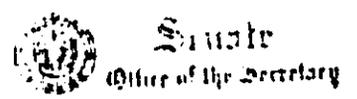


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



16 JAN 13 P3:35

SENATE  
S. No. 3083

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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AN ACT  
PROMOTING AND ENCOURAGING THE VALUABLE PUBLIC SERVICE,  
DISASTER RELIEF, AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS PROVIDED ON A  
VOLUNTEER BASIS BY AMATEUR RADIO LICENSEES OF THE NATIONAL  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Amateur radio operators provide a valuable public service to their communities in the area of national disaster communications. Emergency and disaster relief communications services by volunteer radio operators have been provided before, during, and after floods, fires, earthquakes, typhoons, and other disasters. Amateur radio, at no cost to taxpayers, provides a fertile ground for technical self-training in modern telecommunications, electronic technology, and emergency communications techniques and protocols.

There is a strong government interest in the effective performance of amateur radio, and that performance must be given support at all levels of government and given protection against unreasonable regulation and impediments to the provision of these valuable communications.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed during the Fifteenth Congress, Second Regular Session.

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Amateur Radio  
2 Emergency Enhancement Act.”

3 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to promote and  
4 encourage the valuable public service, disaster relief, and emergency communications  
5 provided on a volunteer basis by amateur radio licensees of the National  
6 Telecommunications Commission. Toward this end, reasonable accommodation should  
7 be made for the effective operation of amateur radio from residences, private vehicles,  
8 and public areas, and the regulation at all levels of government should facilitate and  
9 encourage amateur radio operation as a public benefit.

10 SECTION 3. *Study of Enhanced Uses of Amateur Radio in Emergency and*  
11 *Disaster Relief Communications, and for Relief of Restrictions.* –

12 (a) The Commissioner of the National Telecommunications Commission –

13 (1) shall undertake a study on the uses and capabilities of amateur radio  
14 communications in emergencies and disaster relief; and

1           (2) shall report its findings to Congress not later than 180 days after the  
2 date of enactment of this Act.

3           (b) The study required by this section shall –

4                 (1) include recommendations –

5                         (i) for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of amateur radio  
6 licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief  
7 efforts; and

8                         (ii) for improved integration of amateur radio operators in planning  
9 and in furtherance of the Department of National Defense and National  
10 Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) initiatives;

11                 (2) identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced amateur  
12 radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on  
13 residential antenna installations; and make recommendations regarding such  
14 impediments.

15           (c) In conducting the study required by this section, the Commissioner shall seek  
16 information from private and public sectors for the study, and utilize the expertise of  
17 groups representing the national amateur radio community.

18           **SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid or  
19 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other  
20 provisions hereof.

21           **SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, and issuances, or  
22 portions thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, are hereby  
23 repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

1           SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
2 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/tdp3Dec2015