



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

II. No. 6168

BY REPRESENTATIVES MADRONA AND TEODORO

AN ACT AMENDING THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BYERS COMMUNICATIONS, INC. UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8107, EXPANDING ITS SCOPE INTO NATIONAL COVERAGE, AND RENEWING ITS TERM FOR ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS

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

1 SECTION 1. Republic Act No. 8107 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 “(SECTION 1. Subject to the provisions of the Constitution,
4 as well as other applicable laws and their amendments, the Byers
5 Communications, Inc., its successors or assigns, hereunder
6 referred to as the grantee, shall be granted a franchise to
7 construct, establish, operate and maintain for commercial
8 purposes and in the public interest radio broadcasting and
9 television stations within the National Capital Region and
10 Central Visayas Region.

1 "SEC. 2. The radio broadcasting and television stations
2 shall not be put in actual operation until the National
3 Telecommunications Commission shall have allotted to the
4 grantee the frequencies, wavelengths, and channels to be used
5 under this franchise and determined the stations to and from
6 which each frequency and wavelength may be used, and issued
7 licenses for such use.

8 "The National Telecommunications Commission, on
9 reasonable notice to the grantee may, at any time, change, cancel,
10 or modify, in whole or in part, any or all of the allotments of
11 frequencies or wavelengths to be used. It may take such action:
12 (1) whenever in its judgment such frequencies and wavelengths
13 have been used or there is danger that they will be
14 used by the grantee to impair electrical communications, or
15 stifle competition, or to obtain a monopoly in electrical
16 communications, or to secure unreasonable rates for such
17 communications, or to violate otherwise the laws or public policy
18 of the Philippine Republic; (2) whenever in its judgment the
19 public interest of the Republic of the Philippines requires that
20 such frequencies and wavelengths be used for other purposes
21 than those of the grantee, either by the government of the
22 Philippines or by other individuals or corporations licensed by it;
23 and (3) whenever in its judgment, for any reason, the public
24 interest of the Philippines so requires.

25 "SEC. 3. This franchise is granted for a period of
26 twenty-five (25) years and upon the express condition that the
27 same shall be void unless the construction of one station be

1 completed within two (2) years from the date of the approval of
2 this Act.

3 "SEC. 4. This franchise is likewise granted on the
4 condition that the grantee shall provide adequate public service
5 time to enable the government, through the said radio
6 broadcasting and television stations, to reach the population on
7 important public issues; assist in the functions of public
8 information and education; conform to the ethics of honest
9 enterprise; and not use its stations for the broadcasting and/or
10 telecasting of obscene or indecent language, speech, act or scene,
11 or for the dissemination of deliberately false information or
12 willful misinterpretation to the detriment of the public interest, or
13 to incite, encourage, or assist in subversive or treasonable acts.

14 "SEC. 5. The grantee, its heirs, successors or assigns,
15 shall so construct and operate its radio and television stations so
16 as not to interfere with the operations of other radio and
17 television stations maintained and operated in the Philippines.

18 "SEC. 6. The grantee shall not require any previous
19 censorship of any speech, play, act, scene or other matter to be
20 broadcast and/or telecast from its stations: *Provided*, That, the
21 grantee, during any broadcast and/or telecast, shall cut off from
22 the air the speech, play, act, scene or other matter being
23 broadcast and/or telecast, if the tendency thereof is to propose
24 and/or incite treason, rebellion, or sedition, or the language used
25 therein or the theme thereof is indecent or immoral, and willful
26 failure to do so shall constitute a valid cause for the cancellation
27 of this franchise.

1 "SEC. 7. The grantee shall hold the national, provincial,
2 and municipal governments of the Philippines free from all
3 claims, accounts, demands or actions arising out of accidents or
4 injuries, whether to property or to person, caused by the
5 construction or operation of the stations of the grantee.

6 "SEC. 8. A special right is hereby reserved to the
7 President of the Philippines in times of war, rebellion, public
8 peril, calamity, emergency, disaster, or disturbance of peace and
9 order, to take over and operate the said stations or to authorize
10 the temporary use and operation thereof by any agency of the
11 government, upon due compensation to the grantee, for the use
12 of said stations during the period when they shall be so operated.

