

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



'13 DEC -3 P2 31

SENATE  
S. No. **1993**

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

*MS*

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

13 DEC -3 P2:31

SENATE  
S. No. 1993

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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  
11 local governments regarding programs, decisions, and other related matters of public concern or  
12 public service, including any matter relating to actions of a past or current Congress;

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