



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 4042

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BY REPRESENTATIVES ESCUDERO, RODRIGUEZ (R.), RODRIGUEZ (M.), GUIAO,  
COJUANGCO (K.), MAGSAYSAY, GATCHALIAN (W.) AND ABELLANOSA,  
PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 116

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AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE RULES ON THE PROPER USE  
AND DISPLAY OF OUR NATIONAL SYMBOLS AND THE  
RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, AMENDING FOR  
THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8491, OTHERWISE KNOWN  
AS THE "FLAG AND HERALDIC CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES",  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

1           SECTION 1. Sections 2 to 52 of Republic Act No. 8491 are hereby  
2 amended to read as follows:

3                   "SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – **IT IS HEREBY DECLARED**

4           **THE POLICY OF THE STATE THAT [R]**Reverence and respect shall  
5           at all times be accorded the flag, the anthem, and other national  
6           symbols which embody the national ideals and traditions and which  
7           express the principles of sovereignty and national solidarity. The  
8           heraldic items and devices shall seek to manifest the national  
9           virtues and to inculcate in the minds and hearts of our people a just  
10          pride in their native land, fitting respect and affection for the

1 national flag and anthem, and the proper use of the national motto,  
2 coat-of-arms and other heraldic items and devices.”

3 “SEC. 3. *Definition of Terms.* – [Whenever] AS used in this  
4 Act[, the term]:

5 [(a) “Military” shall mean all branches of the Armed Forces  
6 of the Philippines including the Philippine National Police, the  
7 Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, and the Bureau of Fire  
8 Protection;]

9 “(A) *ADVERTISEMENT OR INFOMERCIAL* REFERS TO  
10 *ADVERTISEMENT OR ANY INFORMATION MATERIAL IN PRINT,*  
11 *RADIO, TELEVISION, CINEMA, VIDEO AND THE LIKE, OUTDOOR*  
12 *AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA, SEEKING TO PROMOTE INDIVIDUALS,*  
13 *ENTITIES, PRODUCTS OR SERVICES FOR COMMERCIAL,*  
14 *POLITICAL PURPOSES OR INFORMATION CAMPAIGNS;*

15 “(B) *DISPLAY* REFERS TO THE MANNER IN WHICH THE  
16 *FLAG IS PUBLICLY PRESENTED AND VENERATED;*

17 “[(b)](C) [‘Festoon’ shall mean] *FESTOON* REFERS to hang in  
18 a curved shape between two points as a decoration, *CURTAIN,*  
19 *DRAPE, ETC.;*

20 “[(c)](D) [‘Flag’ shall mean] *FLAG* REFERS TO the Philippine  
21 National Flag, unless stated otherwise;

22 “[(d)](E) [‘Fly’ shall mean] *FLY* REFERS TO the part of the  
23 flag outside the hoist or length;

24 [(e) “Symbol” shall mean any conventional sign which  
25 reveals man’s achievement and heroism (for orders and  
26 decorations), identification, authority and a sign of dignity (for  
27 coat-of-arms, logo and insignia);]

1           “(F) *GOVERNMENT ENTITIES* REFER TO ALL BRANCHES OF  
2 THE GOVERNMENT, THEIR BUREAUS AND ATTACHED AGENCIES,  
3 CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES, LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES,  
4 GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND/OR -CONTROLLED CORPORATIONS,  
5 GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, EDUCATIONAL  
6 INSTITUTIONS, AND THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES  
7 (AFP) INCLUDING ITS BASIC COMPONENT UNITS;

8           “[(f)](G) [‘Half-Mast’ shall mean] *HALF-MAST* REFERS TO  
9 lowering the flag to one-half the distance between the top and  
10 bottom of the staff. IF THE FLAG IS DISPLAYED IN A HANGING  
11 POSITION OR USED IN A PARADE AS A SIGN OF MOURNING,  
12 HALF-MAST SHALL MEAN PLACING A BLACK RIBBON ON THE  
13 BLUE FIELD HOIST SIDE;

14           “(H) *HALYARD* REFERS TO THE LONG ROPE WHERE THE  
15 FLAG FASTENS AND WHICH RUNS UP THE LENGTH OF THE  
16 FLAGPOLE;

