


14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Republic )  
of the Philippines )  
1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session )

7 JUN 30 P4:55

SENATE  
SB 271

RECEIVED BY: 

---

**Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.**

---

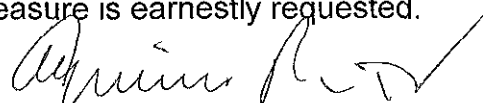
Explanatory Note

Article 97 of the Revised Penal Code, which provides for the allowance for good conduct, recognizes the ability of prisoners to reform while serving their sentences. This reduction of sentence is in consideration of the good conduct and diligence of a prisoner who does not violate the code of discipline or prison rules, and has shown fidelity to the tasks given to him while serving sentence.

It is, however, unfortunate that under our present laws, prisoners are not entitled to good conduct allowance while their cases are on appeal. This rule either discourages prisoners from complying with prison rules or withdraw their appeals to qualify for good conduct allowance.

This bill seeks to remedy the situation by amending Article 97 of the Revised Penal Code and allows inmates, even with appealed cases, to qualify for good conduct allowances.

The early passage of this legislative measure is earnestly requested.

  
**AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.**

14<sup>th</sup> Congress of the Republic )  
of the Philippines )  
1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session )

7 JUN 30 P4:55

SENATE  
SB 271

RECEIVED BY: JM

---

Introduced by Senator Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.

---

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 97 OF ACT NO 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS  
THE REVISED PENAL CODE

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

SECTION 1. Article 97 of the Revised Penal Code is hereby amended to read as  
follows:

Article 97. Allowance for good conduct. — The good conduct of any  
prisoner in any penal institution shall entitle him to the following deductions from  
the period of his sentence:

1. During the first two years of his imprisonment, he shall be allowed a  
deduction of five days for each month of good behavior;
2. During the third to the fifth year, inclusive, of his imprisonment, he shall  
be allowed a deduction of eight days for each month of good behavior;
3. During the following years until the tenth year, inclusive, of his  
imprisonment, he shall be allowed a deduction of ten days for each month  
of good behavior; and
4. During the eleventh and successive years of his imprisonment, he shall  
be allowed a deduction of fifteen days for each month of good behavior.

AN APPEAL BY THE ACCUSED SHALL NOT DEPRIVE HIM OF  
ENTITLEMENT TO THE ABOVE ALLOWANCES FOR GOOD CONDUCT.

SECTION 2. Rules and Regulations. The Department of Justice shall issue the  
rules and regulations of this Act within thirty (30) days after its effectivity.

SECTION 3. Repealing Clause. All laws, executive orders, executive issuances,  
rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent or contrary to the provisions of  
this Act, are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SECTION 4. Separability Clause. In case any provision of this Act is declared  
unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not affected  
thereby shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its  
publication in two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved