

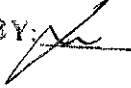
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
First Regular Session



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

'11 FEB 14 P.3:06

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 2691

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**Introduced by Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Every citizen of a country has the moral obligation to love its motherland. Our 1987 Constitution mandates this obligation.

In our country, such national symbols like the national flag, anthem, motto, coat-of-arms and other heraldic items and devices are the representation of the Philippines. Thus, it is innate to every Filipino to respect, learn it and live by it.

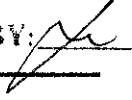
Republic Act 8491, also known as, "The Flag and Heraldic Code of the Philippines", is hereby amended to highlight the importance of complying, abiding and conforming to the standard expression as prescribed by law.

Hence, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
RAMON "BONG" REVILLA, JR.

'11 FEB 14 P3:06

SENATE  
Senate Bill No. 2691

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

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**AN ACT**  
**AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491 ENTITLED, "AN ACT PRESCRIBING**  
**THE CODE OF THE NATIONAL FLAG, ANTHEM, MOTTO, COAT-OF-ARMS**  
**AND OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES OF THE PHILIPPINES"**  
**OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE**

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy - IT IS HEREBY DECLARED THE POLICY OF THE STATE THAT [R]e**verence and respect shall at all times be accorded the flag, the anthem and other national symbols which embody the national ideals and traditions and which express the principles of sovereignty and national solidarity. The heraldic items and devices shall seek to manifest the national virtues and to inculcate in the minds and hearts of our people a just pride in their native land, fitting respect and affection for the national flag and anthem, and **TO STANDARDIZE** the proper use of the national motto, coat-of-arms and other heraldic items and devices.

**SECTION 2.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. 3. Definition of Terms -** Whenever used in this Act, the term:

**"[(o)](A) "DISPLAY, HOIST OR RAISE" SHALL REFER TO THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FLAG IS PUBLICLY PRESENTED AND VENERATED.**

**"(b) "Festoon" shall mean to hang in a curve shape between two points as a decoration, CURTAIN, DRAPE, ETC.;**

"(c) "Flag" shall mean **ANY REPRESENTATION OF** the Philippine National Flag **IN WHATEVER MEDIA**, unless stated otherwise;

"(d) "Fly" shall mean the part of the flag outside the hoist or length;

"[(f)] (E)"Half-Mast" shall mean lowering the flag to one-half the distance between the top and bottom of the staff. **IF THE FLAG IS DISPLAYED IN HANGING POSITION OR USED IN PARADE AS A SIGN OF MOURNING, HALF-MAST SHALL MEAN PLACING A BLACK RIBBON ON THE BLUE FIELD HOIST SIDE;**

"[(m)](F)"HANGING POSITION" SHALL MEAN THE WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON TOP, THE BLUE FIELD SHALL BE TO THE RIGHT (LEFT OF THE OBSERVER) IN TIME OF PEACE; THE WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON TOP, AND THE RED FIELD TO THE RIGHT (LEFT OF THE OBSERVER) IN TIME OF WAR;

"(g) "Hoist" shall mean the part of the flag nearest the staff or the canvass to which the halyard is attached;

"(h) "Inclement Weather" shall mean [that a typhoon signal is raised in the locality] **A WEATHER CONDITION SUCH AS RAIN OR STRONG WIND THAT WILL BE UNFAVORABLE FOR THE RAISING OF THE FLAG SINCE IT WILL LESSEN THE DIGNITY THAT SHOULD BE ACCORDED TO THE FLAG.**

"[(a)] (I)"Military" shall mean all branches of the Armed Forces of the Philippines including the Philippine National Police, the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, the Bureau of Fire Protection, **BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION AND DEPORTATION, BUREAU OF CUSTOMS, COAST GUARD, AND OTHER AGENCIES USING RANK INSIGNIA;**

"[(i)] (J) "National Anthem" shall mean the Philippine National Anthem **ENTITLED "LUPANG HINIRANG";**

"[(l)] (K)"Institute" "NHI" shall mean the National Historical Institute;

