



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 100

BY REPRESENTATIVES ANGARA, BALINDONG, GO, ILAGAN, ABANTE, CHIPECO,
JIKIRI, DEL MAR AND GONZALES (N.)

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF THE WORDS "MUSLIM" AND
"CHRISTIAN" IN MASS MEDIA TO DESCRIBE ANY PERSON
SUSPECTED OF OR CONVICTED FOR HAVING COMMITTED
CRIMINAL OR UNLAWFUL ACTS, AND PROVIDING
PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF

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

1 SECTION 1. *Prohibited Act.* – It is hereby declared unlawful for any
2 person to use in mass media, the words "Muslim" and/or "Christian" or any
3 other word that would denote religious, regional or ethnic affiliation to
4 describe any person suspected of or convicted for having committed criminal
5 or unlawful acts.

6 SEC. 2. *Penalties.* – The penalty of *arresto mayor* or a fine ranging
7 from One thousand pesos (P1,000.00) to Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00), or
8 both, at the discretion of the court, shall be imposed upon any person found
9 guilty of violating Section 1 hereof.

1 The editor-in-chief, in the case of print media, and the news editor, in
2 the case of broadcast media and other forms of mass media, shall be imposed a
3 fine not lower than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00).

4 The juridical entity violating this Act shall be imposed a fine not lower
5 than Fifty thousand pesos (P50,000.00) for every violation.

6 For the second and succeeding offenses, the penalties shall be doubled.

7 SEC. 3. *Implementing Rules.* – The Philippine Information Agency, in
8 coordination with the concerned sectors and entities, shall promulgate the rules
9 and regulations to implement this Act within three (3) months after its
10 effectivity.

11 SEC. 4. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders, issuances, rules and
12 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
13 hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

14 SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* – If any part of this Act is held invalid or
15 unconstitutional, the other parts or provisions thereof not affected thereby shall
16 remain valid and effective.

17 SEC. 6. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
18 days from its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general
19 circulation.

 Approved,