

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 JUL 16 P4:54

SENATE

S. No. 809

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The involvement of certain members of law enforcement agencies in criminal activities has greatly diminished our faith and confidence to these people in government. Almost everyday we hear, read, or see in media the involvement of some of our law enforcers in petty crimes to alleged attempt to cover-up heinous crimes.

There seems now a need to address the growing fear and distrust among our people to some of these "villains" in uniform by treating those persons in authority who cause or order the destruction or concealment of evidence to a crime as accomplices to the crime.

This proposed measure seeks to amend Article 19 of the Revised Penal Code by prescribing a higher penalty for persons in authority as accessories who directly cause or order the destruction or concealment of vital evidence for heinous crimes.

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

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator



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SENATE
S. No. 809

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
PRESCRIBING A HIGHER PENALTY FOR PERSONS IN AUTHORITY AS
ACCESSORIES, WHO DIRECTLY CAUSE OR ORDER THE DESTRUCTION OR
CONCEALMENT OF VITAL EVIDENCE FOR HEINOUS CRIMES, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 19 OF THE REVISED PENAL CODE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Article 19 of the Penal Code is hereby amended by adding another
2 paragraph:

3 "WHERE THE OFFENSE IS A HEINOUS CRIME UNDER EXISTING LAWS AND
4 IS COMMITTED BY PERSONS IN AUTHORITY, THEY SHALL SUFFER THE PENALTY
5 ONE DEGREE HIGHER THAN THAT PRESCRIBED BY LAW FOR THE
6 CONSUMMATED FELONY."

7
8 **SEC. 2. Separability Clause.** - If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid or
9 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
10 valid and subsisting.

11
12 **SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.** - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order,
13 letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the
14 provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

1 **Sec. 4. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,