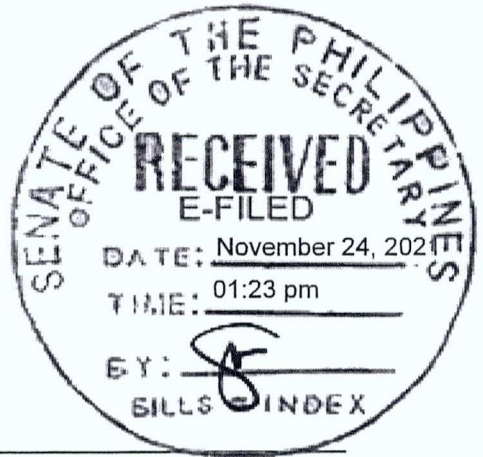


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)**
Third Regular Session)



SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 350

Submitted by the Committee on Public Services on November 24, 2021

Re: **House Bill No. 8755**

Recommending its approval with amendments.

Sponsor: **Senator Grace Poe**

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Public Services, to which was referred **House Bill No. 8755**, introduced by **Representatives Tejada and Alvarez (F.)**, entitled:

AN ACT

**GRANTING SULU-TAWI-TAWI BROADCASTING FOUNDATION, INC. A
FRANCHISE TO CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN
RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE PROVINCES OF SULU
AND TAWI-TAWI**

has considered the same and has the honor to report back to the Senate with the recommendation that it be approved with the following amendments:

1. Starting on page 2, line 49, up to page 3, line 2, delete the entire Section 7 on the 'Renewal or Extension of Franchise'.

Renumber the succeeding Sections accordingly.

2. On page 3, line 23, delete the second proviso that begins with the word "Provided" and ends with word 'workforce' in line 27.

On the same line 27, replace the word "finally" with the word "**FURTHER**".

3. On the same page, lines 33 to 37, delete the second sentence that starts with the phrase "In addition".

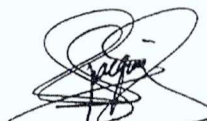
Respectfully submitted,


SEN. GRACE POE
Chairperson

Vice-Chairpersons:


SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.

SEN. PANFILO M. LACSON



SEN. EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO


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SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON

SEN. FRANCIS "KIKO" N. PANGILINAN


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Senate President Pro-Tempore


SEN. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Majority Leader


SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Minority Leader

HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III
Senate President

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 8755

BY REPRESENTATIVES TEJADA AND ALVAREZ (F.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 757

AN ACT

GRANTING SULU-TAWI-TAWI BROADCASTING FOUNDATION, INC. A FRANCHISE TO
CONSTRUCT, INSTALL, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN RADIO AND TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE
PROVINCES OF SULU AND TAWI-TAWI

1
2 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress*
3 *assembled:*

4
5 **SECTION 1. Nature and Scope of Franchise.** – Subject to the provisions of the
6 Constitution and applicable laws, rules and regulations, there is hereby granted to Sulu-Tawi-
7 Tawi Broadcasting Foundation, Inc., hereunder referred to as the grantee, its successor or
8 assignees, a franchise to construct, install, operate, and maintain for commercial purposes
9 and in the public interest, radio and/or television broadcasting stations in the Provinces of
10 Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, where frequencies and channels are still available for radio and television
11 broadcasting, including digital television system, through microwave, satellite or whatever
12 means, as well as the use of any new technology in television and radio systems, with the
13 corresponding technological auxiliaries and facilities, special broadcast and other program
14 and distribution services and relay stations.

15
16 **SEC. 2. Manner of Operation of Stations or Facilities.** – The stations or facilities of the
17 grantee shall be constructed and operated in a manner as will, at most, result only in the
18 minimum interference on the wavelengths or frequencies of existing stations or other stations
19 which may be established by law, without in any way diminishing its own privilege to use its
20 assigned wavelengths or frequencies and the quality of transmission or reception thereon as
21 should maximize rendition of the grantee's services and availability thereof.

22
23 **SEC. 3. Prior Approval of the National Telecommunications Commission.** – The
24 grantee shall secure from the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) the
25 appropriate permits and licenses for the construction and operation of its stations or facilities
26 and shall not use any frequency in the radio or television spectrum without authorization from
27 the NTC. The NTC, however, shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the grant of any such
28 authority.
29

1 assigned shall be subject to the same conditions, terms, restrictions, and limitations of this
2 Act.

3
4 **SEC. 12. Reportorial Requirement.** – The grantee shall submit an annual report on its
5 compliance with the terms and conditions of the franchise and on its operations to the
6 Congress of the Philippines, through the Committee on Legislative Franchises of the House of
7 Representatives and the Committee on Public Services of the Senate, on or before April 30 of
8 every year during the term of its franchise.

9
10 The annual report shall include an update on the roll-out, development, operation or
11 expansion of business; audited financial statements; latest GIS officially submitted to the SEC,
12 if applicable; certification of the NTC on the status of its permits and operations; and an
13 update on the dispersal of ownership undertaking, if applicable.

14
15 The reportorial compliance certificate issued by Congress shall be required before any
16 application for permit or certificate is accepted by the NTC.

17
18 **SEC. 13. Fine.** – Failure of the grantee to submit the requisite annual report to
19 Congress shall be penalized by a fine of Five hundred pesos (P500.00) per working day of
20 noncompliance. The fine shall be collected by the NTC from the delinquent franchise grantee
21 separate from the reportorial penalties imposed by the NTC and the same shall be remitted
22 to the Bureau of the Treasury.

23
24 **SEC. 14. Equality Clause.** – Any advantage, favor, privilege, exemption, or immunity
25 granted under existing franchises, or which may hereafter be granted for radio and television
26 broadcasting, upon prior review and approval of Congress, shall become part of this franchise
27 and shall be accorded immediately and unconditionally to the herein grantee: *Provided*, That
28 the foregoing shall neither apply to nor affect the provisions of broadcasting franchises
29 concerning territorial coverage, the term, or the type of service authorized by the franchise.

30
31 **SEC. 15. Repealability and Nonexclusivity Clause.** – This franchise shall be subject to
32 amendment, alteration, or repeal by Congress when the public interest so requires and shall
33 not be interpreted as an exclusive grant of the privileges herein provided for.

34
35 **SEC. 16. Separability Clause.** – If any of the sections or provisions of this Act is held
36 invalid, all other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

37
38 **SEC. 17. Repealing Clause.** –All laws, decrees, orders, resolutions, instructions, rules
39 and regulations, and other issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the
40 provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

41
42 **SEC. 18. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
43 in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

44
45 Approved,