17           “(I) *HANGING POSITION* REFERS TO THE WHITE FIELD  
18 SHALL BE ON TOP, THE BLUE FIELD SHALL BE TO THE RIGHT  
19 (LEFT OF THE OBSERVER) IN TIME OF PEACE; THE WHITE FIELD  
20 SHALL BE ON TOP, AND THE RED FIELD TO THE RIGHT (LEFT OF  
21 THE OBSERVER) IN TIME OF WAR;

22           “(J) *HERALDIC ITEMS/HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES*  
23 REFER TO COAT-OF-ARMS, SEALS, LOGOS, INSIGNIAS, BADGES,  
24 FLASHES, PATCHES, ORDERS AND DECORATIONS, MEDALS,  
25 STARS, CITATIONS, LAPEL PINS, TROPHIES, DRY, WAX OR WET  
26 SEALS, AND IMPRINTS ON LETTERHEADS, ENVELOPES AND  
27 CARDS;

1           “[(g)](k) [‘Hoist’ shall mean ] *HOIST* REFERS TO the part of  
2 the flag nearest the staff or the canvass to which the halyard is  
3 attached;

4           “[(h)](l) [‘Inclement Weather’ shall mean that a typhoon  
5 signal is raised in the locality] *INCLEMENT WEATHER* REFERS TO  
6 A WEATHER CONDITION SUCH AS RAIN OR STRONG WIND THAT  
7 WILL BE UNFAVORABLE FOR THE RAISING OF THE FLAG SINCE IT  
8 WILL LESSEN THE DIGNITY THAT SHOULD BE ACCORDED TO THE  
9 FLAG;

10          “[(i)](m) [‘National Anthem’ shall mean] *NATIONAL*  
11 *ANTHEM* REFERS TO the Philippine National Anthem, ENTITLED  
12 ‘LUPANG HINIRANG’;

13          “[(j)](n) [‘Official Residences’ shall mean] *OFFICIAL*  
14 *RESIDENCES* REFER TO Malacañang, and other government-owned  
15 structures where the President resides, [and other structures  
16 occupied by] the Philippine Consulates or Embassies abroad, AND  
17 OTHER STRUCTURES OCCUPIED BY NATIONAL AND LOCAL  
18 PUBLIC OFFICIALS;

19          “[(k)](o) [‘Places of Frivolity’ shall mean] *PLACES OF*  
20 *FRIVOLITY* REFER TO places of hilarity marked by or providing  
21 boisterous merriment or recreation; [and]

22           [(l) “Institute” shall mean the National Historical Institute.]

23          “[(p)] *PHILIPPINE SUN* REFERS TO THE GOLDEN SUNBURST  
24 WITH EIGHT EQUALLY SPACED RAYS DISPLAYED IN THE FLAG.  
25 EACH RAY HAVING ONE MAJOR BEAM, TWICE AS BROAD AS THE  
26 TWO MINOR BEAMS ON EITHER SIDE;

1 “(Q) *SYMBOL* REFERS TO ANY CONVENTIONAL SIGN WHICH  
2 REVEALS MAN’S ACHIEVEMENT AND HEROISM USUALLY  
3 SHOWN OR DISPLAYED IN MEDALS, CITATIONS, ORDERS, AND  
4 DECORATIONS OR IDENTIFICATION OR AUTHORITY SUCH AS  
5 COAT-OF-ARMS, LOGOS AND INSIGNIAS;

6 “(R) *UNIFORMED SERVICE* REFERS TO ALL BRANCHES OF  
7 THE AFP, THOSE OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP),  
8 THE BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP),  
9 THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP), THE BUREAU OF  
10 IMMIGRATION (BOI), THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC), THE  
11 PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD (PCG), AND OF OTHER AGENCIES  
12 USING RANK INSIGNIA;

13 “(S) *VEXILLARY ITEMS* REFER TO NATIONAL, LOCAL,  
14 HOUSE FLAGS, OR ADMINISTRATIVE, INSTITUTIONAL,  
15 CORPORATE, AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL BANNERS; AND

16 “(T) *100 TO 120 METRONOME* REFERS TO THE REGULATED  
17 AURAL, VISUAL OR TACTILE PULSE TO ESTABLISH A STEADY  
18 TEMPO IN THE RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.”

