF THE COMMON
 17 AREAS (I) TO THE CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION OR CO 18 OWNERS AND (II) TO THE BUYER OF ALL UNITS OF THE
 19 PROJECT ON ACCOUNT OF SALE TRANSACTION PRECEDING A
 20 REDEVELOPMENT, SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM ALL NATIONAL
 21 AND LOCAL TAXES, INCLUDING INCOME TAX, CAPITAL GAINS
 22 TAX, VALUE ADDED TAX, AND LOCAL TRANSFER TAX."

23 **SEC. 6.** Section 9 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read as 24 follows:

25 "Sec. 9. The owner of a project shall, prior to the conveyance of
any condominium therein, register a declaration of restrictions relating
to such project, which restrictions shall constitute a lien upon each
condominium in the project, and shall insure to and bind all
condominium owners in the project. Such liens, unless otherwise
provided, may be enforced by any condominium owner in the project or
by the management body of such project. The Register of Deeds shall

| 1 | enter and annotate the declaration of restrictions upon the certificate of |
|----|--|
| 2 | title covering the land included within the project, if the land is patented |
| 3 | or registered under the Land Registration or Cadastral Acts. |
| 4 | "x x x. |
| 5 | "Such declaration of restrictions, among other things, may also |
| 6 | provide: |
| 7 | "(a) As to any such management body: |
| 8 | "(1) × × ×; |
| 9 | "x x x; |
| 10 | "(8) For entry by its officers, [and] THE DEVELOPER, |
| 11 | THEIR agents AND REPRESENTATIVES into any unit |
| 12 | DURING EMERGENCY SITUATIONS WHERE THERE IS |
| 13 | REAL DANGER OF DAMAGE TO LIFE OR PROPERTY, OR |
| 14 | when necessary in connection with the maintenance or |
| 15 | construction for which such body is responsible. THE |
| 16 | MANAGEMENT BODY OR DEVELOPER AND THEIR |
| 17 | RESPECTIVE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES SHALL |
| 18 | NOT, SOLELY BY REASON THEREOF, BE LIABLE FOR |
| 19 | TRESPASS FOR SUCH ENTRY. IN THE EVENT ENTRY IS |
| 20 | NOT GRANTED DESPITE REASONABLE NOTICE GIVEN TO |
| 21 | THE CONDOMINIUM UNIT OWNER DUE TO THE |
| 22 | PREVAILING CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH CONDOMINIUM |
| 23 | UNIT OWNER SHALL BE DEEMED TO HAVE ACTED IN BAD |
| 24 | FAITH AND SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DAMAGES |
| 25 | WHICH MAY BE REASONABLY ATTRIBUTED TO THE |
| 26 | REFUSAL OF ENTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF PREVENTING |
| 27 | DAMAGE OR PERFORMING MAINTENANCE, |
| 28 | CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR WORKS; |

29

"x x x."

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SEC. 7. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read as
 follows:

"Section 10. Whenever the common areas in a condominium 3 project are [held] USED by a condominium corporation, such 4 5 corporation shall constitute the management body of the project. The corporate purposes of such a corporation shall be limited to the holding 6 of the common areas, either in ownership or any other interest in real 7 property recognized by law, to the management of the project, and to 8 such other purposes as may be necessary, incidental or convenient to 9 the accomplishment of said purposes. CONDOMINIUM DUES BASED 10 ON THE ACTUAL USE, ACCESS AND ENJOYMENT OF THE 11 COMMON AREAS OF THE PROJECT, WHETHER WHOLLY OR 12 PARTIALLY, MAY BE ASSESSED BY THE CONDOMINIUM 13 INCORPORATION CORPORATION FOR THE UPON 14 MAINTENANCE OF THE COMMON AREAS. 15

