

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

04 JUN 30 P5 25

RECEIVED BY:

S E N A T E

S. No. 429

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Television, home video programs and motion pictures have become the dominant medium of entertainment and information. The advent of fiber optics and the development of satellite and cable technologies have increased the scope and breadth of services than can be offered via television.

This bill seeks to require all franchise holders, operators and producers of domestic television stations and television programs, home video program and motion pictures to have their programs and films broadcast with closed captions so as to benefit persons with hearing impairment.

Most modern technologies have taken the pains to provide remedies with state of the art artificial methods to overcome human problems, including physical disabilities. This is the saving grace of our time. The provisions of this bill will allow persons with hearing impairments to enjoy the fruits of human technology along with the rest of the viewing public.

In view of the foregoing, early passage of this bill is earnestly requested.


SERGIO OSMEÑA III
Senator

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

04 JUN 30 P5:25

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE
S. No. 429

Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

AN ACT
REQUIRING CLOSED-CAPTIONS IN TELEVISION PROGRAMS, HOME
VIDEO PROGRAMS AND MOTION PICTURES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES
FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

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

1 **Section 1. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the
2 State to give particular attention to the needs of persons with physical infirmities
3 providing them the equal opportunity to enjoy life as a person without physical
4 impairment does.

5 **Sec. 2. Definition of closed-Caption.** – As used in this Act, Closed-
6 Caption shall mean a method of captioning or subtitling of television, home video
7 programs and films for hearing-impaired or foreign language viewers without
8 interfering with the normal television picture and films, by coding captions as
9 vertical interval data signal which is decoded at the receiver and super-imposed
10 on the television picture or on films of motion pictures.

11 **Sec. 3. Requirement for Closed-Captions in Television Programs,**
12 **Home Video Programs and Motion Pictures.** – Any provision of law to the
13 contrary notwithstanding, holders of legislative franchise or operators of
14 television broadcasting stations or cable (CATV) television systems and

1 producers of television programs, home video programs and motion pictures
2 shall be required to show their programs and films with closed-captions.

3 **Sec. 4. Penalties.** – Any holder of legislative franchise or operator of
4 television broadcasting stations or cable (CATV) television systems and producer
5 of television programs, home video programs and motion pictures who shall
6 violate the provision of the preceding section shall be punished by a fine ranging
7 from fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) to one hundred thousand pesos
8 (P100,000.00) or by imprisonment ranging from six (6) months to one (1) year or
9 both, at the discretion of the court and shall, in addition suffer the ipso facto
10 revocation of their legislative franchise, license or permit to operate the business.

11 In case, the offender is a corporation, partnership or association, or any
12 other juridical person, the president, manager, administrator or the person-in-
13 charge of the management of the business shall be liable therefor.

14 If the offender is an alien, in addition to the penalties herein prescribed, he
15 shall, after service of sentence, be deported without further proceedings on the
16 part of the Commission on Immigration.

17 **Sec. 5. Promulgation if Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The
18 National Telecommunications Commission, in consultation with the Movie and
19 Television Review and Classification Board and Videogram Regulatory Board,
20 shall promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective
21 implementation of this Act.

22 **Sec. 6. Repealing Clause.** – Any provisions of law, decree, executive
23 order or any issuance inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed and/or modified
24 accordingly.

25 **Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
26 after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at last two (2) national
27 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,