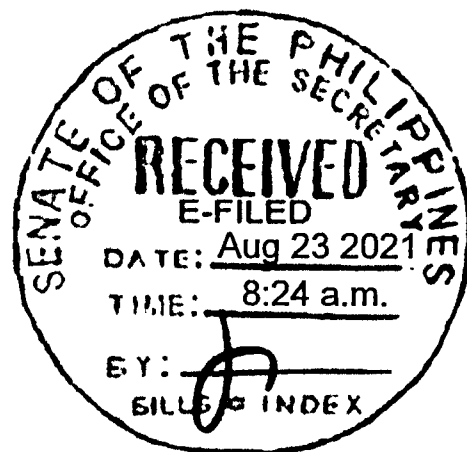


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 845

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Introduced by Senator Panfilo Lacson

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**RESOLUTION**

**COMMENDING THE INITIATIVE AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT TO THE MANILA BROADCASTING COMPANY – DZRH ON ITS “#ACCOUNTKOTO” CAMPAIGN AIMED AT FIGHTING THE PROLIFERATION OF MISINFORMATION BY EDUCATING THE PUBLIC AND URGING GOVERNMENT REGULATORY AGENCIES TO CRAFT POLICIES TO ENCOURAGE RESPONSIBLE POSTING OF SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT**

**WHEREAS**, an informed citizenry is the backbone of a viable and vibrant democracy wherein the governed are able to contribute meaningfully in determining laws, rules, and regulations, and hold elected officials accountable;

**WHEREAS**, with the increasing availability and affordability of access to the internet, there has been a notable upward trend in the number of Filipinos relying on social media platforms as regular sources of news;

**WHEREAS**, industry reports from the Social Weather Stations, We Are Social, and Hootsuite indicate that one in four people – or some 15.7 million Filipinos – get their daily news from the most popular social media platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Instagram, as well as the websites of media organizations;

**WHEREAS**, survey results from the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism's Digital News Report 2021 indicate that 45 percent of respondents in the Philippines expressed “overwhelming concern” about the spread of false information on Facebook. Furthermore, the same report showed that the share of Filipinos who trust news from social media decreased from 22 percent in 2019 to 20 percent in 2020;

**WHEREAS**, as evidenced by the spread of misinformation during the pandemic, the proliferation of fake news and the use of fake online identities and troll farms in recent years have magnified the power to mislead, which could potentially worsen during the upcoming election period;

**WHEREAS**, the Manila Broadcasting Company, owner and operator of DZRH, the longest-running radio station in the country, and the largest radio network in Asia has recently launched a campaign called #ACCOUNTKOTO, encouraging users of various social media platforms to be responsible when posting and or sharing content, and to use their real identities in their accounts to promote responsibility and accountability;

**WHEREAS**, the Senate lauds and fully supports this initiative of the Manila Broadcasting Company – DZRH, and encourages all broadcast media to rally in the campaign and join in the advocacy against misinformation;

**WHEREAS**, the Senate likewise calls on the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) to adhere to its mandate to formulate policies and prescribe rules and regulations that would ensure that social media accounts are properly verified to help in the fight against these fake accounts and the proliferation of fake news or misinformation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Senate of the Philippines commends the initiative and expresses support to the Manila Broadcasting Company – DZRH on its “#ACCOUNTKOTO” campaign aimed at fighting the proliferation of misinformation by educating the public and urging government regulatory agencies to craft policies to encourage responsible posting of social media content.

**Adopted,**

  
**PANFILO M. LACSON**  
*Senator*