

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

SENATE
S. No. **1829**

10 JUL 21 P5:37

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RECEIVED BY LW

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Republic Act No. 7354 also known as the "Postal Service Act of 1992," retained the franking privileges of Senators and Members of the House of Representatives as provided for by Republic Act No. 69.

However, R.A. No. 69 fails to provide guidelines for the proper use of franking privileges. Thus, the privilege is exposed to potential abuse. To prevent abuse, this bill regulates the legislative franking privilege.*

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

* This bill was re-filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

10 JUL 21 P5 39

SENATE
S. No. 1829

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago RECEIVED BY [Signature]

1 AN ACT
2 REGULATING THE USE OF FRANKING PRIVILEGES BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
3 SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act maybe cited as the “Franking Privilege Regulation
5 Act.”

6 SECTION 2. *Declaration of State Policy.* – It is hereby declared a state policy to
7 regulate the franking privilege of members of the legislature in order to prevent its abuse.

8 SECTION 3. *Frankable Mail Matter.* – “Frankable mail matter” specifically includes,
9 but is not limited to—

10 (A) Mail matter to any person and to all agencies and officials of the national and local
11 governments regarding programs, decisions, and other related matters of public
12 concern or public service, including any matter relating to actions of a past or current
13 Congress;

14 (B) The usual customary congressional newsletter or press release which may deal with
15 such matters as the impact of laws and decisions on National and local governments
16 and individual citizens, reports on public and official actions taken by Members of
17 Congress, and discussions of proposed or pending legislation or governmental actions
18 and the positions of the Members of Congress on, and arguments for or against, such
19 matters.

1 SECTION 4. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
3 valid and subsisting.

4 SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
5 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
6 with, the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

7 SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
8 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.