"[(j)] (L)"Official Residences" shall mean Malacañang, and other government-owned structures where the President resides, [and other structures occupied by the] Philippine Consulates or Embassies abroad, **AND OTHER STRUCTURES OCCUPIED BY THE NATIONAL AND LOCAL PUBLIC OFFICIALS;**

"[(k)] (M)"Places of Frivolity" shall mean places of hilarity marked by or providing boisterous merriment or recreation; [and]

"(n) "PHILIPPINE SUN" SHALL MEAN THE GOLDEN SUNBURST WITH NINE RAYS, EQUALLY SPACED; EACH RAY HAS ONE MAJOR BEAM, TWICE AS BROAD AS THE TWO MINOR BEAMS ON EITHER SIDE; AND

q”[(e)] (O)”Symbol” shall mean any conventional sign which reveals man’s achievement and heroism (for **MEDALS, CITATIONS**, orders, and decorations), identification, authority and a sign of dignity (for coat-of-arms, logo and insignia);

**SECTION 3.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“CHAPTER I  
“THE NATIONAL FLAG**

[A. Design of the National Flag]

**“SEC. 4. DESIGN OF THE NATIONAL FLAG** - The flag of the Philippines shall be blue, white and red with a[n] **NINE** [eight]-rayed golden-yellow sun and three five-pointed stars, as consecrated and honored by the people.

[B. Hoisting and Display of the National Flag]

**SECTION 4.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 5. HOISTING AND DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL FLAG** - The flag shall be **HOISTED OR** displayed in all public buildings, official residences, public plazas, and institutions of learning everyday throughout the year.

**SECTION 5.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby amended to read as follows:

**“SEC. 6. WHERE FLAG SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY DISPLAYED** - The flag shall be permanently hoisted, day and night throughout the year, in front of the following: [at] Malacañang Palace; [the] **SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES BUILDING**; [Congress of the Philippines] **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES** building; Supreme Court building; the Rizal Monument in Luneta, Manila; Aguinaldo Shrine in Kawit, Cavite; Barasoain Shrine in Malolos, Bulacan; the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, *Libingan ng mga Bayani* **IN TAGUIG, METRO MANILA; ALL MEMORIALS DEDICATED TO THE VETERANS OF THE MILITARY; Mausoleo de los Veteranos de la Revolucion** **IN NORTH CEMETERY, MANILA; MARCELA AGONCILLO HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN TAAL, BATANGAS; PINAGLABANAN HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA**; all International Ports of Entry and all other places as may be **SUBSEQUENTLY** designated **AND MARKED** by the [Institute] **NHI**.

"The flag, **ON THE ABOVE-STATED PLACES**, shall be properly illuminated at night.

**SECTION 6.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. 7. DISPLAY OF FLAG IN PRIVATE BUILDINGS AND OFFICES** - The flag shall also be displayed -in private buildings and residences or raised in the open flag-staffs in front of said buildings [every April 9 (Avaw ng Kagitingan); May 1 (Labor Day); May 28 (National Flag Day) to June 12 (Independence Day); last Sunday of August (National Heroes Day); November 30 (Bonifacio Day); and December 30 (Rizal Day); and on such other days as may be declared by the President and/or the local chief executives] **DURING FLAG DAYS, AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 24 OF THIS ACT.**

**THE FLAG MAY ALSO BE DISPLAYED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR IN PRIVATE BUILDINGS OR OFFICES OR RAISED ON FLAGPOLES IN FRONT OF PRIVATE BUILDINGS: PROVIDED THAT, THEY OBSERVE FLAG CEREMONIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS (IRR) TO BE ISSUED BY THE NHI.**

#### **[B. DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL FLAG]**

**SECTION 7.** Section 9 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [9]8. DISPLAY OF FLAG ON SEAFARING VESSELS** - The flag shall be flown on **ALL SEAFARING VESSELS** of Philippine registry. [of more than one thousand (1000) gross tons and on all-naval vessels].

"On board [naval] **SEAFARING** vessels, the flag shall be displayed on the flagstaff at the stem when the ship is at anchor. The flag shall be hoisted to the gaff at the after mast when the ship is at sea."

**SECTION 8.** Section 10 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [10] 9. THE BLUE, RED AND WHITE FIELDS OF THE FLAG** - The flag, if [flown from a flagpole] **HOISTED** shall have its blue field on top in time of peace and the red field on top in time of war; if in a hanging position, **THE WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON TOP**, the blue field shall be to the right (left of the observer) in time of peace, and the **WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON TOP**, and the red field to the right (left of the observer) in time of war.

[The flagpole staff must be straight and slightly tapering at the top.]

**SECTION 9.** Section 11 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [11] 10. FLAGPOLE IN THE OPEN FIELD** - If planted on the ground, the flagpole shall be at a prominent place and shall be of such height as would give the flag the commanding position in relation to the buildings in the vicinity. **THE FLAGPOLE STAFF MUST BE STRAIGHT AND SLIGHTLY TAPERING AT THE TOP.**

If attached to a building, the flagpole shall be on top of its roof or anchored on a sill projecting at an angle upward.

If on stage or platform or government office, the flag shall be at the left (facing the stage) or left of the office upon entering.

**SECTION 10.** Section 12 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [12]11. THE PHILIPPINE FLAG WHEN FLOWN WITH ANOTHER FLAG** - When the Philippine flag is flown with another flag, the flags, if both are national flags, must be flown on separate staffs of the same height and shall be of equal size. The Philippine flag shall be **TO THE LEFT OF THE OBSERVER AND** hoisted first and lowered last.

"If the other flag is not a national flag, it may be flown **DURING SPECIAL OCCASIONS** in the same [lineyard] **HALYARD** as the Philippine flag but below the latter and it cannot be of greater size than the Philippine flag.

**SECTION 11.** Section 13 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [13] 12. THE PHILIPPINE FLAG WHEN DISPLAYED WITH ANOTHER FLAG** - When displayed with another flag, the Philippine flag shall be on the right of the other flag (**LEFT OF THE OBSERVER**). If there is a line of other flags, the Philippine flag shall be [in the middle of the line] **AT THE LEFTMOST OF THE OBSERVER.**

"When carried in a parade with flags which are not national flags, the Philippine flag shall be in front of the center of the line.

**ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL FOR THE DISPLAY OF THE PHILIPPINE FLAG SHALL BE CONTAINED IN THE IRR TO BE ISSUED BY THE NHI PURSUANT TO THE COMMON PROVISIONS STATED IN THIS LAW.**

**SECTION 12.** Section 14 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [14] 13. DISPOSAL OF WORN OUT FLAG** - [A] THE flag worn out through wear and tear, shall not be thrown away. It shall be solemnly burned to avoid misuse or desecration. The flag shall be replaced immediately when it begins to show signs of wear and tear.

**SECTION 13.** Section 15 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [15] 14. APPROPRIATE TIME FOR FLAG RAISING AND LOWERING** - The flag shall be raised at sunrise and lowered at sunset. It shall be on the mast at the start of official office hours, **AND** shall remain flying throughout the day.

**SECTION 14.** Section 16 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [16] 15. MANNER OF DISPLAYING THE FLAG** - The flag may be displayed:

"(a) Inside or outside a building or on stationary **OR MOVABLE** flagpoles. If the flag is displayed indoors on a flagpole, it shall be placed at the left of the observer as one enters the room;

"(b) From the top of the flagpole, which shall be at a prominent place or a commanding position in relation to the surrounding buildings;

"(c) From a staff projecting upward from the window sill, canopy, balcony or facade of a building[.];

"(d) In a suspended position from a rope extending from a building **OR LAMPOST** to **A** pole erected away from the building;

"(e) Flat against the wall vertically with the sun and stars on top;  
and

"(f) Hanging in a vertical position across a street, with the blue field pointing east, if the road is heading south or north, or pointing north if the road is heading east or west.

"The flag shall not be raised [when the weather is inclement] **DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER.** If already raised **PRIOR TO INCLEMENT WEATHER,** the flag shall not be lowered.

**SECTION 15.** Section 17 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [17] 16. MANNER OF HOISTING THE FLAG** - The flag shall be hoisted to the top briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

"The flag shall never touch anything beneath it, such as the ground, flood, water or other objects.

"After being lowered, the flag shall be handled and folded solemnly as part of the ceremony.

