


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 P3:43

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 2330

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 99 of Act No. 3815 as amended, otherwise known as The Revised Penal Code authorizes the "Director of Prisons" to grant allowance for good conduct to prisoners in accordance with Article 97 of the same Act.

Since the approval of The Revised Penal Code in December 8, 1930, Article 99 thereof, which is the subject of this bill, had not been amended. At the time of the passage of the Revised Penal Code the "Director of Prisons" had supervision of all jails in the country. Since then however, jails in the country had been placed under the supervision and control of three government agencies, namely: (1) the national penal farms which house insular prisoners with prison terms of more than three years which are supervised and controlled by the Bureau of Corrections under the Department of Justice; (2) the provincial and sub-provincial jails which houses provincial prisoners or those serving prison terms of more than six months up to three years, which are supervised and controlled by its respective provincial governments under the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); and (3) the district, city and municipal jails which house municipal prisoners or those serving prison terms of one day to not more than three years in city jails, which jails are supervised and controlled by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology also under the DILG. The Bureau of Corrections is headed by a Director, Each provincial jail by a Provincial Jail Warden and the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology by a Chief.

At present however, only the Director of the Bureau of Corrections can grant allowance for good conduct for prisoners. The Chief of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology learned from the Department of Justice and the DILG that he does not have the authority to grant the same allowance.

Prisoners, wherever they may be confined, must be rewarded by the law for good behavior. A provincial, city or municipal prisoner must be entitled to allowance for good conduct just as an insular prisoner.

This bill intends to equally grant allowances for good conduct for insular, provincial, city or municipal prisoners. It will also help decongest jails.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


MANNY VILLAR
Senator

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AN ACT AMENDING ARTICLE NINETY-NINE OF ACT NUMBERED THIRTY-EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTEEN, AS AMENDED OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE REVISED PENAL CODE

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

SECTION 1. Article 99 of Act Numbered 3915, as amended, otherwise known as The Revised Penal Code is amended to read as follows:

“ART.99 Who grants time allowances... Whenever lawfully justified the [Director of Prisons] following shall grant allowances for good conduct:

1. THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS FOR INSULAR PRISONERS;
2. THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR OR HIS SUCCESSOR FOR PROVINCIAL PRISONERS; AND
3. THE CHIEF OF THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY FOR CITY AND MUNICIPAL PRISONERS.

SUCH ALLOWANCES ONCE GRANTED SHALL NOT BE REVOKED.”

SEC. 2. The grant allowance for good conduct of any prisoner in any penal institution shall be governed by Article 97 of Act No. 3815.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Approved,