

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

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SENATE S. B. No. <u>1650</u>

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Based on the recent Commission on Audit (COA) Report on its audit of the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF), more than 80 foundations or non-stock, non-profit organizations were used as vehicles to divert PDAF from their intended use.

Unfortunately, this misuse of foundations has caused a negative effect even on legitimate foundations. As it stands, donors, both public and private, would hesitate to support activities of foundations who are doing legitimate social and development work at the grassroots. Some of these foundations doing legitimate work may just be prompted to close down due to this hesitation on the part of their donors.

It is therefore imperative that we ensure that this misuse of foundations for money laundering activities is never repeated.

The passage of this bill is therefore earnestly requested.

MARIA LOURIJES NANCY S. BINAY

Senator



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

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AN ACT FURTHER STRENGTHENING REPUBLIC ACT 9160 OR THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING ACT AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT 9194, REPUBLIC ACT 10167 AND REPUBLIC ACT 10365

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 (a) of Republic Act No. 9160, as amended, otherwise known as the "Anti-Money Laundering Law of 2001" is hereby amended to read as follows:

"(a) 'Covered persons', natural or juridical, refer to:

- "(1) banks, non-banks, quasi-banks, trust entities, foreign exchange dealers, pawnshops, money changers, remittance and transfer companies and other similar entities and all other persons and their subsidiaries and affiliates supervised or regulated by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP);
- "(2) insurance companies, pre-need companies and all other persons supervised or regulated by the Insurance Commission (IC);
- (i) securities dealers, brokers, salesmen, investment houses and other similar persons managing securities or rendering services as investment agent, advisor, or consultant, (ii) mutual funds, close-end investment companies, common trust funds, and other similar persons, and (iii) other entities administering or otherwise dealing in currency, commodities or financial derivatives based thereon, valuable objects, cash substitutes and other similar monetary instruments or property supervised or regulated by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC);
- "(4) jewelry dealers in precious metals, who, as a business, trade in precious metals, for transactions in excess of One million pesos (P1,000,000.00);
- "(5) jewelry dealers in precious stones, who, as a business, trade in precious stones, for transactions in excess of One million pesos (P1,000,000.00);
- 32 "(6) company service providers which, as a business, provide any of the following 33 services to third parties: (i) acting as a formation agent of juridical persons; (ii) 34 acting as (or arranging for another person to act as) a director or corporate

1 2	secretary of a company, a partner of a partnership, or a similar position			
3		relation to other juridical persons; (iii) providing a registered office, business address or accommodation, correspondence or administrative address for a company, a partnership or any other legal person or arrangement; and (iv) acting as (or arranging for another person to act as) a nominee shareholder for another person; and		
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8 9	"(7)	"(7) persons who provide any of the following services:		
10 11		(i)	managing of client money, securities or other assets;	
12 13		(ii)	management of bank, savings or securities accounts;	
14		(iii)	organization of contributions for the creation, operation or	
15		(111)	organization of contributions for the creation, operation or management of companies; and	
16			management of companies, and	
17		(iv)	creation, operation or management of juridical persons or	
18		()	arrangements, and buying and selling business entities.	
19				
20	"(8)	FOUN	NDATIONS/NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS/NON-	
21	STOCK NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AUTHORIZED TO RECEIVE DONATIONS OR FUNDS FROM GOVERNMENT			
22				
23		AGE	NCIES/LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS.	
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25	"Notwithstanding the foregoing, the term 'covered persons' shall exclude lawyers and			
26	accountants acting as independent legal professionals in relation to information concerning			
27	their clients or where disclosure of information would compromise client confidences of			
28	the attorney-client relationship: Provided, That these lawyers and accountants are			
29	authorized to practice in the Philippines and shall continue to be subject to the provisions			
30 31	of their respective codes of conduct and/or professional responsibility or any of its amendments."			
32	amendine	115.		
33	SECTION 2	Santin	on 7 of Panublic Act No. 0160 as amended otherwise known as the	
34	SECTION 2. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 9160, as amended, otherwise known as the "Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2001" is hereby amended as follows:			
35	Anti-ividicy	Launu	Ting Fict of 2001 is hereby amended as follows.	
36	"SEC. 7. Creation of Anti-Money Laundering Council (AMLC). — The Anti			
37	Money Laundering Council is hereby created and shall be composed of the Governor of			
38	the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas as chairman, the Commissioner of the Insurance			
39	Commission and the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission a			
40	members. The AMLC shall act unanimously in the discharge of its functions as define			
41	hereunder:			
42				
43	"(1)	"(1) to require and receive covered or suspicious transaction reports from covered		
. 44	institutions;			
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46	"(2) to issue orders addressed to the appropriate Supervising Authority or the			
47	covered institution to determine the true identity of the owner of any monetary			
48	instrument or property subject of a covered transaction or suspicious transaction repor			
49 50	-		assistance from a foreign State, or believed by the Council, on the basis	
50	of subs	stantial	evidence, to be, in whole or in part, wherever located, representing,	

involving, or related to, directly or indirectly, in any manner or by any means, the proceeds of an unlawful activity;

"(3) to institute civil forfeiture proceedings and all other remedial proceedings through the Office of the Solicitor General;

"(4) to cause the filing of complaints with the Department of Justice or the Ombudsman for the prosecution of money laundering offenses;

"(5) to investigate suspicious transactions and covered transactions deemed suspicious after an investigation by AMLC, money laundering activities, and other violations of this Act;

"(6) to apply before the Court of Appeals, ex parte, for the freezing of any monetary instrument or property alleged to be the proceeds of any unlawful activity as defined in Section 3(i) hereof;

"(7) to implement such measures as may be necessary and justified under this Act to counteract money laundering;

"(8) to receive and take action in respect of, any request from foreign states for assistance in their own anti-money laundering operations provided in this Act;

"(9) to develop educational programs on the pernicious effects of money laundering, the methods and techniques used in money laundering, the viable means of preventing money laundering and the effective ways of prosecuting and punishing offenders;

"(10) to enlist the assistance of any branch, department, bureau, office, agency or instrumentality of the government, including government-owned and -controlled corporations, in undertaking any and all anti-money laundering operations, which may include the use of its personnel, facilities and resources for the more resolute prevention, detection and investigation of money laundering offenses and prosecution of offenders; [and]

"(11) to impose administrative sanctions for the violation of laws, rules, regulations and orders and resolutions issued pursuant thereto[.]; AND

(12) TO FILE WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (SEC) AN EX PARTE PETITION FOR DISSOLUTION OF NON-STOCK, NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS/FOUNDATIONS DULY REGISTERED INVOLVED IN MONEY-LAUNDERING ACTIVITIES OR ANY OF THE PREDICATE CRIMES FOR MONEY LAUNDERING. UPON RECEIPT OF THE PETITION, THE SEC SHALL IMMEDIATELY ISSUE A CEASE AND DESIST ORDER EFFECTIVE UNTIL FINAL DETERMINATION OF THE CASE.

SECTION 3. Separability Clause. Should any part or provision of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof not otherwise affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

- **SECTION 4**. Effectivity. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.
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Approved,