[C. Conduct of Flag Raising Ceremony]

**SECTION 16.** Section 18 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [18] 17. FLAG CEREMONY IN PUBLIC OFFICES AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS** - All government offices [an educational institutions] shall henceforth observe the flag-raising ceremony every Monday morning and the flag lowering ceremony every Friday afternoon. **PROVIDED THAT, ALL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION(DEPED), COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) SHALL OBSERVE THE FLAG CEREMONY DAILY.** The ceremony shall be simple and dignified and shall include the playing [or] **AND** singing of the Philippine National Anthem.

**SECTION 17.** Section 19 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby deleted.

[**SEC. 19.** The Office of the President upon the recommendation of the Institute shall issue rules and regulations for the proper conduct of flag ceremony.]

**SECTION 18.** Section 20 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [20] 18. DIGNITY IN THE OBSERVANCE OF FLAG CEREMONY** - The observance of the flag ceremony in official or civic gatherings shall be simple and dignified and shall include the playing [or] **AND** singing of the anthem [in its original Filipino lyrics and march tempo].

**SECTION 19.** Section 21 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [21] 19. FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY** - During the flag-raising ceremony, the assembly shall stand in formation facing the flag. At the moment the first note of the anthem is heard, everyone in the premises shall come to attention; moving vehicles shall stop. All persons present shall place their right palms over their chests, those with hats shall uncover, while those in military, scouting, security guard, and citizens military training uniforms shall give the salute prescribed by



their regulations, which salute shall be completed upon the last note of the anthem.

"The assembly shall sing the Philippine [n]National [a]Anthem, accompanied by a band, if available, and at the first note, the flag shall be raised briskly.

"The same procedure shall be observed when the flag is passing in review or in parade.

**SECTION 20.** Section 22 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [22] 20. FLAG-LOWERING CEREMONY** - During the flag lowering, the flag shall be lowered solemnly and slowly so that the flag shall be down the mast at the sound of the last note of the anthem. Those in the assembly shall observe the same deportment or shall observe the same behavior as for the flag-raising ceremony.

[D. Half Mast]

**SECTION 21.** Section 23 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [23] 21. FLAG IN HALF-MAST** - The flag shall be flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning on all the buildings and places where it is displayed, as provided for in this Act, **STARTING** on the day of official announcement of the death of any of the following officials:

"(a) The President or a former President, for ten (10) days;

"(b) The Vice-president, the Chief Justice, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, for seven (7) days; and

"(c) Other persons to be determined by the [Institute] NHI, for any period less than seven (7) days;

"The flag shall be flown at half-mast on all the buildings and places where the [decedent] **DECEASED** was holding office, on the day of death until the day of interment of an incumbent member of the Supreme Court, the Cabinet, the Senate or the House of Representatives, and such other persons as may be determined by the [Institute] NHI.

"The flag when flown at half-mast shall be first hoisted to the peak for a moment then lowered to the half-mast position. The flag shall again be raised briskly to the peak before it is lowered for the day.

[E. Casket]

**SECTION 22.** Section 24 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [24] 22. FLAG OVER THE CASKET** - The flag may be used to cover the caskets of the honored dead of the military, veterans of previous wars, national artists, and of civilians who have rendered distinguished service to the nation, as maybe determined by the local government unit concerned. In such cases, the flag shall be placed such that the white triangle shall be at the head and the blue portion shall cover the right side of the caskets. The flag shall not be lowered to the grave or allowed to touch the ground, but shall be folded solemnly and [handled] **HANDED** over to the heirs of deceased.

[F. Pledge to the Flag and Flag Days]

**SECTION 23.** Section 25 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended as follows:

**"SEC. [25] 23. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** - The following shall be the Pledge of Allegiance to the Philippine Flag:

*"Ako ay Pilipino  
Buong katapatang nanunumpa  
Sa watawat ng Pilipinas  
At sa bansang kanyang sinasagisag  
Na may dangal, katarungan at kalayaan  
Na pinakikilos ng sambayanang  
Maka-Diyos  
Malta-tao  
Makakalikasan at  
Makabansa*

"[Such pledge] **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE PHILIPPINE FLAG** shall be recited while standing with the right hand with palm open raised shoulder high. Individuals whose faith or religious beliefs prohibit them from making such pledge must, nonetheless, show full respect when the pledge is being rendered by standing at attention.

