FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC) OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

10 July -7 22:17

SENATE

Senate Bill No. <u>661</u>

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 27 of the 1987 Constitution provides that "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption." A clean, honest and efficient bureaucracy is an important component in the provision of good and effective government.

Graft and corruption in government imposes an informal tax burden that affects the efficiency of private sector enterprises and private markets. It is an insidious influence that tears at the moral fabric of the nation and leaves debilitating effects on productive economic undertakings. The drive against graft and corruption in government however is burdened with a serious incentive incompatibility. This is the fact that those who have knowledge of any acts of malfeasance by government officials and employees are deterred from reporting such acts because of their vulnerability to subsequent acts of reprisal.

This bill addresses the situation with a provision that will grant rewards and provide protection to individuals who will report acts of malfeasance in government offices.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

JINGOOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Senator

OF THE PHILIPPINES)

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AN ACT

PROVIDING THE GRANTING OF REWARDS AND PROTECTION TO THOSE WHO WILL REPORT MALFEASANCE IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

- **SECTION 1.** Declaration of Policy. The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.
- **SÈC. 2.** Reward and Protection. Any government employee who will report any act of malfeasance committed by his superior or any of his coemployees shall be granted a reward or incentive in terms of cash, bonus or promotion in rank, if qualified, and shall be provided protection against any retaliation from erring officials or employees.
- **SEC. 3.** *Implementing Rules.* The Civil Service Commission shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act which shall include appropriate rewards or incentives.
- **SEC. 4.** Appropriations. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Civil Service Commission under the current General Appropriations Act. Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for the continuous implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.
- **SEC. 5.** Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or 3 amended accordingly.
 - SEC. 6. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,