



SENATE

S. No. 1255

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC
INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA, WITH SENATORS SOTTO III
AND TRILLANES IV AS AUTHORS THEREOF

AN ACT EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF EXEMPTIONS
FROM REVEALING THE SOURCE OF PUBLISHED
NEWS OR INFORMATION OBTAINED IN
CONFIDENCE BY INCLUDING JOURNALISTS
FROM BROADCAST, NEWS AGENCIES AND
INTERNET PUBLICATIONS, AMENDING FOR
THE PURPOSE SECTION 1 OF REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 53, AS AMENDED BY REPUBLIC ACT NO.
1477

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of Republic Act No. 53,
2 otherwise known as "An Act to Exempt the Publisher,
3 Editor or Reporter of any Publication from Revealing the
4 Source of Published News or Information Obtained in
5 Confidence", as amended by Republic Act No. 1477, is
6 hereby further amended, to read as follows:

1 "SECTION 1. Without prejudice to his/her
2 liability under the civil and criminal laws, [the]
3 ANY publisher, OWNER, [editor, columnist] or
4 duly RECOGNIZED OR accredited
5 JOURNALIST, WRITER, reporter, [of any
6 newspaper, magazine or periodical of general
7 circulation] CONTRIBUTOR, OPINION
8 WRITER, EDITOR, COLUMNIST,
9 MANAGER, MEDIA PRACTITIONER
10 INVOLVED IN THE WRITING, EDITING,
11 PRODUCTION, AND DISSEMINATION OF
12 NEWS FOR MASS CIRCULATION, OF ANY
13 PRINT, BROADCAST, WIRE SERVICE
14 ORGANIZATION, OR ELECTRONIC MASS
15 MEDIA, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED
16 TO, THE INTERNET, AND CABLE TV AND
17 ITS VARIANTS, cannot be compelled to reveal
18 the source of any news[-] ITEM, report or
19 information appearing [in] OR BEING
20 REPORTED OR DISSEMINATED THROUGH

1 said [publication] MEDIA, which was related in
2 confidence to [such publisher, editor or
3 reporter] THE ABOVEMENTIONED MEDIA
4 PRACTITIONERS unless the court or [a] THE
5 House OF REPRESENTATIVES OR THE
6 SENATE or ANY committee of Congress finds
7 that such revelation is demanded by the
8 security of the State.”

9 SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees,
10 executive orders, rules or regulations or parts thereof
11 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby
12 repealed or modified.

13 SEC. 3. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect
14 fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in at least
15 two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

 Approved,