13 "SEC. 9. The President of the Philippines shall have the
14 power and authority to permit the construction of said stations or
15 any of them on any land of the public domain upon such terms
16 and conditions as he may prescribe.

17 "SEC. 10. No private property shall be taken for any
18 purpose by the grantee of this franchise, its successors or assigns,
19 without proper condemnation proceedings and just compensation
20 paid or tendered thereof, and any authority to take and occupy
21 land obtained herein shall not authorize the taking, use, or
22 occupation of any land except such as is required for the actual
23 necessary purposes for which this franchise is granted. All lands
24 or rights of use and occupation of lands granted to the grantee,
25 its heirs, successors or assigns shall, upon termination of this
26 franchise or upon its revocation or repeal, revert to the national,
27 provincial, or municipal government to which such land or right
28 to use and occupy belonged at the time of the grant hereof or the

1 right to use and occupy the same was conceded to the grantee
2 herein, its heirs, successors or assigns.

3 "SEC. 11. The right is hereby reserved to the government
4 of the Philippines, through the National Telecommunications
5 Commission or such other government agencies as may hereafter
6 be duly authorized, to fix the maximum rate or charges to be
7 charged by the grantee.

8 "SEC. 12. As a condition of the granting of this franchise,
9 the grantee shall execute a bond in favor of the government of
10 the Philippines in the sum of Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00)
11 in form and with sureties satisfactory to the Secretary of
12 Transportation and Communications conditioned upon the
13 faithful performance of the grantee's obligations hereunder
14 during the first four (4) years of the life of this franchise. If, after
15 four (4) years from the date of the approval of this franchise, the
16 grantee shall have fulfilled the said conditions, the bond
17 shall be cancelled by the Secretary of Transportation and
18 Communications, otherwise it shall be forfeited in favor of the
19 government.

20 "SEC. 13. Acceptance of this franchise shall be given in
21 writing within six (6) months after approval of this Act. Upon
22 acceptance by the grantee and upon approval of the bond
23 required under Section 12 of this Act by the Secretary of
24 Transportation and Communications, the grantee shall be
25 empowered to exercise the privileges granted thereby.

26 "SEC. 14. The grantee shall not lease, transfer, grant the
27 usufruct of, sell nor assign this franchise, or the rights or
28 privileges acquired thereunder to any person, firm, company,

1 corporation or other commercial or legal entity, nor merge with
2 any other person, company or corporation organized for the same
3 purpose, without the prior approval of the Congress of the
4 Philippines. Any corporation to which this franchise may be
5 sold, transferred, or assigned shall be subject to all conditions,
6 terms, restrictions, and limitations of this franchise as fully and
7 completely and to the same extent as if the franchise had been
8 originally granted to the said person, firm, company, corporation
9 or other commercial or legal entity.

10 "SEC. 15. In the event of any competing individual,
11 partnership or corporation receiving from the Congress a similar
12 franchise in which there shall be any term or terms more
13 favorable than those herein granted or tending to place the herein
14 grantee at any disadvantage, then such term shall *ipso facto*
15 become part of the terms hereof and shall operate equally in
16 favor of the grantee as in the case of said competing individual,
17 partnership or corporation.

18 "SEC. 16. The grantee shall be liable to pay the same
19 taxes on their real estate, buildings and personal property,
20 exclusive of this franchise, as other persons, natural or juridical,
21 are now or hereafter may be required by law to pay.

22 "In addition thereto, the grantee, its successors or assigns,
23 shall pay a franchise tax at such percentage as may be required
24 by law on all gross receipts of the radio/television business
25 transacted under this franchise by the grantee, its successors or
26 assigns: *Provided*, That the grantee, its successors or assigns,
27 shall continue to be liable for income taxes payable under Title II
28 of the National Internal Revenue Code pursuant to Section 2 of

1 Executive Order No. 72 unless the latter enactment is amended
2 or repealed, in which case the amendment or repeal shall be
3 applicable thereto. The grantee shall file the return with and pay
4 the tax due thereon to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue or
5 his duly authorized representative in accordance with the
6 National Internal Revenue Code and the return shall be subject to
7 audit by the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

8 "SEC. 17. This franchise shall be subject to amendment,
9 alteration or repeal by the Congress of the Philippines when the
10 public interest so requires and shall not be interpreted as an
11 exclusive grant of the privileges herein provided for.