"The articles of incorporation or by-laws of the corporation shall 16 not contain any provision contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions 17 of this Act, the enabling or master deed, or the declaration of restrictions 18 of the project. UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE BY-LAWS 19 OF A CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION, QUORUM FOR CONDUCT 20 OF MEETINGS SHALL BE THE MAJORITY OF THE TOTAL 21 MEMBERS IN CONDOMINIUM UNITS HELD BY GOOD 22 **STANDING.** Membership in a condominium corporation, regardless of 23 whether it is a stock or non-stock corporation, shall not be transferable 24 separately from the condominium unit of which it is an appurtenance. 25 When a member or stockholder ceases to own a unit in the project in 26 which the condominium corporation owns or holds the common areas, 27 he shall automatically cease to be a member or stockholder of the 28 condominium corporation. UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE 29 INCORPORATION AND BY-LAWS OF A ARTICLES OF 30 CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION, JURIDICAL UNIT OWNERS 31

MAY NAME, CONSTITUTE AND APPOINT AN ATTORNEY-IN-1 SHALL REPRESENT THE SAME IN 2 FACT WHO THE CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION AND WHO MAY LIKEWISE BE 3 ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION AND ELECTION AS A DIRECTOR 4 OR FOR APPOINTMENT TO ANY POSITION: PROVIDED, THAT 5 SUCH ATTORNEY-IN-FACT SHALL NOT CAUSE THE FOREIGN 6 **INTEREST IN SUCH CORPORATION TO EXCEED THE LIMITS** 7 **IMPOSED BY LAW."** 8

9 SEC. 8. Section 13 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read as
10 follows:

"Sec. 13. Until the enabling or the master deed of the project in
 which the condominium corporation owns or holds the common area is
 revoked, the corporation shall not be voluntarily dissolved through an
 action for dissolution under Rule 104 of the Rules of Court except upon
 a showing:

- 16 "(a) x x x;
- 17 "x x x;

"(d) That the project or a material part thereof has been 18 condemned or expropriated and that the project is no longer viable, or 19 that the members holding in aggregate A MAJORITY [more than 20 seventy percent] interest in the corporation, if non-stock, or the 21 stockholders representing **A MAJORITY** [more than seventy percent] 22 of the capital stock entitled to vote, if a stock corporation, are opposed 23 to the continuation of the condominium regime after expropriation or 24 condemnation of a material portion thereof; or 25

26 "X X X."

Sec. 9. Section 14 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read as
follows:

29 "Sec. 14. The condominium corporation may also be dissolved by
 30 the affirmative- vote of [all] TWO-THIRDS (2/3) OF the stockholderS

or members thereof at a general or-special meeting duly called for the 1 purpose: Provided, HOWEVER, That [all the requirements of Section 2 sixty-two of the Corporation Law are complied with, IF THE 3 CONDOMINIUM PROJECT HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR 4 THIRTY (30) YEARS OR MORE BUT LESS THAN FIFTY (50) 5 6 YEARS, THE CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION MAY BE DISSOLVED BY THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF 7 THE STOCKHOLDERS OR MEMBERS THEREOF AT A GENERAL OR 8 SPECIAL MEETING DULY CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE: 9 **PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT IF THE CONDOMINIUM PROJECT** 10 HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR FIFTY (50) YEARS OR MORE, THE 11 CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION MAY BE DISSOLVED BY THE 12 AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF **ONE-THIRD** (1/3)OF THE 13 STOCKHOLDERS OR MEMBERS THEREOF AT A GENERAL OR 14 SPECIAL MEETING DULY CALLED FOR THE PURPOSE: 15 **PROVIDED, FINALLY, THAT FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS** 16 REQUIREMENTS FOR CORPORATE SECTION, ALL THE 17 DISSOLUTION AND LIQUIDATION UNDER TITLE XIV OF THE 18 **REVISED CORPORATION CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR** 19 PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, ARE COMPLIED WITH INSOFAR 20 **AS THEY ARE APPLICABLE."** 21

Sec. 10. Section 15 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read as
 follows:

"Sec. 15. Unless otherwise provided for in the declaration of 24 restrictions upon voluntary dissolution of a condominium corporation in 25 accordance with the provisions of Sections thirteen and fourteen of this 26 Act, the corporation shall be deemed to hold a power of attorney from 27 all the members or stockholders to sell and dispose of their separate 28 interests in the project and liquidation of the corporation shall be 29 effected by a sale of the entire project as if the corporation owned the 30 whole thereof, subject to the rights of the corporate and of individual 31