19 “CHAPTER I

20 “THE NATIONAL FLAG

21 [*A. Design of the National Flag*]

22 “SEC. 4. *DESIGN OF THE NATIONAL FLAG*. – The flag of  
23 the Philippines shall be blue, white and red with an eight-rayed  
24 golden-yellow sun and three five-pointed stars, as consecrated and  
25 honored by the people.”

26 [*B. Hoisting and Display of the National Flag*]

27 “SEC. 5. *HOISTING AND DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL FLAG*.  
28 – The flag shall be HOISTED OR displayed in all public buildings,

1 official residences, public plazas, and institutions of learning every  
2 day throughout the year.”

3 “SEC. 6. *WHERE FLAG SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY*  
4 *DISPLAYED.* – The flag shall be permanently hoisted, day and  
5 night throughout the year, in front of the following: [at]

6 “(A) Malacañang Palace; [the]

7 “(B) [Congress of the Philippines] **SENATE OF THE**  
8 **PHILIPPINES BUILDING;**

9 “(C) **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES** building;

10 “(D) Supreme Court building; [the]

11 “(E) Rizal Monument in Luneta, **CITY OF MANILA;**

12 “(F) Aguinaldo Shrine in Kawit, Cavite;

13 “(G) Barasoain Shrine in Malolos, Bulacan; [the]

14 “(H) Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Libingan ng mga  
15 Bayani **IN TAGUIG CITY, METRO MANILA;**

16 “(I) **ALL MEMORIALS DEDICATED TO THE VETERANS OF**  
17 **THE MILITARY;**

18 “(J) *Musoleo de los Veteranos dela Revolucion* **IN THE**  
19 **NORTH CEMETERY, CITY OF MANILA;**

20 “(K) **MARCELA AGONCILLO HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN**  
21 **TAAL, BATANGAS;**

22 “(L) **PINAGLABANAN HISTORICAL LANDMARK IN SAN**  
23 **JUAN CITY, METRO MANILA;**

24 “(M) [a]All International Ports of Entry; and

25 “(N) [a]All other places as may be **SUBSEQUENTLY**  
26 **designated AND MARKED** by the [Institute] **NATIONAL**  
27 **HISTORICAL COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES (NHCP).**

1           “The flag, **AT THE ABOVE-STATED PLACES**, shall be properly  
2 illuminated at night.”

3           “**SEC. 7. DISPLAY OF FLAG IN PRIVATE BUILDINGS AND**  
4 **RESIDENCES.** – The flag shall also be displayed in private  
5 buildings and residences or raised [in the open on flag-staffs] **ON**  
6 **FLAGPOLES** in front of said buildings [every April 9 (Araw ng  
7 Kagitingan); May 1 (Labor Day); May 28 (National Flag Day) to  
8 June 12 (Independence Day); last Sunday of August (National  
9 Heroes Day); November 30 (Bonifacio Day); December 30 (Rizal  
10 Day); and on such other days as may be declared by the President  
11 and/or the local chief executives] **DURING FLAG DAYS, AS**  
12 **PROVIDED IN SECTION 25 OF THIS ACT.**

13           “The flag may also be displayed throughout the year in  
14 private buildings or offices or raised [in the open on flag-staffs] **ON**  
15 **FLAGPOLES** in front of private buildings: *Provided, That* [they]  
16 **THE OCCUPANTS OF THE SAID BUILDING SHALL** observe  
17 flag-raising ceremonies in accordance with the **IMPLEMENTING**  
18 rules and regulations (**IRR**) to be issued by the [Office of the  
19 President] **NHCP.**”

20           [**SEC. 8.** All government agencies and instrumentalities, and  
21 local government offices, government-owned corporations and  
22 local government units are enjoined to observe flag day with  
23 appropriate ceremonies. Socio-civic groups, non-government  
24 organizations and the private sector are exhorted to cooperate in  
25 making the celebrations a success.]