**SECTION 24.** Section 26 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [26] 24. FLAG DAYS** - The period from **NATIONAL FLAG DAY** (May 28) to **INDEPENDENCE DAY** (June 12) of each year is declared as Flag Days, during which period all offices, agencies and instrumentalities of government, business establishments, institutions of learning and private homes are [enjoined] **OBLIGATED** to display the flag. **PROVIDED, HOWEVER THAT** [T]the flag shall [also] be displayed in private buildings and residences or raised [in the open flag-staffs] **ON**

**FLAGPOLES** in front of said buildings every April 9 (*Araw ng Kagitingan*); May 1 (*Labor Day*); May 28 (*National Flag Day*) to June 12 (*Independence Day*); last Sunday of August (*National Heroes Day*); November 30 (*Bonifacio Day*); and December 30 (*Rizal Day*); and on such other days as may be declared by the President and/or local chief executives.

**SECTION 25.** Section 8 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [8] 25. OBSERVANCE OF FLAG DAYS** - All government agencies and instrumentalities, and local government offices, government-owned corporations and local government units are enjoined to observe Flag Day with appropriate ceremonies. Socio-civic groups, non-government organizations and the private sector are exhorted to cooperate in making the celebrations a success.

[H Specifications of the National Flag]

**SECTION 26.** Section 27 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [27] 26. FLAG PROPORTIONS** - The flag shall have the following proportions. The width of the flag, **ONE (1)**; the length of the flag, **TWO (2)**; and the sides of the white triangle, **ONE (1)**.

**SECTION 27.** Section 28 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [28] 27. FLAG TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS** - The technical specifications **OF THE FLAG** shall be as follows:

"The blue color shall bear Cable No. 80173; the white color, Cable No, 80001; the red color, Cable No. 80108; and the golden yellow, Cable No. 80068.

**SECTION 28.** Section 29 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [29] 28. STANDARDS FOR FLAG REQUISITION-** In order to establish uniform criteria in the making of our national flag and to guarantee its durability by the use of quality materials, the following standards and procedures shall be observed:

"(a) All requisitions for the purchase of the Philippine National Flag must be based on strict compliance with the design, color, craftsmanship and material requirements of the Government;

"(b) All submitted samples of flags by accredited suppliers offered for purchase for government use shall be evaluated as to design, color and craftsmanship specifications by the [Institute] NHI, through its Heraldry and Display Section, which shall stamp its approval or disapproval on the canvass reinforcement of the flag sample submitted. The samples shall be sent to the [Institute] NHI by the requisitioning office, not by the flag supplier; and

"(c ) The Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI) or the Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall evaluate the quality of material of all flag samples and certify whether the fabric for the blue, white, red and golden-yellow colors, including the canvass submitted, conform to government requirements as to quality of the material. The samples shall be sent annually to the ITDI/PTRI by the manufacturer. The laboratory test results shall be submitted by the said office to the [Institute] NHI.

**SECTION 29.** Section 30 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [30] 29. FLAG PURCHASE INSPECTION** - All deliveries 22 of the flags requisitioned by the government shall be inspected by the requisitioning agency's internal inspector and by the Commission on Audit (COA) using the flag stamped approved by the [Institute] NHI as reference.

**"SEC. [31.]** In carrying out [its] **THE ABOVE** responsibilities [under Section 4 hereof,] the [Institute] NHI, COA, [the] **AND ITDI/PTRI** shall prepare guidelines to, be approved by [the Office of the President] **ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED.**

**SECTION 30.** Section 32 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [32] 30. STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS-** All government agencies and instrumentalities shall ensure that the requirements under this Act with respect to the standards, requisitions and delivery of the national flag are strictly complied with.

**SECTION 31.** Section 33 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [33] 31. FLAG REQUISITION BUDGET** - All departments, agencies, offices, and instrumentalities of the government, government-owned or controlled corporations, local government units, including barangays, shall include in their annual budgets the necessary outlay for the purchase of the national flag.

