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SENATE

S. NO. 233

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 27 of the Constitution declares that the State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption. However, recent studies and surveys run counter to this policy. The United Nations Development Program warns that the financial crisis and the upcoming election are likely to worsen corruption in the country.¹ Tagged as a hotspot of corruption, the country has cultivated a culture of impunity that has undermined our sense of justice, social conscience and fear of God, as a nation.

In this light, this measure seeks to declare October of every year as Anti-Corruption Month. Public awareness campaigns that create bottom up pressures are extremely useful to also create political will and administrative support for the fight against corruption.² This campaign is aimed at creating a critical mass of citizenry by lowering people's tolerance for corruption and educating them on how to respond to instances of the same.

This measure mandates all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including government-owned and controlled corporations as well as local government units and employers in the private sector to conduct activities designed to create awareness among the people on the adverse impacts of corruption on society and individuals. It is hoped that this measure shall promote public awareness of corruption and establish mechanisms to support anti-corruption efforts through public education, advocacy and dissemination of information.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator

¹ Information retrieved from: <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/breakingnews/nation/view/20090127-185890/Philippine-corruption-to-worsen--UNDP>. Retrieved on: 10 June 2009.

² Information retrieved by: http://www.respondanet.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=175:caa-senior-technical-advisor-thusitha-pilapitiya-presents-qcreating-the-institutional-support-for-successful-anti-corruption-campaignsq&catid=64:worldwide&Itemid=26. Retrieved on: 10 June 2009.

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AN ACT
DECLARING OCTOBER OF EVERY YEAR AS "ANTI-CORRUPTION MONTH" IN
THE ENTIRE COUNTRY

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Short Title.*** – This Act shall be known as the "*Anti-Corruption Month*
2 *Act.*"

3
4 **SEC. 2.** October of every year is hereby declared as "Anti-Corruption Month" in the
5 entire country.

6
7 For the purpose, all heads of government agencies and instrumentalities, including
8 government-owned and controlled corporations as well as local government units and employers
9 in the private sector, are hereby mandated to conduct activities designed to create awareness
10 among the people on the adverse effects of corruption.

11 The awareness campaign must therefore, not only contain information of what constitutes
12 an act of corruption, but also what the citizen must do when faced with such corruption.

13
14 **SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.*** - If, for any reason whatsoever, any provision of this Act
15 is declared unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the other provisions not
16 declared as such.

1 **SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, rules and regulations, or part thereof, inconsistent
2 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

3 **SEC. 5. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its
4 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,