

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

'04 JUN 30 10:17

SENATE

S. No. 753

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INTRODUCED BY HON. MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution guarantees the freedom of speech and of expression to every individual. Unfortunately, some people abuse this right and invoke the same to justify publication of lewd and pornographic materials at the expense of the dignity of its subjects and the morals of its readers.

The proliferation of tabloids and broadsheets containing photos of nude and scantily dressed men and women has indeed become very alarming. Hence, this bill seeks to prohibit the publication of lewd photographs and sex stories in tabloids and broadsheets. Further, it imposes stricter penalties to publishers and editors who tolerate and encourage the proliferation of these obscene materials.

In view of the foregoing, immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANUEL B. VILLAR, JR.

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**AN ACT
PROHIBITING THE PUBLICATION OF LEWD PHOTOGRAPHS AND SEX STORIES
AND ARTICLES IN PRINT MEDIA, PROVIDING PENALTIES THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES**

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

SECTION 1. The publication of lewd photographs and sex stories and articles in print media is hereby prohibited.

SECTION 2. Definition of Terms.

a. "Lewd photographs" as used in this Act shall include:

1. All nude or scantily-dressed photographs of a woman or man, or two or more members of the same or opposite sex, inviting indecent, vulgar, lustful and obscene interpretations from the reader;
2. All photographs of a woman or man, or two or more members of the same or opposite sex, simulating, engaging in or performing any sexual act including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. copulation
 - ii. oral sex
 - iii. homosexual sex
 - iv. sodomy
 - v. necrophilia
 - vi. pedophilia
 - vii. bestial sex
 - viii. masturbation
 - ix. display or use of known sexual devices
3. Still photographs of movies, whether domestic or foreign, having sexual contents, and previously or subsequently rated R or X by the MTRCB.

Provided, That such published photographs shall not have been captioned to promote any event of cultural, educational, entertainment or social significance.

b. "Sex stories" as used in this Act shall include all columns, narrative and

illustrated stories, and articles contained in print media graphically depicting any of the sexual acts enumerated in Sec. 2.a.2. of this Act.

SECTION 3. Violators of this Act shall suffer the following penalties:

- a. The publisher, editors and writers of the print media shall be liable to a fine of not less than P50,000.00 but not more than P100,000.00 for the first offense.
- b. The publisher, editors and writers of the print media shall be liable to a fine of not less than P100,000.00 but not more than P200,000.00 and a prison sentence of prison mayor for the second offense. The court shall also order the immediate closure of the publication.

Provided, That when there are two or more publishers of the print media, they shall be held solidarity liable.

SECTION 4. All laws and regulations inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,