**FURTHERMORE, ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS ARE DIRECTED TO ALLOCATE APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR A FLAG LAW**

**PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE FLAG LAW.**

**SECTION 32.** Section 34 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

[I. Prohibited Acts]

**"SEC. [34] 32. PROHIBITED ACTS** - It shall be prohibited:

"(a) To mutilate, deface, defile, trample on or cast contempt any act or omission casting dishonor or ridicule upon the flag [or over its surface], **ANTHEM, SEAL, MOTTO, COAT-OF-ARMS, AND OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES;**

"(b) To dip the flag to any person or object by way of compliment or salute;

"(c) To use the flag:

"(1) As [a] drapery, festoon, tablecloth;

"(2) As covering for ceilings, walls, statues or other objects;

"(3) As [a pennant] **DRAPERY** in the hood, side, back and top of motor vehicles; **ALL CLOTH FLAGS SHOULD BE DISPLAYED FREELY WAVING IN THE AIR;**

"(4) As a staff or whip;

"(5) **AS COVERING** for unveiling **OF** monuments or statues; and

"(6) As trademarks or for industrial, commercial or agricultural labels or designs.

"(d) To display the flag:

"(1) Under any painting or picture;

"(2) Horizontally face-up. It shall always be hoisted aloft and be allowed to fall freely;

"(3) Below any platform; or

"(4) In discotheques, cockpits, night and day clubs, casinos, gambling joints and places of vice or where frivolity prevails.

"(e) To wear the Flag, **SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS** [in whole or in part] as **PART OF** a costume or [uniform] **AS A FASHION ACCESSORY OR MERELY AS A DESIGN ELEMENT; PROVIDED THAT THE FLAG, SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS, MAY BE INCORPORATED AS PART OF THE UNIFORM OF FILIPINOS REPRESENTING THE PHILIPPINES IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS, CULTURAL OR SCIENTIFIC COMPETITIONS OR OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE NHI;**

"(f) To add any word, figure, mark, picture, design, drawings, advertisements, or imprint [of any nature] on the flag[;], **SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS OR ANY REPRESENTATION THEREFORE;**

"(g) To print, paint or attach representation of the flag, **SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS** on handkerchiefs, napkins, cushions, and other articles of merchandise; **AND**

[h. To display in public any foreign flag, except in embassies and other diplomatic establishments, and non offices of international organizations,]

"[i]H. **TO USE OR DISPLAY THE FLAG, SEAL, COAT OF ARMS, OR BE PART OF ANY ADVERTISEMENT OR INFOMERCIAL WITHOUT TQE APPROVAL OF THE NHI** [and].

[j]. To display the flag in front of buildings or offices occupied by aliens.]

**SECTION 33.** Section 35 Chapter 11 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

"CHAPTER II  
"THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

**"SEC. [35] 33. TITLE OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM** - The National Anthem is entitled *Lupang Hinirang*.

**SECTION 34.** Section 36 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [36] 34. LANGUAGE AND LYRICS OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM** - The National Anthem shall always be sung in the national language within or without the country. The following shall be the lyrics of the National Anthem:

*"Bayang magiliw,  
Perlas ng Silanganan,  
Alab ng puso,  
Sa dibdib mo'y buhay.  
Lupang hinirang,  
Duyan ka ng magiting,  
Sa manlulupig,  
Di ka pasisiil.  
Sa dagat at bundok,  
Sa simoy at sa langit mong bughaw,  
May dilag ang tula,  
At awit sa paglayang minamahal.  
Ang kislap ng watawat mo'y  
Tagumpay na nagniningning,  
Ang bituin at araw niya.  
Kailan pa ma'y di magdidilim[.].  
Lupa ng araw, ng luwalhati't pagsinta,  
Buhay ay langit sa piling mo,  
Aming ligaya na pag may mang-aapi ,*

*Ang mamamatay ng dahil sa iyo."*

**SECTION 35.** Section 37 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [37] 35. RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM** - The rendition of the National Anthem, whether played or sung shall be in accordance with the musical arrangement and composition of Julian Felipe, **THE ORIGINAL COPY OF WHICH IS OFFICIALLY KEPT AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF THE PHILIPPINES, IN TWO/FOUR (2/4) BEAT WITHIN THE RANGE OF 100 TO 120 METRONOME.**

**SECTION 36.** Section 38 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [38] 36. MANNER OF SINGING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM** - When the National Anthem is played at a public gathering, whether by a band [or by singing or both,] or reproduced by any means, the attending public shall sing the anthem. The singing must be done with fervor.

