



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 5714

BY REPRESENTATIVES GOLEZ (R.), ANGARA, DATUMANONG, RODRIGUEZ (R.),
RODRIGUEZ (M.), TUPAS, ABAYA, GARIN (J.), VILLAR, DEL MAR,
CALIXTO-RUBIANO, VILLARICA, CALIMBAS-VILLAROSA, TUGNA,
HERRERA-DY, CARI, LOYOLA, ARAGO, AUMENTADO, SARMIENTO (M.),
CRUZ-GONZALES AND TEODORO, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1693

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY
AND BENEFIT PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE
REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6981, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE
“WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT ACT”, AND
PROVIDING ADDITIONAL FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1 SECTION 1. Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 of Republic Act No. 6981,
2 otherwise known as the “Witness Protection, Security and Benefit Act”, are
3 hereby amended to read as follows:

4 “SEC. 3. *Admission into the Program.* – Any person
5 who has witnessed or has knowledge or information on the
6 commission of a crime and has testified or is testifying or about
7 to testify before any judicial or quasi-judicial body, or before any
8 investigating authority, may be admitted into the Program:

9 *Provided, That:*

1 “a) The offense [in] **FOR** which [his] **THE** testimony will
2 be used is a grave felony as defined under the Revised Penal
3 Code, or its equivalent under special laws;

4 “b) [His] **THE** testimony can be substantially
5 corroborated in its material points;

6 “c) [He] **THE WITNESS** or any member of [his] **THE**
7 **WITNESS'** family within the second [civil] degree of
8 consanguinity or affinity is subjected to threats to [his] life or
9 bodily injury or there is a likelihood that [he] **THE WITNESS** will
10 be killed, forced, intimidated, harassed or corrupted [to prevent
11 him] **SO AS TO BE PREVENTED** from testifying, or to testify
12 falsely or evasively, because or on account of [his] **THE**
13 testimony **GIVEN**; and

14 “d) [He] **THE WITNESS** is not a law enforcement officer,
15 [even if he would be testifying] **UNLESS THE TESTIMONY TO BE**
16 **GIVEN WILL BE** against other law enforcement officers. [In such
17 a case, only the immediate members of his family may avail
18 themselves of the protection provided for under this Act.]

19 “If the Department, after examination of said applicant
20 and other relevant facts, is convinced that the requirements of
21 this Act and its implementing rules and regulations have been
22 complied with, it shall admit said applicant to the Program,
23 require said witness to execute a sworn statement detailing his
24 knowledge or information on the commission of the crime, and
25 thereafter issue the proper certification. For purposes of this Act,
26 any such person admitted to the Program shall be known as the
27 Witness.”

1 “SEC. 4. *Witness in Legislative Investigations.* – In case
2 of legislative investigations in aid of legislation, [a witness,]
3 **THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES OR THE HOUSE OF**
4 **REPRESENTATIVES, AS THE CASE MAY BE, MAY PROVIDE FOR A**
5 **SEPARATE ‘WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT**
6 **PROGRAM’ FOR ITS RESOURCE PERSONS AND/OR WITNESSES.**
7 **THE WITNESS AND/OR RESOURCE PERSON, [with his express**
8 **consent,] may be admitted into the Program upon THE WRITTEN**
9 **APPLICATION AND** the recommendation of the legislative
10 committee where [his] **THE** testimony is needed when in its
11 judgment there is a pressing necessity [therefor] **FOR THE**
12 **WITNESS’ TESTIMONY OR THE PRODUCTION OF DOCUMENTS**
13 **OR EVIDENCE IN POSSESSION OR CUSTODY OF THE WITNESS:**
14 *Provided,* That such recommendation is approved by the
15 President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of
16 Representatives, as the case may be.

17 “**THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES OR THE HOUSE OF**
18 **REPRESENTATIVES, AS THE CASE MAY BE, SHALL HAVE**
19 **PRIMARY JURISDICTION IN THE ADMINISTRATION AND**
20 **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE WITNESS**
21 **PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM. CONGRESS**
22 **MAY REQUEST THE NECESSARY ASSISTANCE FROM ANY**
23 **DEPARTMENT, BUREAU, OFFICE OR ANY OTHER EXECUTIVE**
24 **AGENCY TO ASSIST IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE**
25 **PROGRAM: PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN THE EVENT THAT A**
26 **CRIMINAL CASE HAS BEEN INSTITUTED, FOR PRELIMINARY**
27 **INVESTIGATION OR FILING OF A CASE IN COURT, IN RELATION**
28 **TO THE SUBJECT OF THE LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY, ANY WITNESS**
29 **TO THE CRIMINAL CASE COVERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE**

1 WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM
2 SHALL BE TURNED OVER TO THE WITNESS PROTECTION,
3 SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE
4 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE: *PROVIDED, FURTHER*, THAT ANY
5 WITNESS TO A CRIMINAL CASE WHO IS COVERED BY THE
6 PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
7 SHALL CONTINUE TO BE COVERED AND SHALL REMAIN UNDER
8 SUCH PROGRAM NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LEGISLATIVE
9 INQUIRY THAT MAY BE INITIATED THEREAFTER WHERE SUCH
10 WITNESS MAY BE CALLED UPON TO TESTIFY AS A RESOURCE
11 PERSON.

12 "ANY WITNESS COVERED BY THE LEGISLATIVE
13 WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM
14 SHALL ENJOY THE SAME RIGHTS AND BENEFITS, BEAR THE
15 SAME RESPONSIBILITIES AND SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME
16 CONDITIONS AS PROVIDED FOR IN THIS ACT.

17 "TO EFFECTIVELY CARRY OUT THIS PROVISION,
18 CONGRESS SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING FOR THE
19 IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS OWN WITNESS PROTECTION,
20 SECURITY AND BENEFIT PROGRAM AND PROMULGATE ITS
21 OWN RULES AND REGULATIONS."

22 "SEC. 5. *Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) With the*
23 *Person to be Protected.* – [Before a person is provided] AS A
24 PREREQUISITE TO THE AVAILMENT OF THE protection under
25 this Act, [he shall first execute] THE WITNESS SHALL ENTER
26 INTO a memorandum of agreement WITH THE DEPARTMENT,
27 which shall set forth [his] CERTAIN responsibilities including:

28 "a) To testify before and provide information to all
29 appropriate law enforcement officials concerning all appropriate

1 proceedings in connection with or arising from the activities
2 involved in the offense charged;

3 “b) To avoid the commission of a crime;

4 “c) To take all necessary precautions to avoid detection
5 by others of the facts concerning the protection provided [him]
6 under this Act;

7 “d) To comply with legal obligations and civil judgments
8 against [him] ONE’S PERSON;

9 “e) To cooperate with respect to all reasonable requests
10 of officers and employees of the Government who are providing
11 protection under this Act; [and]

12 “f) To regularly inform the appropriate program official
13 of [his] current activities and address[.];

14 “G) **NOT TO COMMUNICATE WITH ANY ADVERSE PARTY**
15 **OR NEGOTIATE FOR OR ENTER INTO, AN AMICABLE**
16 **SETTLEMENT ON THE CIVIL OR CRIMINAL ASPECT OF THE**
17 **OFFENSE SUBJECT OF THE CASE OR INVESTIGATION; AND**

18 “H) **TO COMPLY WITH SUCH OTHER CONDITIONS AS THE**
19 **SECRETARY OF JUSTICE MAY DEEM PROPER TO IMPOSE FOR**
20 **THE SUCCESSFUL INVESTIGATION OR PROSECUTION OF THE**
21 **CASE OR TO PRESERVE THE INTEGRITY OF THE PROGRAM.”**

22 “SEC. 6. *Breach of the Memorandum of Agreement.* –
23 Substantial breach of the memorandum of agreement shall be a
24 ground for the IMMEDIATE termination of the BENEFITS AND
25 protection provided under this Act[: *Provided, however, That*
26 *before terminating such protection,]. [t]The Secretary of Justice*
27 *shall send notice to the person involved of the termination of the*
28 **BENEFITS AND** protection provided under this Act, stating therein
29 the reason for such termination.”

1 “SEC. 7. *Confidentiality [of Proceedings]*. – All
2 [proceedings] **MATTERS** involving [application for] admission
3 **AND COVERAGE [into] UNDER** the Program [and the action taken
4 thereon] shall be confidential in nature[.] **AND [N]**No
5 information or documents [given or submitted in support
6 thereof] **RELATIVE THERETO** shall be released except upon
7 written order of the Department or the proper court.

8 “Any person who violates the confidentiality of said
9 proceedings shall upon conviction be punished with
10 imprisonment of not less than [one (1) year] **FOUR (4) YEARS** but
11 not more than six (6) years and deprivation of the right to hold a
12 public office or employment for a period of five (5) years.

13 “**NO INJUNCTION OR TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER**
14 **SHALL BE ISSUED BY ANY COURT ENJOINING THE ADMISSION**
15 **OF THE WITNESS IN THE PROGRAM BY THE DEPARTMENT.**”

16 “SEC. 8. *Rights and Benefits*. – The Witness shall have
17 the **RIGHT TO SECURITY AND PROTECTION AS WELL AS THE**
18 following [rights and] benefits:

19 “a) To have a secure housing facility until he has testified
20 or until the threat, intimidation or harassment disappears or is
21 reduced to a manageable or tolerable level. When the
22 circumstances warrant, the Witness shall be entitled to relocation
23 and/or change of personal identity at the expense of the Program.
24 This right **TO A SECURE HOUSING FACILITY AND RELOCATION**
25 may be extended to any member of the family of the Witness
26 within the second [civil] degree of consanguinity or affinity.

27 “**A CHANGE OF PERSONAL IDENTITY MAY INCLUDE A**
28 **CHANGE IN PHYSIOLOGICAL APPEARANCE OR CHANGE OF**

1 NAME. THE SECRETARY OF JUSTICE, UPON APPLICATION OF
2 THE WITNESS COVERED UNDER THE PROGRAM AND IN
3 ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES WHICH THE DEPARTMENT
4 SHALL HEREAFTER PROMULGATE, MAY ORDER A CHANGE OF
5 THE FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME AND/OR FAMILY NAME OF
6 THE WITNESS COVERED, WITHOUT NEED OF A SEPARATE
7 JUDICIAL ORDER OR ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEEDINGS.
8 PURSUANT TO SUCH ORDER, THE SECRETARY OF JUSTICE MAY
9 DIRECT ALL CONCERNED AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT TO
10 MAKE THE NECESSARY ENTRIES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE
11 REGISTRIES IN SUCH A MANNER THAT ENSURES THE
12 CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE PROCEEDINGS AND AVOID A
13 DISCLOSURE OF THE IDENTITY OF THE WITNESS.

14 "b) The Department shall, whenever practicable, assist
15 the Witness in obtaining a means of livelihood. The Witness
16 relocated pursuant to this Act shall be entitled to a financial
17 assistance from the Program [for his support and that of his
18 family] in such amount and for such duration as the Department
19 shall determine.

20 "c) In no case shall the Witness be removed from or
21 demoted in work because or on account of [his] ONE'S absences
22 due to [his] attendance before any judicial or quasi-judicial body
23 or investigating authority, including legislative investigations in
24 aid of legislation, in going thereto and in coming therefrom:
25 *Provided*, That his employer is notified through a certification
26 issued by the Department, within a period of thirty (30) days
27 from the date when the Witness last reported for work:
28 *Provided, further*, That in the case of prolonged transfer or
29 permanent relocation, the employer shall have the option to

1 remove the Witness from employment after securing clearance
2 from the Department, upon the recommendation of the
3 Department of Labor and Employment.

4 "Any Witness who failed to report for work because of
5 witness duty shall be paid [his] **BY ONE'S EMPLOYER THE**
6 equivalent salaries or wages corresponding to the number of days
7 of absence occasioned by the Program. For purposes of this Act,
8 any fraction of a day shall constitute a full day salary or wage.
9 This provision shall be applicable to both government and
10 private employees.

11 "d) To be provided with reasonable travelling expenses
12 and subsistence allowance by the Program in such amount as the
13 Department may determine for his attendance in the court, body
14 or authority where his testimony is required, as well as
15 conferences and interviews with prosecutors or investigating
16 officers.

17 "e) To be provided with **NECESSARY** free medical
18 **ATTENTION**, treatment, hospitalization and medicines
19 **PARTICULARLY** for any injury, [or] illness **OR ANY OTHER**
20 **MEDICAL CONDITION** incurred or suffered by [him because of]
21 **THE WITNESS OR BY THE SPOUSE AND MINOR OR DEPENDENT**
22 **CHILDREN WHILE ON** witness duty **OR WHILE IN THE**
23 **TEMPORARY SHELTER PROVIDED BY THE PROGRAM** in any
24 [private or] public hospital, clinic, or at any such institution at
25 the expense of the Program.

26 "WITNESS DUTY SHALL INCLUDE THE ATTENDANCE OF
27 **THE WITNESS IN THE COURT, BODY OR AUTHORITY**
28 **WHERE THE TESTIMONY IS REQUIRED AS WELL AS**
29 **CONFERENCES AND INTERVIEWS WITH PROSECUTORS**

1 OR INVESTIGATING OFFICERS. A WITNESS WHO IS RELOCATED
2 TO AN ACCREDITED WITNESS PROTECTION, SECURITY AND
3 BENEFIT PROGRAM TEMPORARY SHELTER SHALL BE
4 CONSIDERED TO BE UNDER WITNESS DUTY FOR THE DURATION
5 OF STAY IN SAID TEMPORARY SHELTER.”

6 “f) If a Witness is killed, because of [his] participation in
7 the Program, [his] THE WITNESS’ heirs shall be entitled to a
8 burial benefit of not less than Ten thousand pesos (P10,000.00)
9 from the Program exclusive of any other similar benefits [he]
10 THE WITNESS may be entitled to under other existing laws.

11 “g) [In case of death or permanent incapacity, his] THE
12 WITNESS’ minor or dependent children shall be entitled to free
13 education AND/OR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE, from primary to
14 college level in any state[, or private] school, college or
15 university [as may be determined by the Department,] as long as
16 they shall have qualified thereto. THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS
17 HEREIN PROVIDED CAN BE AVAILED BY THE WITNESS’ MINOR
18 OR DEPENDENT CHILDREN FOR PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND
19 TERTIARY EDUCATION, BUT IN THE LATTER CASE, NOT TO
20 EXCEED FIVE (5) YEARS.”

21 SEC. 2. Sections 10 and 12 of the same Act are hereby amended to read
22 as follows:

23 “SEC. 10. [State Witness] *ADMISSION OF OFFENDERS.* --
24 Any person who has participated in the commission of a crime
25 and desires to be a witness for the [State] GOVERNMENT, can
26 apply and, if qualified as determined in this Act and by the
27 Department, shall be admitted into the Program whenever the
28 following circumstances are present:

1 “a) The offense in which [his] THE testimony will be
2 used is a grave felony as defined under the Revised Penal Code
3 or its equivalent under special laws;

4 “b) There is absolute necessity for [his] THE testimony;

5 “c) There is no other direct evidence available for the
6 proper prosecution of the offense committed;

7 “d) [His] THE testimony can be substantially
8 corroborated on its material points;

9 “e) [He] THE PERSON does not appear to be most guilty;
10 and

11 “f) [He] THE PERSON has not at any time been convicted
12 of any crime involving moral turpitude.

13 **“THE ADMISSION OF A PERSON TO THE PROGRAM IS
14 DISTINCT AND SEPARATE FROM A DISCHARGE OF AN ACCUSED
15 FROM AN INFORMATION OR CRIMINAL COMPLAINT BY THE
16 COURT IN ORDER THAT SAID ACCUSED MAY BE A STATE
17 WITNESS PURSUANT TO SECTION 17 OF RULE 119 OF THE
18 REVISED RULES OF COURT.**

19 “An accused discharged from an information or criminal
20 complaint by the court in order that [he] THE ACCUSED may be a
21 State Witness pursuant to [Sections 9 and 10] SECTION 17 of
22 Rule 119 of the Revised Rules of Court may, upon [his] petition,
23 be admitted to the Program [if he complies] UPON COMPLIANCE
24 with the other requirements of this Act. Nothing in this Act shall
25 prevent the discharge of an accused[, so that he can be used]
26 WHO QUALIFIED as [a] State Witness under SECTION 17, Rule
27 119 of the Revised Rules of Court.”

1 “SEC. 12. *Effect of Admission of a [State] Witness into*
2 *the Program.* – The certification of admission into the Program
3 by the Department shall be given full faith and credit by the
4 provincial or city prosecutor who is required not to include the
5 Witness in the criminal complaint or information and if included
6 therein, to petition the court for [his] THE discharge PURSUANT
7 TO THIS ACT in order that [he] ONE can be utilized as a [State]
8 Witness FOR THE PROSECUTION. [The court shall order the
9 discharge and exclusion of the said accused from the
10 information.]

11 “Admission into the Program shall AUTOMATICALLY
12 entitle such [State] COVERED Witness to immunity from
13 criminal prosecution for the offense or offenses in which [his]
14 THE testimony will be given or used and [all the rights and
15 benefits provided under Section 8 hereof] THE COURT SHALL
16 ORDER THE DISCHARGE AND EXCLUSION OF THE SAID
17 WITNESS FROM THE INFORMATION.”

18 SEC. 3. A new section (Section 12-A) shall be inserted between
19 Section 12 and Section 13 of the same Act, which shall read as follows:

20 “SEC. 12-A. *PERPETUATION OF TESTIMONY.* – A
21 WITNESS ONCE ADMITTED INTO THE PROGRAM SHALL
22 PERPETUATE THE TESTIMONY PURSUANT TO RULE 134 OF THE
23 REVISED RULES OF COURT.”

24 SEC. 4. Sections 13, 14, 15 and 17 of the same Act are hereby amended
25 to read as follows:

26 “SEC. 13. *Failure or Refusal of the Witness to*
27 *COOPERATE OR Testify.* – [Any Witness registered in the
28 Program who fails or refuses to testify or to continue to testify

1 without just cause when lawfully obliged to do so, shall be
2 prosecuted for contempt. If he testifies falsely or evasively, he
3 shall be liable to prosecution for perjury. If a State Witness fails
4 or refuses to testify, or testifies falsely or evasively, or violates
5 any condition accompanying such immunity without just cause as
6 determined in a hearing by the proper court, his immunity shall
7 be removed and he shall be subject to contempt or criminal
8 prosecution. Moreover, the enjoyment of all rights and benefits
9 under this Act shall be deemed terminated.]

10 [“The Witness may, however, purge himself of the
11 contumacious acts by testifying at any appropriate stage of the
12 proceedings.]

13 “A WITNESS COVERED UNDER THE PROGRAM WHO
14 UNJUSTLY FAILS OR REFUSES TO COOPERATE OR TESTIFY IN
15 THE INVESTIGATION OR PROSECUTION OF A CASE OR WHO
16 GIVES FALSE OR MISLEADING TESTIMONY SHALL BE
17 CRIMINALLY PROSECUTED AND SHALL, UPON CONVICTION,
18 SUFFER THE PENALTY OF IMPRISONMENT OF NOT LESS THAN
19 FOUR (4) YEARS BUT NOT EXCEEDING SIX (6) YEARS. THE
20 WITNESS SHALL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO RESTITUTE ALL THE
21 PROGRAM’S EXPENSES RELATIVE TO HIS COVERAGE WITHOUT
22 PREJUDICE TO PROSECUTION FOR CONTEMPT UNDER OTHER
23 EXISTING LAWS.”

24 “SEC. 14. *Compelled Testimony.* – Any Witness
25 admitted into the Program pursuant to Sections 3 and 10 of this
26 Act cannot refuse to testify or give evidence or produce books,
27 documents, records or writings necessary for the prosecution of
28 the offense or offenses for which [he] ONE has been admitted
29 into the Program on the ground of the constitutional right against

1 self-incrimination. [but he] SAID WITNESS shall enjoy immunity
2 from criminal prosecution and [cannot] SHALL NOT be subjected
3 to any penalty or forfeiture for any transaction, matter or thing
4 concerning his compelled testimony or books, documents,
5 records or writings produced.

6 "In case of refusal of said Witness to testify or give
7 evidence or produce books, documents, records, or writings, on
8 the ground of the right against self-incrimination, and the state
9 prosecutor or investigator believes that such evidence is
10 absolutely necessary for a successful prosecution of the offense
11 or offenses charged or under investigation, he, with the prior
12 approval of the Department, shall file a petition with the
13 appropriate court for the issuance of an order requiring said
14 Witness to testify, give evidence or produce the books,
15 documents, records, and writings described, and the court shall
16 issue the proper order.

17 "The court, upon motion of the state prosecutor or
18 investigator, shall order the arrest and detention of the Witness in
19 any jail contiguous to the place of trial or investigation until such
20 time that the Witness is willing to give such testimony or
21 produce such documentary evidence."

22 "SEC. 15. [*Perjury or*] *Contempt*. – No Witness shall be
23 exempt from prosecution for [perjury or] contempt committed
24 while giving testimony or producing evidence under compulsion
25 pursuant to this Act. [The penalty next higher in degree shall be
26 imposed in case of conviction for perjury.] The procedure
27 prescribed under Rule 71 of the Rules of Court shall be followed
28 in contempt proceedings but the penalty to be imposed shall

1 not be less than one (1) month but not more than one (1) year
2 imprisonment.”

3 “SEC. 17. *Penalty for Harassment of Witness.* – Any
4 person who harasses a Witness [and thereby hinders, delays,
5 prevents or dissuades a Witness] **BY REASON OF THE SWORN**
6 **STATEMENT OR TESTIMONY GIVEN BY THE LATTER, OR WHO**
7 **ATTEMPTS TO HINDER, DELAY, PREVENT OR DISSUADE THE**
8 **WITNESS** from:

9 “a) Attending or testifying before any judicial or
10 quasi-judicial body or investigating authority;

11 “b) Reporting to a law enforcement officer or judge the
12 commission or possible commission of an offense, or a violation
13 of conditions or probation, parole, or release pending judicial
14 proceedings;

15 “c) Seeking the arrest of another person in connection
16 with the offense;

17 “d) Causing a criminal prosecution, or a proceeding for
18 the revocation of a parole or probation; or

19 “e) Performing and enjoying the rights and benefits under
20 this Act [or attempts to do so,] shall be fined not more than
21 [Three thousand pesos (P3,000.00)] **TWENTY THOUSAND PESOS**
22 **(P20,000.00)** or suffer imprisonment of not less than [six (6)
23 months] **TWO (2) YEARS** but not more than [one (1) year,] **FOUR**
24 **(4) YEARS.** [or both. He shall also suffer the penalty of perpetual
25 disqualification from holding public office in case of a public
26 officer.]

1 “IN ADDITION, THE PENALTY OF PERPETUAL
2 DISQUALIFICATION FROM HOLDING PUBLIC OFFICE SHALL BE
3 IMPOSED UPON THE OFFENDER WHO IS A PUBLIC OFFICER.”

4 SEC. 5. A new section (Section 17-A) is hereby inserted in Republic
5 Act No. 6981 which shall read as follows:

6 “SEC. 17-A. *CONSTRUCTION OF PROVISIONS.* – IN CASE
7 OF DOUBT, ANY PROVISION OF THIS ACT SHALL BE CONSTRUED
8 IN FAVOR OF THE ADMISSION OF THE WITNESS.”

9 SEC. 6. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the
10 provisions of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
11 Act.

12 SEC. 7. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Justice shall
13 promulgate the necessary rules and regulations to implement this Act.

14 SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.* – If any section or provision of this Act
15 shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, such shall not invalidate any other
16 section of this Act.

17 SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, orders, rules,
18 regulations, ordinances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act are
19 hereby repealed or modified accordingly

20 SEC. 10. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
21 days after its complete publication in at least two (2) general newspapers of
22 national circulation.

Approved,

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