

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



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**SENATE**

P. S. Res. No. 1114

RECEIVED BY: 

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**Introduced by Senator FRANCIS "ToI" N. TOLENTINO**

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**RESOLUTION  
AMENDING RULE VI, SECTION 8 OF THE RULES OF THE SENATE**

1 WHEREAS, a safe, independent, free and functioning Congress is one of the  
2 cornerstones of Philippine democracy;

3 WHEREAS, Congress, and the Senate of the Philippines in particular, has relied  
4 on law enforcement agencies in the performance of its legislative mandates, especially  
5 in the execution or serving of summons and subpoenas, enforcement of contempt  
6 orders, and the protection and safety of the Members of the Senate;

7 WHEREAS, such reliance on law enforcement agencies, while carried out within  
8 the bounds of the law, nonetheless hampers the Senate's capacity, as part of an  
9 independent branch of government, to establish its own security and operational  
10 protocols;

11 WHEREAS, the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms should be empowered to  
12 maintain order and security of the institution, ensure the protection and safety of its  
13 Members within and outside the Senate, and perform such other functions and  
14 activities as may be essential to legislation: Now, therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to amend Rule VI, Section  
16 8 of the Rules of the Senate to read as follows:

17 "RULE VI

18 THE SERGEANT-AT-ARMS, HIS DUTIES AND POWERS

19 "SEC 8. The duties and powers of the Seargeant-at-Arms are:

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"a) x x x.

"b) x x x.

"c) To be responsible for the security and maintenance of order in the session hall, antechambers, corridors and offices of the Senate, **AND THE PROTECTION AND SAFETY OF ALL ITS MEMBERS WITHIN OR OUTSIDE THE SENATE PREMISES**, whether in session or not, in accordance with the orders of the President or the Secretary.

"d) To execute or serve, personally or through his delegates, the summons **AND SUBPOENAS** which may be issued by the Senate or by the permanent or special committees or by the President himself.

**"E) TO ENFORCE ANY CITATION FOR CONTEMPT ISSUED BY ANY COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, AND TO DETAIN AND PLACE UNDER CUSTODY ANY WITNESS WHO DISOBEYS ANY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE OR REFUSES TO BE SWORN OR TO TESTIFY OR TO ANSWER A PROPER QUESTION BY THE COMMITTEE OR ANY OF ITS MEMBERS, OR TESTIFYING, TESTIFIES FALSELY OR EVASIVELY, OR WHO UNDULY REFUSES TO APPEAR OR BRING BEFORE THE COMMITTEE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS AND/OR OBJECT EVIDENCE REQUIRED BY THE COMMITTEE NOTWITHSTANDING THE ISSUANCE OF THE APPROPRIATE SUBPOENA THEREFOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 18 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING INQUIRIES IN AID OF LEGISLATION.**

"[e)] F) x x x.

"[f)] G) x x x."

*Adopted,*

  
**Francis "Tol" N. Tolentino**