

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

8 JUL 31 8:03:36

SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 88 RECEIVED BY: 

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Civil Service and Government Reorganization on JUL 31 2008.

Re: Senate Bill No. 2498.

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 729.

Sponsor: Senator Escudero.

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Justice and Human Rights; and Civil Service and Government Reorganization to which was referred Senate Bill No. 729, introduced by Senator Revilla, Jr., entitled:

**"AN ACT
DECLARING THE FILING OF FALSE COMPLAINTS AGAINST PUBLIC
OFFICERS AS A CRIME AGAINST HONOR, PRESCRIBING PENALTIES
THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES"**

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No. 2498, prepared by the Committee, entitled:

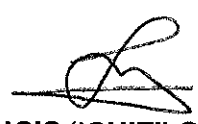
**"AN ACT
AMENDING ARTICLE 359 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED"**

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill No. 729, with Senators Revilla, Jr., Escudero, Trillanes IV and Lacson as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

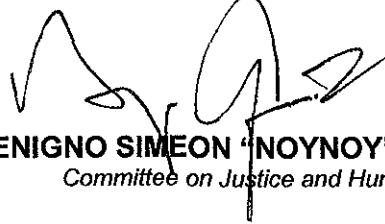
Chairmen:

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
*Committee on Civil Service and Government
Reorganization*


FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO
*Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Member, Committee on Civil Service and
Government Reorganization*


PANFILO M. LACSON
*Acting Chairman, Committee on Civil Service
and Government Reorganization*

Vice-Chairman:

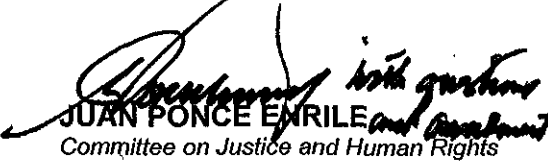


BENIGNO SIMEON "NOYNOY" S. AQUINO III
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Members:

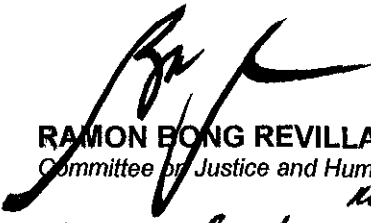
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Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights




JUAN PONCE ENRILE
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

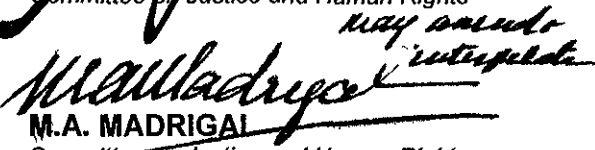
GREGORIO B. HONASAN II
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization



RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.
Committee on Justice and Human Rights



RÓDOLFO G. BIAZON
Committee on Justice and Human Rights



M.A. MADRIGAL
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

EDGARDO J. ANGARA
Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization



RICHARD J. GORDON
Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

LOREN B. LEGARDA
Committee on Civil Service and Government Reorganization

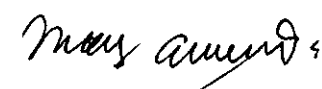
Ex-Officio Members:



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
President Pro-Tempore



FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN
Majority Leader



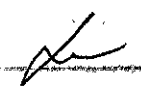
AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR.
Minority Leader

Hon. MANNY VILLAR
Senate President
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

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SENATE
Senate Bill No. 2498

RECEIVED BY: 

Prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Justice and Human Rights and Civil Service and Government Reorganization with Senators Revilla Jr., Escudero, Trillanes IV, and Lacson as authors thereof

AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE 359 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE, AS AMENDED

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Article 359 of Act No. 3815, as amended, is further amended
2 to read as follows:

3 **"Art. 359. Slander by deed.** - The penalty of [arresto mayor in its
4 maximum] **PRISION MAYOR IN ITS MINIMUM** period to
5 [prision correccional in its minimum] **ITS MAXIMUM** period or a
6 fine [ranging from 200 to 1,000 pesos] **OF 100,000 PESOS, OR**
7 **BOTH**, shall be imposed upon any person who shall perform any
8 act not included and punished in this title, which shall cast
9 dishonor, discredit, or contempt upon another person, **SUCH AS,**
10 **BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE INTENTIONAL FILING OF A**
11 **FALSE COMPLAINT IN COURT OR IN ANY OTHER**
12 **AGENCIES OF GOVERNMENT EXERCISING QUASI-**
13 **JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS.** If said act is not of
14 a serious nature, the penalty shall be [arresto menor] **PRISION**
15 **MAYOR IN ITS MINIMUM TO ITS MEDIUM PERIOD** or a fine
16 [not exceeding 200 pesos] **OF 50,000 PESOS.**

17 **IF DURING THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION**
18 **OR TRIAL IT IS PROVEN THAT THE ABOVE FALSE**
19 **COMPLAINT HAS BEEN OR IS BEING USED BY THE**
20 **COMPLAINANT AS A LEVERAGE AGAINST ANY PERSON**
21 **IN ORDER TO GAIN ADVANTAGE OR TO RECEIVE A**
22 **FAVORABLE DECISION, ACTION OR RESOLUTION ON ANY**
23 **MATTER, THE MAXIMUM PENALTY PROVIDED HEREIN**
24 **SHALL BE IMPOSED."**

25 **SEC. 2. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is declared
26 invalid by a competent court, the remainder of this Act or any provision not
27 affected by such declaration of invalidity shall remain in force and effect.

1 **SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, presidential decrees, executive
2 orders, other executive issuances, rules and regulations or parts thereof are
3 hereby repealed amended or modified accordingly.

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

6 **Approved,**