"As a sign of respect, all persons shall stand at attention and face the Philippine flag, if there is one displayed, and if there is none, they shall face the band or the conductor. At the first note, all persons shall execute a salute by placing the right palms over their left chests. [Those in military, scouting, citizen's] **THE MILITARY AND THOSE** in military training and security guard uniform shall give the salute prescribed by their regulations. The salute shall be completed upon the last note of the anthem.

"The anthem shall not be played and sung [for] **PRECEDING EVENTS OF** mere recreation, amusement or entertainment purposes except on the following occasions:

"(a) International competitions where the Philippines is the host or has a representative;

"(b) **NATIONAL OR [L]** local competitions;

"(c ) During the "signing off" and "signing on" of radio broadcasting and television stations;

"(d) Before the initial and last screening of films or before the opening of theater performances; **PROVIDED THAT THE OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS SHALL BE MANDATED TO ENFORCE PROPER DECORUM AND IMPLEMENT THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT;** and

(e) Other occasions as may be allowed by the [Institute] NHI.

**SECTION 37.** Section 39 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [39] 37. STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH RULES FOR THE RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM** - All officials and employees of the national and local government, and any agency or instrumentality thereof, including government-owned or controlled corporations, privately-owned entities or offices displaying the national flag and government institutions of learning are hereby directed to comply strictly with the rules prescribed for the rendition of the anthem. Failure to observe the rules shall be a ground for administrative discipline.

**SECTION 38.** Section 40 Chapter I11 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"CHAPTER III  
"THE NATIONAL MOTTO, THE COAT-OF-ARMS AND THE GREAT  
SEAL**

**"SEC. [40] 38. THE NATIONAL MOTTO** - The National Motto shall be **"MAKA-DIYOS, MAKA-TAO, MAKAKALIKASAN AT MAKABANSA ."**

**SECTION 39.** Section 41 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [41] 39. THE NATIONAL COAT-OF-ARMS** - The National Coat-of-Arms shall have:

**"[Paleways] FIELD** of two (2) pieces, [azure and gules; a chief argent] **BLUE WITH AN EAGLE AND RED WITH A LION RAMPART, A WHITE FIELD** studded with three (3) [mullet] **STARS** equidistant from each other; and, in point of honor, [ovoid argent] **WHITE OVAL** [overall the sun rayonnant with eight minor and lesser rays] **WITH THE PHILIPPINE SUN AT THE CENTER.** Beneath shall be the scroll with the words **"REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS,"** inscribed thereon.

**SECTION 40.** Section 42, Chapter V of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follow's:

**[CHAPTER V  
THE GREAT SEAL,]**

**"SEC. [42] 40. THE GREAT SEAL** - The Great Seal shall be circular in form, with the arms as described in the preceding section, but without the scroll and the inscription thereon. Surrounding the whole shall be a double marginal circle within which shall appear the words "Republika ng Pilipinas." For the purpose of placing The Great Seal, the color of the arms shall not be deemed essential but tincture representation must be used.



[The Great Seal shall bear the National Motto. ]

**SECTION 41.** Section 43 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [43] 41. WERE TO AFFIX THE GREAT SEAL** - The Great Seal shall be affixed to or placed upon all commission signed by the President and upon such other official documents and papers of the Republic of the Philippines as may be provided by law, or as may be required by custom and usage. The President shall have custody of the Great Seal.

**SECTION 42.** Section 44, Chapter VI of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"CHAPTER [VI] IV**

**"OFFICIAL SEAL AND OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES**

**"SEC. [44] 42. ADOPTION OF HERALDIC AND SIMILAR DEVICES** - Any government entity, including the military, may adopt appropriate **HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES SUCH AS MEDALS**, coat-of-arms, administrative seals, logo, insignia, badges, patches, and banners; and initiate awards, citations, orders or decorations; as may be authorized by the Congress or the Office of the President.

