

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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**SENATE**

**S. JT. RES. NO. 3**

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**Introduced by Senator Vicente C. Sotto III and  
Senate President Franklin M. Drilon**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**

**REQUIRING CELLULAR SERVICE PROVIDERS TO REGISTER ALL PREPAID PHONE SUBSCRIBERS AND INSTALL A GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) SOFTWARE IN ALL CELLULAR PHONE SIM CARDS TO EASILY TRACE THE EXACT LOCATION OF THE USER, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, wireless phone technology has made access to telecommunication fast, easy and convenient;

**WHEREAS**, since the introduction of cellular phones in the country, the subscriber base grew dramatically reaching an estimated over 80 million last year which is expected to grow further, and of this number about 90% are prepaid phone users;

**WHEREAS**, pre-paid phone cards can be acquired practically anywhere by anybody without any required identification and credit background restrictions, making it very convenient to avail of cellular service in an instant;

**WHEREAS**, organized criminal groups had been using cell phones with prepaid sim cards as favored communication tools in facilitating their criminal activities, the device being unregistered and untraceable, perfectly concealing their identities;

**WHEREAS**, based on the investigations conducted by the authorities, perpetrators of the recent bombings used cell phones to trigger the bombs that killed and injured many innocent victims;

**WHEREAS**, reported events of kidnappings involved the use of cellular phones with prepaid sim cards to get in touch with families of the victims as well as law enforcers to communicate and relay demands, and each call maintained anonymity;

**WHEREAS,** government officials have not been spared from the illicit use of prepaid cellular calls having been the recipients of anonymous call and text messages, containing threats and harassments;

**WHEREAS,** it can be an effective remedial measure to mandate cellular service providers to require the registration of all prepaid cell phone subscribers and specific numbers assigned to them by asking valid ID at purchase, and in turn start building databases and come up with profiles of these buyers the same way police detectives profile criminal suspects;

**WHEREAS,** it may also help curtail cellular phone related crimes if service providers will be required to install additional technological security software in their sim cards such as voice authentication software and global positioning satellite technology, as examples;

**WHEREAS,** criminal use of wireless technology is a global problem, in other countries wherein the use of prepaid mobile lines are likewise rampant, have started requiring their service providers of inputting security devices to counter criminal activities;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:**

**SECTION 1.** All cellular service providers are hereby required to register all prepaid subscribers and install global positioning system (GPS) software in all cellular phone sim cards to easily trace the exact location of the user. For this purpose, cellular service providers shall require their prepaid subscribers to submit the necessary information before issuing the cellular phone sim cards.

**SEC. 2.** Any Cellular Service Provider who shall violate the provisions of this Joint Resolution shall be held liable for a fine of Five Million Pesos (Php5,000,000) and revocation of its license to operate.

Any person who shall fail to provide his or her true name, address, and other information as may be required under this Joint Resolution shall be punished with imprisonment of one (1) year or a fine of at least Two hundred thousand pesos (Php200,000.00), or both imprisonment and fine.

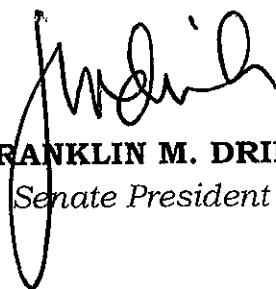
**SEC. 3.** A prosecution under this Joint Resolution shall be without prejudice to any liability for violation of any provision of the Revised Penal Code, as amended, or special laws.

**SEC. 4.** The Department of Telecommunications and Communications (DOTC) through the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) in

consultation with the Department of Justice through the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Department of National Defense (DND) through the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) through the Philippine National Police (PNP) shall promulgate within sixty (60) days from the adoption of this Joint Resolution the Implementing Rules and Regulations that shall be necessary to implement the provisions of this Joint Resolution.

**SEC. 5.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules or regulations or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Joint Resolution are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

***Adopted,***

  
**FRANKLIN M. DRILON**  
*Senate President*

  
**VICENTE C. SOTTO III**  
*Senator*