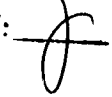


**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES***First Regular Session*

'16 AUG 23 P3:23

SENATE
S.B. 1060RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Poe

**AN ACT
PENALIZING THE DISSEMINATION OF FALSE INFORMATION AS TO THE
PRESENCE OF BOMBS, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER INCENDIARY DEVICES IN
HIGH DENSITY OR SENSITIVE PLACES AND PROVIDING PENALTIES
THEREFOR*****Explanatory Note***

Recently, several bomb scares have threatened various places around the country, demonstrating the need to address the growing concern on bomb threats. Every false bomb threat which causes unnecessary alarm in an area leads to unnecessary anxiety for the people, disruption of regular activities, losses in productivity and wastage of law enforcement emergency response resources.

Last 28 March 2016 the Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) campus in Quezon City was declared safe after a bomb threat in the morning forced students and employees to evacuate. In a statement, the administration of ADMU said it received a bomb threat at around 8:30 a.m., prompting officials to evacuate the entire campus. Employees of the ADMU's Office of Social Concern and Involvement were the ones who received two text messages containing the threats.

Furthermore a bomb threat triggered the temporary closure of the northbound lane of EDSA-Main Avenue in Cubao, Quezon City last April 17, 2016. Reports said a suspicious package was found inside a bus.¹

¹ <http://www.rappler.com/nation/129854-edsa-cubao-bomb-threat-traffic>

Presidential Decree No. 1727 on “Declaring as Unlawful the Malicious Dissemination of False Information of the Willful Making of any Threat Concerning Bombs, Explosives or any Similar Device or Means of Destruction and Imposing Penalties Therefor” was issued in October 1980. It states that any person who communicates, willfully makes any threat, or maliciously conveys false information of an attempt to damage or destroy any property by means of explosives, incendiary devices and other destructive forces of similar nature shall be punished with imprisonment of not more than five years or a fine of not more than forty thousand pesos (Php 40,000.00) or both at the discretion of the court.²

This bill seeks to repeal and supersede P.D. 1727 and to impose stiffer penalties when the above acts are done in high population density and sensitive areas, with the objective of curbing incidences of false reports which resulting to losses in productivity and resources.

In view of the foregoing, swift passage of this measure is sought.



GRACE POE

² <http://www.chanrobles.com/presidentialdecrees/presidentialdecreeno1727.html#.V5BBP7h96M9>

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AN ACT
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PRESENCE OF BOMBS, EXPLOSIVES AND OTHER INCENDIARY DEVICES IN
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THEREFOR

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** –This Act shall be known as the “*False Bomb Threat Prohibition Act*
2 *of 2016.*”

3
4 **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
5 undertake all measures to protect all persons from being subjected to the injurious effects of false
6 information and threats on bombs and explosives, with the objective of upholding their security
7 and safety, especially in high density and sensitive places where the risks are higher.

8

9 **SECTION 3. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act:

10

11 a) “*High density areas*” refer to areas which are regularly populated with people,
12 including but not limited to public spaces like national roads, public parks, airports,
13 seaports, hotels and malls, or where people are gathered for an event.

14

15 b) “*Sensitive areas*” refer to those which are subject to high risks upon violation of this
16 act due to the magnitude of resulting possible losses in productivity, resources, and

1 religious value, notwithstanding the number of people present therein, including but
2 not limited to educational institutions, offices, government institutions, and churches.
3

4 **SECTION 4. *Prohibition.*** – No person shall willfully communicate or cause to be
5 communicated, either directly or indirectly, orally, in writing, by mail, by use of a telephone or
6 telecommunication device including, but not limited to, cellular or mobile phones, electronic
7 mail, internet communication device or by any means, a threat or information involving a bomb,
8 explosive or other incendiary device, when such threat is in fact not present, thereby causing
9 either the evacuation or serious disruption of a school, school related event, school
10 transportation, or a dwelling building place of assembly, facility or public transport, or an
11 aircraft, ship or common carrier, or willfully communicates or causes serious public
12 inconvenience or alarm.
13

14 **SECTION 5. *Penalties.*** – Any person found guilty of violating this Act or any rules and
15 regulations issued pursuant hereto shall, upon conviction, be punished by imprisonment of not
16 less than six (6) years but not more than twelve (12) years or a fine of not less than One Million
17 Pesos (Php 1,000,000.00) but not more than Five Million Pesos (Php 5,000,000.00) or both.
18

19 **SECTION 6. *Separability Clause.*** – If any part or provision of this Act is declared
20 unconstitutional, other parts or provisions thereof which are not affected thereby shall continue
21 to be in full force and effect.
22

23 **SECTION 7. *Repealing Clause.*** – Presidential Decree No. 1727 is hereby repealed. All
24 laws, decrees, executive orders and issuances and rules and regulations which are inconsistent
25 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
26

27 **SECTION 8. *Effectivity.*** – This act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
28 in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.
29

30 *Approved,*