**SECTION 43.** Section 45 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [45] 43. REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS** - Such heraldic devices and items shall be filed with the [Institute] NHI for recording and evaluation as to precedence, design, customs and traditions. The [Institute] NHI shall promulgate the corresponding rules and regulations which shall be submitted for approval to the Office of the President or to Congress.

**SECTION 44.** Section 46 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [46] 44. PURCHASE OF HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES FROM ACCREDITED SOURCES** - All government offices including the military are hereby ordered to purchase all heraldic items and devices from manufacturers accredited and authorized by the [Institute] NHI. Such items and devices shall be subject to inspection by the purchasing agency's internal inspector and the COA representatives using the design and specifications approved by the Office of the President or by the Congress, through the [Institute] NHI.

**SECTION 45.** Section 47 is hereby deleted.

[**SECTION 47.** No government official or employee shall accept any orders or decorations from any foreign government without the consent of Congress, and without prior evaluation and documentation of such order or decoration by the Institute.]

**SECTION 46.** Section 48, Chapter VI1 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

"CHAPTER [VII] V  
"PENALTIES

"**SEC. [48] 45. PUBLIC CENSURE/ CANCELLATION OF PERMIT** - Failure or refusal to observe the provisions of this Act; and any violation of the corresponding rules and regulations issued by the, NHI [Office of the President,] shall after proper notice and hearing, be penalized by public censure which shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation.

"The [Department of Education Culture and Sports] DEPED and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), upon the commendation of the [Institute] NHI and after the proper notice and hearing, shall cause the cancellation of the recognition of permit of any private educational institution which fails or refuses to observe the provisions of this Act for the second time.

**SECTION 47.** Section 50 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

"**SEC. [50] 46. PUNISHMENT FOR VIOLATIONS** - Any person **WHO** or juridical entity which violates any of the provisions of this Act shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than Five thousand pesos (PHP 5,000.00) nor more than Twenty Thousand Pesos (PHP 20,000.00) or by imprisonment [for] **OF** not more than one (1) year, or both such fine and imprisonment, at the discretion of the court: Provided, That for any second and additional offenses, both fine and imprisonment shall always be imposed: *Provided, further* That in case the violation is committed by a juridical person, its President or Chief Executive Officer thereof shall be liable.

**THE NHI MAY PRESCRIBE IN THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OTHER ACTS OF OMISSIONS WHICH SHALL BE DEEMED DISRESPECTFUL, AND THUS PROHIBITED, RELATIVE TO THE FLAG, THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, THE GREAT SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS, NATIONAL MOTTO AND OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES.**

**SECTION 48.** Section 49, Chapter VI11 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

"CHAPTER [VIII] VI  
"COMMON PROVISIONS

**"SEC. [49] 47. OBLIGATIONS OF EDUCATION REGULATION AGENCIES-** The [Department of Education, Culture and Sports] **DEPED**, [and the Commission on Higher Education] **CHED AND TESDA** shall ensure that the National Anthem, as adopted by law, shall be committed to memory by all students of both public and private educational institutions, and performed during the flag ceremony conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations issued by the [Office of the President] **NHI**. In addition, they shall make available the vocal, piano or band scores of the National Anthem, as adopted by law, to all private and public schools, as well as the general public.

**SECTION 49.** Section 51 of Republic Act No. 8491 is hereby renumbered and amended to read as follows:

**"SEC. [51] 48. ISSUANCE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS AND THEIR ENFORCEMENT** - The [Institute] **NHI** shall issue the necessary rules and regulations [to implement the provisions of this Act] within ninety (90) days after [effectivity] **THE APPROVAL OF THIS ACT**. The [Institute] **NHI** shall submit its rules and regulations to the Office of the President and the Congress of the Philippines.

"[SEC. 52 -1 The [Institute] **NHI** shall [also] be responsible for the strict enforcement of the provisions of this Act. It may call upon any government department, agency, office, or government instrumentality, including government corporations and local government units, for such assistance as it may deem necessary for the effective discharge of its functions under this Act."

**SEC 50. Separability Clause.** - If for any reason, any portion or provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

**SEC. 51. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, part or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 52. Effectivity** - The Act shall be effective fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved;