

(3)

Congress of the Philippines )  
First Regular Session )

S E N A T E

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COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 9

Submitted by the Committee on Ethics and Privileges on  
August 31, 1987

Re: Senate Bill No. 52

Recommending its approval without amendment.

Sponsor: Senator Saguisag

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MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committee on Ethics and Privileges, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 52, introduced by Senator Saguisag, entitled:

"AN ACT EXTENDING THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE OF THE MEMBERS  
OF CONGRESS BEYOND AUGUST 30, 1987,"

has considered the same and has the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that the bill be approved without amendment.

Respectfully submitted:

(Sgd.) **ADDERO W. SAGHESAG**  
Chairman  
Committee on Ethics & Privileges

(Sgd.) **SOTERO H. LAUREL**  
Vice-Chairman

Members:

(Sgd.) **JOSEPH E. ESTRADA**  
(Sgd.) **VICENTE T. PATERNO**  
(Sgd.) **WIGBERTO E. TAÑADA**

(Sgd.) **RAUL S. MANGLAPUS**  
(Sgd.) **ALBERTO G. ROMULO**

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
SENATE  
MANILA

FIRST REGULAR SESSION



COMMITTEE REPORT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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Submitted by the Committee on Ethics & Privileges

x - - - - - x

RE: Senate Bill No. 52 entitled AN ACT EXTENDING THE  
FRANKING PRIVILEGE OF THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS  
BEYOND AUGUST 30, 1987

RECOMMENDING APPROVAL WITHOUT AMENDMENTS

SPONSOR: Senator Rene A.V. Saguisag

MR. PRESIDENT:

Today, Aug. 25, 1987, we had representatives from  
the Post Office testify before us in a hearing.

To our surprise, they objected to what we had  
thought would be a routine extension of the franking pri-  
vilege of the members of Congress. They pointed out that  
it is now enjoyed by at least 24 groups, and they are  
groaning under the load, with no additional funding given  
to cope with the additional work.

This has resulted in inefficiency. Also, there has  
been abuse by some people because of the difficulty of  
monitoring who are using the privilege. Anybody could  
print envelopes in the guise that he belongs to one of  
the qualified beneficiaries of the privilege. The Post  
Office cannot open any mail on suspicion alone of such  
abuse.

It would be too abrupt however to cut off the pri-  
vilege which expires in a few days. We believe we should  
extend it and then we can review the question in the future  
in a less hurried way, such as who will keep the privilege,  
additional funding, etc.

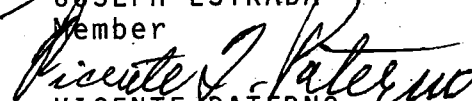
Early approval of this bill without amendments is  
strongly urged.

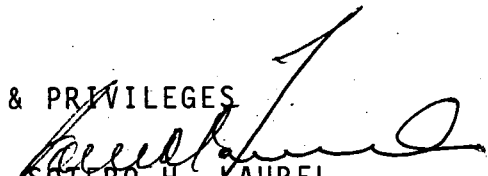
Manila, August 25, 1987.


COMMITTEE ON ETHICS & PRIVILEGES

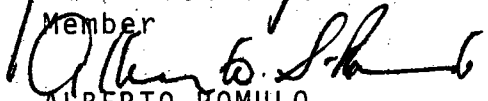
  
R.A.V. SAGUISAG  
Chairman

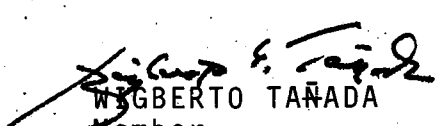
  
JOSEPH ESTRADA  
Member

  
VICENTE PATERNO  
Member

  
SOTERO H. LAUREL  
Vice Chairman

  
RAUL MANGLAPIS  
Member

  
ALBERTO ROMULO  
Member

  
WIGBERTO TANADA  
Member

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
S E N A T E  
QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA

\_\_\_\_\_ CONGRESS

\_\_\_\_\_ SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 52



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INTRODUCED BY SEN. SAGUISAG  
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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The franking privilege of the members of the new Congress expires on August 30, 1987 under Executive Order No. 199.

The bill seeks to extend it up to the end of their terms. Their successors will enjoy a similar privilege.

Surviving spouses of Members of Congress shall enjoy a limited form of franking privilege.

The privilege is available only to assist in and expedite the conduct of the official business, activities and duties of the Congress, covering all matters which directly or indirectly pertain to the legislative process or to any congressional representative functions generally, or to the functioning, working, or operating of the Congress and the performance of official duties in connection therewith, and shall include, but not be limited to, the conveying of information to the public, and the asking of the views of the public, and the views or information of other authority of government, as a guide or means of assistance in the performance of those functions, and will not include matter which is purely personal, or purely politically partisan, such as in seeking political support in an election contest.

In view of the urgency of the proposal in light of the expiry date of August 30, 1987, quick action on it is earnestly urged.

Manila, August 11, 1987.

  
R.A.V. SAGUISAG  
Senator

*(This as Privileges  
Public Service)*

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
S E N A T E  
QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA

\_\_\_\_\_ CONGRESS  
SESSION  
SENATE BILL NO. 52



*8:30 am*  
*[Signature]*

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. SAGUISAG  
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AN ACT TO EXTEND THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE OF THE MEMBERS  
OF CONGRESS BEYOND AUGUST 30, 1987

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

SECTION 1. The franking privilege of the Members  
of Congress which expires on August 30, 1987 is hereby  
extended up to the end of their terms. This privilege will  
also be enjoyed by their successors during their terms.

SECTION 2. Upon the death of a Member of Congress  
during his or her term of office, his or her spouse may  
send, for a period not to exceed three months after his  
or her death, as franked mail, nonpolitical correspondence  
relating to the death of the Member.

SECTION 3. The privilege mentioned in Section 1  
of this Act is available only to assist and expedite the  
conduct of the official business, activities and duties  
of the Congress, and will not include matters which are  
purely personal or purely politically partisan such as  
in seeking political support in an election contest.

SECTION 4. The Secretary of Transportation and  
Communications shall issue the necessary guidelines to  
implement this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect immediately  
upon approval.

APPROVED,