12 "SEC. 18. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.]

13 "SECTION 1. *NATURE AND SCOPE OF FRANCHISE.*

14 - SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THE 1987 PHILIPPINE
15 CONSTITUTION AND APPLICABLE LAWS, RULES AND
16 REGULATIONS, THE FRANCHISE GRANTED TO BYERS
17 COMMUNICATIONS, INC., HEREUNDER REFERRED TO AS THE
18 GRANTEE, ITS SUCCESSORS OR ASSIGNEES, UNDER REPUBLIC
19 ACT NO. 8107, TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, ESTABLISH,
20 OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES,
21 INCLUDING PAY-SERVICE, AND IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST,
22 RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS
23 THROUGHOUT THE PHILIPPINES, WHERE FREQUENCIES
24 AND/OR CHANNELS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR RADIO AND/OR
25 TELEVISION BROADCASTING, INCLUDING DIGITAL TELEVISION
26 SYSTEM, THROUGH MICROWAVE, SATELLITE OR WHATEVER
27 MEANS, INCLUDING THE USE OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES IN
28 TELEVISION AND RADIO SYSTEMS, WITH THE CORRESPONDING

1 TECHNOLOGICAL AUXILIARIES AND FACILITIES, SPECIAL
2 BROADCAST AND OTHER PROGRAM AND DISTRIBUTION
3 SERVICES AND RELAY STATIONS, IS HEREBY RENEWED FOR
4 ANOTHER TWENTY-FIVE (25) YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY
5 OF THIS ACT.

6 "SEC. 2. *MANNER OF OPERATION OF STATIONS OR*
7 *FACILITIES.* - THE STATIONS OR FACILITIES OF THE
8 GRANTEE SHALL BE CONSTRUCTED AND OPERATED IN A
9 MANNER AS WILL, AT MOST, RESULT ONLY IN THE MINIMUM
10 INTERFERENCE ON THE WAVELENGTHS OR FREQUENCIES OF
11 EXISTING STATIONS OR OTHER STATIONS WHICH MAY BE
12 ESTABLISHED BY LAW, WITHOUT IN ANY WAY DIMINISHING ITS
13 OWN RIGHT TO USE ITS SELECTED WAVELENGTHS OR
14 FREQUENCIES AND THE QUALITY OF TRANSMISSION OR
15 RECEPTION THEREON AS SHOULD MAXIMIZE RENDITION OF
16 THE GRANTEE'S SERVICES AND/OR THE AVAILABILITY
17 THEREOF.

18 "SEC. 3. *PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE NATIONAL*
19 *TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION (NTC).* - THE GRANTEE
20 SHALL SECURE FROM THE NTC THE APPROPRIATE PERMITS
21 AND LICENSES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF
22 ITS STATIONS AND FACILITIES AND SHALL NOT USE ANY
23 FREQUENCY IN THE RADIO/TELEVISION SPECTRUM WITHOUT
24 AUTHORIZATION FROM THE NTC. THE NTC, HOWEVER,
25 SHALL NOT UNREASONABLY WITHHOLD OR DELAY THE GRANT
26 OF SUCH AUTHORITY.

27 "SEC. 4. *RESPONSIBILITY TO THE PUBLIC.* - THE
28 GRANTEE SHALL PROVIDE ADEQUATE PUBLIC SERVICE TIME
29 TO ENABLE THE GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE SAID
30 BROADCASTING STATIONS OR FACILITIES, TO REACH THE

1 POPULATION ON IMPORTANT PUBLIC ISSUES; PROVIDE AT ALL
2 TIMES SOUND AND BALANCED PROGRAMMING; PROMOTE
3 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SUCH AS IN COMMUNITY
4 PROGRAMMING; ASSIST IN THE FUNCTIONS OF PUBLIC
5 INFORMATION AND EDUCATION; CONFORM TO THE ETHICS OF
6 HONEST ENTERPRISE; AND NOT USE ITS STATIONS AND
7 FACILITIES FOR THE BROADCASTING OF OBSCENE AND
8 INDECENT LANGUAGE, SPEECH, ACT OR SCENE; OR FOR THE
9 DISSEMINATION OF DELIBERATELY FALSE INFORMATION OR
10 WILLFUL MISREPRESENTATION, TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE
11 PUBLIC INTEREST; OR TO INCITE, ENCOURAGE, OR ASSIST IN
12 SUBVERSIVE OR TREASONABLE ACTS.

13 "SEC. 5. *RIGHT OF GOVERNMENT.* - A SPECIAL RIGHT
14 IS HEREBY RESERVED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE
15 PHILIPPINES, IN TIMES OF WAR, REBELLION, PUBLIC PERIL,
16 CALAMITY, EMERGENCY, DISASTER OR DISTURBANCE OF
17 PEACE AND ORDER: TO TEMPORARILY TAKE OVER AND
18 OPERATE THE STATIONS OR FACILITIES OF THE GRANTEE; TO
19 TEMPORARILY SUSPEND THE OPERATION OF ANY STATION OR
20 FACILITY IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY, SECURITY AND
21 PUBLIC WELFARE; OR TO AUTHORIZE THE TEMPORARY USE
22 AND OPERATION THEREOF BY ANY AGENCY OF THE
23 GOVERNMENT, UPON DUE COMPENSATION TO THE GRANTEE,
24 FOR THE USE OF SAID STATIONS OR FACILITIES DURING THE
25 PERIOD WHEN THESE SHALL BE SO OPERATED.

26 "THE RADIO SPECTRUM IS A FINITE RESOURCE THAT IS
27 PART OF THE NATIONAL PATRIMONY AND THE USE THEREOF IS
28 A PRIVILEGE CONFERRED UPON THE GRANTEE BY THE STATE
29 AND MAY BE WITHDRAWN ANYTIME AFTER DUE PROCESS.

1 **"SEC. 6. TERM OF FRANCHISE. - THIS FRANCHISE**
2 **SHALL BE IN EFFECT FOR A PERIOD OF TWENTY-FIVE (25)**
3 **YEARS FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT, UNLESS SOONER**
4 **REVOKED OR CANCELLED. THIS FRANCHISE SHALL BE**
5 **DEEMED *IPSO FACTO* REVOKED IN THE EVENT THE GRANTEE**
6 **FAILS TO OPERATE CONTINUOUSLY FOR TWO (2) YEARS.**

7 **"SEC. 7. ACCEPTANCE AND COMPLIANCE. -**
8 **ACCEPTANCE OF THIS FRANCHISE SHALL BE GIVEN IN**
9 **WRITING TO THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, THROUGH**
10 **THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES OF THE**
11 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE COMMITTEE ON**
12 **PUBLIC SERVICES OF THE SENATE, WITHIN SIXTY (60) DAYS**
13 **FROM THE EFFECTIVITY OF THIS ACT. UPON GIVING SUCH**
14 **ACCEPTANCE, THE GRANTEE SHALL EXERCISE THE**
15 **PRIVILEGES GRANTED UNDER THIS ACT. NONACCEPTANCE**
16 **SHALL RENDER THE FRANCHISE VOID.**

17 **"SEC. 8. SELF-REGULATION BY AND UNDERTAKING OF**
18 **THE GRANTEE. - THE GRANTEE SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY**
19 **PREVIOUS CENSORSHIP OF ANY SPEECH, PLAY, ACT OR SCENE,**
20 **OR OTHER MATTER TO BE BROADCAST FROM ITS STATIONS:**
21 ***PROVIDED*, THAT THE GRANTEE, DURING ANY BROADCAST,**
22 **SHALL CUT OFF FROM THE AIR THE SPEECH, PLAY, ACT OR**
23 **SCENE, OR OTHER MATTER BEING BROADCAST IF THE**
24 **TENDENCY THEREOF IS TO PROPOSE AND/OR INCITE TREASON,**
25 **REBELLION, OR SEDITION; OR THE LANGUAGE USED THEREIN**
26 **OR THE THEME THEREOF IS INDECENT OR IMMORAL:**
27 ***PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT WILLFUL FAILURE TO DO SO**
28 **SHALL CONSTITUTE A VALID CAUSE FOR THE CANCELLATION**
29 **OF THIS FRANCHISE.**

