

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

'04 JUN 30 P5:26

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S E N A T E

S. No. 431

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Introduced by Senator S. R. Osmeña III

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Communications services provide the lifeblood by which transactions involving industry and commerce are conducted. The customer, however ordinarily has no means of checking or ensuring the reliability of the services offered by telegraph and radiogram companies.

This bill seeks to safeguard the public interest by imposing penalties and sanction on telegraph, radio or other communications companies who by design or neglect fail to deliver the services that they have been contracted out to deliver.

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

*S. Osmeña III*  
SERGIO OSMEÑA III  
Senator

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AN ACT  
PROTECTING USERS OF TELEGRAPH, RADIO OR ANY OTHER  
COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN THE PHILIPPINES AND PRESCRIBING  
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF

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

1           SECTION 1. It is hereby declared a policy of the State to protect the  
2 paying customers or users of telegraph, radio or any other communications  
3 system doing business in the Philippines.

4           SEC. 2. It shall be unlawful for any telegraph, radio or other  
5 communications firm, company, corporation or system doing business in the  
6 Philippines to fail, by design or neglect, to deliver to the addressee any  
7 communication or message duly address within six (6) hours in case of "rush" or  
8 "urgent" communications and twelve (12) hours in case of "ordinary" or "regular"  
9 communications from the filing thereof.

10          SEC. 3. Without prejudice to the civil or any other liability to which the  
11 offender may be subjected, the telegraph, radio or other communications firm,  
12 company, corporation or system which violates this Act shall be fined in amount  
13 not less than Five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) or more than Ten thousand pesos  
14 (P10,000.00): Provided, That in the case of government-owned or controlled  
15 telegraph, radio or communications system, the director, manager or personnel

1 who fail to comply with the provisions of this Act shall likewise be administratively  
2 suspended for a period not exceeding thirty (30) days.

3 SEC. 4. All acts, laws or rules and regulations contrary to this Act are  
4 hereby repealed.

5 SEC. 5. **Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,