COMMITTEE REPORT NO. ___50

Submitted by the Committee on National Defense and Security on JUN - 7 2011 .

Re: Senate Bill No. 2869

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 20, Senate Bill No. 2285 and House Bill No. 6

Sponsors: Senators Lacson, Trillanes IV and Defensor Santiago

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on National Defense and Security to which were referred Senate Bill No. 20, introduced by Senator Trillanes, entitled:

"AN ACT
PRESCRIBING FIXED TERMS FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND
MAJOR SERVICE COMMANDERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF
THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

Senate Bill No. 2285, introduced by Senator Defensor Santiago, entitled:

"AN ACT
PRESCRIBING A FIXED TERM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF
THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES"

and House Bill No. 6, introduced by Representatives Biazon, Ortega (F), Sarmiento (M.), Bataoil and Calimbas-Villarosa, entitled:

"AN ACT

PRESCRIBING A FIXED TERM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FOR OTHER **PURPOSES**"

has considered the same and has the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No. 2869, prepared by the Committee, entitled:

"AN ACT

PRESCRIBING FIXED TERMS FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE MAJOR SERVICE COMMANDERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill No. 20, Senate Bill No. 2285 and House Bill No. 6 with Senators Trillanes IV, Defensor Santiago and Lacson as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairman:

Committee on National Defense and Security

<u> Vice- Chairmen:</u>

LOREN B. LEGARDA Committee on National Defense and Security Committee on National Defense and Security Members:

TEOFISTO GUINGONA III

Committee on National Defense and Security

EDGARDO J. ANGARA

Committee on National Defense and Security

FRANCIS "CHIZ"G. ESCUDERO

Committee on National Defense and Security

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID,

Committee on National Defense and Security

FERDINAND R/MARQOS, JR.

Committee on National Defense and Security

FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN

Committee on National Defense and Security

SERGIO R. OSMEÑA III

Committee on National Defense and Security

//RALPH.G. REETO

Committee of National Defense and Security

RATION BOTG REVILLA, JR.

Committee on National Defense and Security

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV

Committee on National Defense and Security

MANNY VILLAR

Committee on National Defense and Security

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Committee on National Defense and Security

PIÁ S. CAY/ÉTANC

Committee on National Defense and Security

JOKER P. ARROYO

Committee on National Defense and Security

Lot Drys

FRANKLIN M. DRILON

Committee on National Defense and Security

Ex-Officio Members:

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

President Pro-Tempore

ALAN PETER S. CAYETANO

Minority Leader

VICENTE C. SOTTO III

Majority Leader

Honorable JUAN PONCE ENRILE

Senate President

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)



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First Regular Session

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RECEIVED BY:

SENATE NO. 2869

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Prepared by the Committee on National Defense and Security with Senators Trillanes IV, Defensor Santiago and Lacson as authors

AN ACT

PRESCRIBING FIXED TERMS FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND THE MAJOR SERVICE COMMANDERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

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

Section 1. Declaration of Policy – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to give due recognition to the significance of the position of the Chief of Staff and the Major Service Commanders of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in order to promote the stability of the AFP as an institution thereby enabling it to perform its constitutional mandate.

Sec. 2. Terms of Office. – The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines shall have a fixed term of office of three (3) years. The Major Service Commanders shall each have a minimum term of office of two (2) years without prejudice to being appointed as Chief of Staff if otherwise qualified. *Provided, that*, no officer shall be appointed as a Major Service Commander if that officer has less than two (2) years remaining in the active service: *Provided, further,* That no extension of term shall be allowed, except for the position of the Chief of Staff, which may be extended in cases of war or national emergencies as Congress may declare. The terms of office for both the Chief of Staff and the Major Service Commanders shall commence on the date of appointment by the President.

When the officer appointed to the position of Chief of Staff (AFP) reaches the compulsory retirement age before the end of the three (3) year term, the statutory compulsory retirement of the Chief of Staff (AFP) shall be deferred until the completion of the prescribed term: *Provided, however,* that the Chief of Staff (AFP) may be removed by the President as Commander in Chief for loss of confidence at any time before the end of the term of three (3) years.

The President shall select from among the officers in the grades of Major General/Rear Admiral to Lieutenant General/Vice Admiral the officer who, in the judgment of the President, is best qualified for the position of Chief of Staff.

- **Sec. 3**. Rules and Regulations. The Secretary of National Defense shall formulate the rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.
- **Sec. 4.** Repealing Clause. All issuances, laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof not consistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
- **Sec. 5.** Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
- 18 Approved.