

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }
OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session }

5 10 -3

SENATE

REG. ACT

A

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 43

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media and Justice and Human Rights on APR - 3 2008.

Re: Senate Bill No. 2150.

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 1178.

Sponsors: Senators Revilla, Jr., Escudero, and Pimentel, Jr.

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Public Information and Mass Media and Justice and Human Rights to which were referred Senate Bill No. 1178, introduced by Senator Pimentel, Jr., entitled:

**"AN ACT
GRANTING THE RIGHT OF REPLY AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATION THEREOF"**

have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached bill, Senate Bill No. 2150, prepared by the Committees, entitled:

**"AN ACT
GRANTING THE RIGHT OF REPLY AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR
VIOLATION THEREOF"**

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill No. 1178 with Senators Pimentel, Jr., Revilla, Jr. and Escudero as authors thereof.

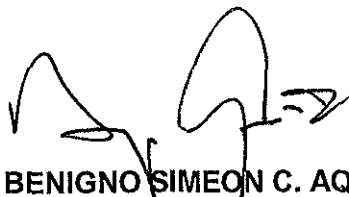
Respectfully Submitted:

Chairmen:

FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

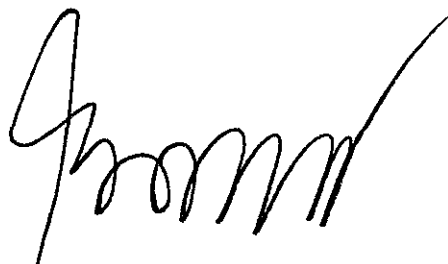
RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.
Committee on Public Information and Mass Media
Member, Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Vice-Chairman:



BENIGNO SIMEON C. AQUINO III
Committee on Justice and Human Rights
Member, Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media

Members:




GREGORIO B. HONASAN II
Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

COMPAÑERA PIA S. CAYETANO
Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media
Committee on Justice and Human Rights



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media

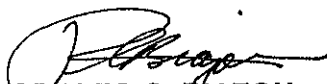
 with amendments
and suggestions

RICHARD J. GORDON
Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media



M. A. MADRIGAL
Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

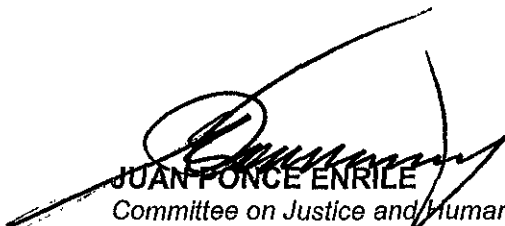
MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Committee on Public Information
and Mass Media



RODOLFO G. BIAZON
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

 with interpellations

ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

 with interpellations
and amendments


JUAN PONCE ENRILE
Committee on Justice and Human Rights

Ex-Officio Members

May amend

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
President Pro-Tempore


FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN
Majority Leader


AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL JR.
Minority Leader

Hon. MANNY VILLAR
Senate President
Senate of the Philippines
Pasay City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC }
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SEP 13 2015

SENATE

RECEIVED

S.B. NO. **2150**

(In substitution of SBN 1178)

Prepared by the Committees on Public Information and Mass Media and Justice and Human Rights with Senators Pimentel, Jr., Revilla, Jr. and Escudero as authors

AN ACT
GRANTING THE RIGHT OF REPLY 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. Right of Reply.** - All persons natural or juridical who are
2 accused directly or indirectly of committing or having committed or of intending to
3 commit any crime or offense defined by law or are criticized by innuendo, suggestion
4 or rumor for any lapse in behavior in public or private life shall have the right to reply
5 to the charges published or printed in newspapers, magazines, newsletters or
6 publications circulated commercially or for free, or to criticisms aired or broadcast
7 over radio, television, websites, or through any electronic device.

8 **SEC. 2. Where Reply Published.** - The reply of the person so accused or
9 criticized shall be published in the same space of the newspapers, magazine,
10 newsletter or publication or aired over the same program on radio, television,
11 website, or any electronic device concerned.

12 **SEC. 3. When Published.** - The reply shall be published or broadcast not
13 later than three (3) days after the reply shall have been delivered to the editorial
14 office of the publication concerned or to the station that carried the broadcast being
15 replied to.

16 **SEC. 4. Length of Reply.** - The reply shall not be longer than the
17 accusation or criticism as published or broadcast.

1 **SEC. 5. Free of Charge.** - The publication or broadcast of the reply shall be
2 free of charge, payment or fees.

3 **SEC. 6. Editing Reply.** - The reply as such shall be published or broadcast
4 except for libelous allegations.

5 **SEC. 7. Penalties.** - The editor-in-chief, the publisher or station manager, or
6 owner of the broadcast medium who fails or refuses to publish or broadcast the reply
7 as mandated in the preceding section shall be fined in an amount not exceeding Ten
8 thousand pesos (₱10,000.00) for the first offense; Twenty thousand pesos
9 (₱20,000.00) for the second offense; and Thirty thousand pesos (₱30,000.00) for the
10 third offense.

11 Thereafter, for repeated failures or refusals to publish or broadcast the reply
12 as mandated herein, a fine of Fifty thousand pesos (₱50,000.00) shall be imposed.

13 Moreover, if the offender is a public official, he shall be subject to
14 administrative liability under existing Civil Service laws.

15 The court may also recommend that proper sanctions be imposed by any
16 appropriate mass media organizations on erring editors-in-chief, publishers, station
17 managers or owners of media concerned.

18 **SEC. 8. Self-Regulation.** - The block-timers who also fail to broadcast or
19 publish the reply shall be subject to the Code of Ethics or to the realm of self-
20 regulation of the network or station.

21 **SEC. 9. Other Remedies.** - The publication of the reply does not preclude
22 recourse to other rights or remedies available to the party or parties concerned.

23 **SEC. 10. Sunset Clause.** - This Act shall lapse seven (7) years after its
24 approval unless Congress shall provide otherwise.

25 **SEC. 11. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following
26 its publication in three (3) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,