1 **"SEC. 9. WARRANTY IN FAVOR OF THE NATIONAL AND**
2 **LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. - THE GRANTEE SHALL HOLD THE**
3 **NATIONAL, PROVINCIAL, CITY AND MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENTS**
4 **OF THE PHILIPPINES FREE FROM ALL CLAIMS, ACCOUNTS,**
5 **DEMANDS, OR ACTIONS ARISING OUT OF ACCIDENTS OR**
6 **INJURIES, WHETHER TO PROPERTY OR TO PERSONS, CAUSED**
7 **BY THE CONSTRUCTION OR OPERATION OF THE STATIONS OF**
8 **THE GRANTEE.**

9 **"SEC. 10. SALE, LEASE, TRANSFER, GRANT OF**
10 **USUFRUCT, OR ASSIGNMENT OF FRANCHISE. - THE GRANTEE**
11 **SHALL NOT SELL, LEASE, TRANSFER, GRANT THE USUFRUCT OF**
12 **NOR ASSIGN THIS FRANCHISE OR THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES**
13 **ACQUIRED THEREUNDER TO ANY SUCH PERSON, FIRM,**
14 **COMPANY, CORPORATION OR OTHER COMMERCIAL OR LEGAL**
15 **ENTITY, NOR MERGE WITH ANY OTHER CORPORATION OR**
16 **ENTITY, NOR SHALL THE CONTROLLING INTEREST**
17 **OF THE GRANTEE BE TRANSFERRED, WHETHER AS A WHOLE**
18 **OR IN PARTS, AND WHETHER SIMULTANEOUSLY OR**
19 **CONTEMPORANEOUSLY, TO ANY SUCH PERSON, FIRM,**
20 **COMPANY, CORPORATION OR ENTITY WITHOUT THE PRIOR**
21 **APPROVAL OF THE CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES:**
22 **PROVIDED, THAT CONGRESS SHALL BE INFORMED OF**
23 **ANY SALE, LEASE, TRANSFER, GRANT OF USUFRUCT, OR**
24 **ASSIGNMENT OF FRANCHISE OR THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES**
25 **ACQUIRED THEREUNDER, OR OF THE MERGER OR TRANSFER**
26 **OF THE CONTROLLING INTEREST OF THE GRANTEE, WITHIN**
27 **SIXTY (60) DAYS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF SAID**
28 **TRANSACTION: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT FAILURE TO**
29 **REPORT TO CONGRESS SUCH CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP SHALL**

1 **RENDER THE FRANCHISE *IPSO FACTO* REVOKED: *PROVIDED,***
2 ***FINALLY,* THAT ANY PERSON OR ENTITY TO WHICH THIS**
3 **FRANCHISE IS SOLD, TRANSFERRED, OR ASSIGNED, SHALL BE**
4 **SUBJECT TO THE SAME CONDITIONS, TERMS, RESTRICTIONS,**
5 **AND LIMITATIONS OF THIS ACT.**

6 **"SEC. 11. *DISPERSAL OF OWNERSHIP.* - IN**
7 **ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION TO**
8 **ENCOURAGE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC UTILITIES, THE**
9 **GRANTEE SHALL OFFER TO FILIPINO CITIZENS AT LEAST**
10 **THIRTY PERCENT (30%) OR A HIGHER PERCENTAGE THAT**
11 **MAY HEREAFTER BE PROVIDED BY LAW OF ITS OUTSTANDING**
12 **CAPITAL STOCK IN ANY SECURITIES EXCHANGE IN THE**
13 **PHILIPPINES WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS FROM THE**
14 **COMMENCEMENT OF ITS OPERATIONS: *PROVIDED,* THAT IN**
15 **CASES WHERE PUBLIC OFFER OF SHARES IS NOT APPLICABLE,**
16 **ESTABLISHMENT OF COOPERATIVES AND OTHER METHODS OF**
17 **ENCOURAGING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION BY CITIZENS AND**
18 **CORPORATIONS OPERATING PUBLIC UTILITIES MUST**
19 **BE IMPLEMENTED. NONCOMPLIANCE THEREWITH SHALL**
20 **RENDER THE FRANCHISE *IPSO FACTO* REVOKED.**