1 condominium creditors. MEMBERS OR STOCKHOLDERS SHALL BE ENTITLED TO AN ADVANCED PAYMENT OF THEIR RESPECTIVE 2 **PRO RATA SHARES FROM THE PROCEEDS OF THE SALE OF THE** 3 ENTIRE CONDOMINIUM PROJECT BASED ON THE AGREED 4 5 VALUATION AND TERMS OF PAYMENT BETWEEN THE CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION AND THE BUYER OF THE 6 PROJECT. SUCH ADVANCED PAYMENT SHALL BE DEDUCTED 7 FROM THE FINAL AMOUNT DUE TO ALL MEMBERS AND 8 STOCKHOLDERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE 9 **PRO RATA SHARES.** 10

Sec. 11. Section 16 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby further amended to
 read as follows:

"Sec. 16. A condominium corporation shall not, during its 13 existence, seii, exchange, [lease], or otherwise dispose of the common 14 areas owned or heid by it in the condominium project unless authorized 15 by the affirmative vote of a simple majority of the registered owners: 16 *Provided*, That prior notifications to all registered owners are done: 17 Provided, further, That the condominium corporation may expand or 18 integrate the project with another upon the affirmative vote of a simple 19 majority of the registered owners, subject only to the final approval of 20 the [Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board] DEPARTMENT OF 21 HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT. 22

"THE CONDOMINIUM CORPORATION MAY LEASE A 23 PORTION OF THE COMMON AREAS OWNED OR HELD BY IT IN 24 THE CONDOMINIUM PROJECT: PROVIDED, THAT THE LEASE 25 THEREOF DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH THE OPERATIONS AND 26 SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY AS WELL AS WITH THE USE 27 THEREOF BY THE UNIT OWNERS: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT 28 ALL NET RENTAL INCOME REALIZED FROM THE LEASE 29 THEREOF SHALL INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF THE MEMBERS OR 30 STOCKHOLDERS, AS THE CASE MAY BE." 31

Sec. 12. Section 18 of Republic Act No. 4726 is hereby amended to read
 as follows:

"Sec. 18. Upon registration of an instrument conveying a 3 condominium, the Register of Deeds shall, upon payment of the proper 4 fees, enter [and annotate] the conveyance [on the certificate of title 5 covering the land included within the project] and the transferee shall 6 be entitled to the issuance of a "condominium owner's" copy [of the 7 pertinent portion of such certificate of title]. Said "condominium" 8 owner's" copy need to reproduce the ownership status or series of 9 transactions in force or annotated with respect to other condominiums 10 in the project. A copy of the description of the land, a brief description 11 of the condominium conveyed, name and personal circumstances of the 12 condominium owner would be sufficient for purposes of the 13 "condominium owner's" copy of the certificate of title. No conveyance of 14 condominiums or part thereof, subsequent to the original conveyance 15 thereof from the owner of the project, shall be registered unless 16 accompanied by a certificate of the management body of the project 17 that such conveyance is in accordance with the provisions of the 18 declaration of restrictions of such project AND THAT THE 19 CONDOMINIUM UNIT HAS NO UNPAID DUES AND ARREARS. 20

"In cases of condominium projects registered under the 21 provisions of the Spanish Mortgage Law or Act 3344, as amended, the 22 registration of the deed of conveyance or a condominium shall be 23 sufficient if the Register of Deeds shall keep the original or signed copy 24 thereof, together with the certificate of the management body of the 25 project, and return a copy of the deed of conveyance to the 26 condominium owner duly acknowledged and stamped by the Register of 27 Deeds in the same manner as in the case of registration of conveyances 28 of real property under said laws." 29

Sec. 13. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development and the Human Settlements Adjudication Commission, in consultation with public and private stakeholders concerned, shall promulgate the necessary implementing rules and regulations to implement the provision of this Act.

Sec. 14. Separability Clause. – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
 remain in force and effect.

Sec. 15. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, acts, presidential decrees,
 executive orders, issuances, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts
 thereof, which are contrary to and inconsistent with any provision of this Act, are
 hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Sec. 16. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,