21 **"SEC. 12. *EQUALITY CLAUSE.* - ANY ADVANTAGE,**
22 **FAVOR, PRIVILEGE, EXEMPTION, OR IMMUNITY GRANTED**
23 **UNDER EXISTING FRANCHISES, OR WHICH MAY HEREAFTER BE**
24 **GRANTED FOR RADIO AND/OR TELEVISION BROADCASTING,**
25 **UPON PRIOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONGRESS, SHALL**
26 **BECOME PART OF THIS FRANCHISE AND SHALL BE ACCORDED**
27 **IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY TO THE HEREIN**
28 **GRANTEE: *PROVIDED,* THAT THE FOREGOING SHALL NEITHER**
29 **APPLY TO NOR AFFECT THE PROVISIONS OF BROADCASTING**
30 **FRANCHISES CONCERNING TERRITORY COVERED BY THE**

1 FRANCHISE, THE LIFE SPAN OF THE FRANCHISE OR THE TYPE
2 OF SERVICE AUTHORIZED BY THE FRANCHISE.

3 **"SEC. 13. GENERAL BROADCAST POLICY LAW. -** THE
4 GRANTEE SHALL COMPLY WITH AND BE SUBJECT TO THE
5 PROVISIONS OF A GENERAL BROADCAST POLICY LAW WHICH
6 CONGRESS MAY HEREAFTER ENACT.

7 **"SEC. 14. REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENT. -** THE
8 GRANTEE SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT TO THE
9 CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE
10 ON LEGISLATIVE FRANCHISES OF THE HOUSE OF
11 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
12 SERVICES OF THE SENATE, ON ITS COMPLIANCE WITH THE
13 TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE FRANCHISE AND ON ITS
14 OPERATIONS ON OR BEFORE APRIL 30 OF EVERY YEAR DURING
15 THE TERM OF ITS FRANCHISE. THE REPORTORIAL
16 COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY CONGRESS SHALL BE
17 REQUIRED BEFORE ANY APPLICATION FOR PERMIT OR
18 CERTIFICATE IS ACCEPTED BY THE NTC.

19 **"SEC. 15. PENALTY CLAUSE. -** FAILURE OF THE
20 GRANTEE TO SUBMIT THE REQUISITE ANNUAL REPORT TO
21 CONGRESS SHALL BE PENALIZED BY A FINE OF FIVE HUNDRED
22 PESOS (P500.00) PER WORKING DAY OF NONCOMPLIANCE.
23 THE FINE SHALL BE COLLECTED BY THE NTC FROM THE
24 DELINQUENT FRANCHISE GRANTEE SEPARATE FROM THE
25 REPORTORIAL PENALTIES IMPOSED BY THE NTC.

26 **"SEC. 16. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. -** IF ANY OF THE
27 SECTIONS OR PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT IS HELD INVALID, ALL
28 OTHER PROVISIONS NOT AFFECTED THEREBY SHALL REMAIN
29 VALID.

1 **"SEC. 17. REPEALABILITY AND NONEXCLUSIVITY**
2 **CLAUSE. - THIS FRANCHISE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO**
3 **AMENDMENT, ALTERATION, OR REPEAL BY THE CONGRESS OF**
4 **THE PHILIPPINES WHEN THE PUBLIC INTEREST SO REQUIRES**
5 **AND SHALL NOT BE INTERPRETED AS AN EXCLUSIVE GRANT OF**
6 **THE PRIVILEGES HEREIN PROVIDED FOR."**

7 **SEC. 2. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after**
8 **its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.**

Approved,

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