1           “SEC. [9]8. *DISPLAY OF FLAG ON SEAFARING VESSELS.* –

2           The flag shall be flown on [merchant ships] **ALL SEAFARING**  
3           **VESSELS** of Philippine registry [of more than one thousand (1,000)  
4           gross tons and on all naval vessels].

5           “On board [naval] **SEAFARING** vessels, the flag shall be  
6           displayed on the flag-staff at the stern when the ship is at anchor.  
7           The flag shall be hoisted to the gaff at the aftermast when the ship  
8           is at sea.”

9           “SEC. [10]9. *THE BLUE, RED AND WHITE FIELDS OF THE*  
10          **FLAG.** – The flag, if [flown from a flagpole] **HOISTED**, shall have  
11          its blue field on top in time of peace and the red field on top in time  
12          of war; if in a hanging position, **THE WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON**  
13          **TOP**, the blue field shall be to the right (left of the observer) in time  
14          of peace, **AND THE WHITE FIELD SHALL BE ON TOP**, and the red  
15          field to the right (left of the observer) in time of war.”

16          [The flagpole staff must be straight and slightly tapering at  
17          the top.]

18          “SEC. [11]10. *FLAGPOLE IN THE OPEN FIELD.* – If planted  
19          on the ground, the flagpole shall be at a prominent place and shall  
20          be of such height as would give the flag commanding position in  
21          relation to the buildings in the vicinity. **THE FLAGPOLE STAFF**  
22          **MUST BE STRAIGHT AND SLIGHTLY TAPERING AT THE TOP.**

23          “If attached to a building, the flagpole shall be on top of its  
24          roof or anchored on a sill projecting at an angle upward.



1            “If on a stage or platform or government office, the flag shall  
2 be at the left OF THE OBSERVER (facing the stage) or the left of the  
3 office upon entering.”

4            “SEC. [12]11. *THE PHILIPPINE FLAG WHEN FLOWN WITH*  
5 *ANOTHER FLAG.* – When the Philippine [f]Flag is flown with  
6 another flag, the flags, if both are national flags, must be flown on  
7 separate staffs of the same height and shall be of equal size. The  
8 Philippine [f]Flag shall be TO THE LEFT OF THE OBSERVER AND  
9 hoisted first and lowered last.

10           “If the other flag is not a national flag, it may be flown  
11 DURING SPECIAL OCCASIONS in the same [lineyard] HALYARD as  
12 the Philippine [f]Flag but below the latter and it cannot be of  
13 greater size than the Philippine [f]Flag.”

14           “SEC. [13]12. *THE PHILIPPINE FLAG WHEN DISPLAYED*  
15 *WITH ANOTHER FLAG.* – When displayed with another flag, the  
16 Philippine [f]Flag shall be on the right of the other flag (LEFT OF  
17 THE OBSERVER). If there is a line of other flags, the Philippine  
18 [f]Flag shall be [in the middle of the line] AT THE LEFTMOST OF  
19 THE OBSERVER.

20           “When carried in a parade with flags which are not national  
21 flags, the Philippine [f]Flag shall be in front of the center of the  
22 line.

23           “ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL FOR THE DISPLAY OF THE  
24 PHILIPPINE FLAG SHALL BE CONTAINED IN THE IRR TO BE  
25 ISSUED BY THE NHCP PURSUANT TO THE COMMON PROVISIONS  
26 STATED IN THIS ACT.”

1           “SEC. [14]13. *PROPER USE, DISPOSAL AND REPLACEMENT*  
2 *OF WORN OUT FLAG. – THE FLAG SHALL BE*  
3 *REPLACED IMMEDIATELY BY THE CONCERNED*  
4 *AGENCY/INSTITUTION/OFFICE WHEN IT BEGINS TO SHOW SIGNS*  
5 *OF WEAR AND TEAR.*

6           “[A]THE flag worn out through wear and tear, shall not be  
7 thrown away. It shall be [solemnly burned] **TURNED OVER TO THE**  
8 **APPROPRIATE BOY SCOUTS OR GIRL SCOUTS LOCAL COUNCIL**  
9 **COMMITTEE FOUND IN THE NEAREST SCHOOL WHICH SHALL**  
10 **CONDUCT PROPER DISPOSAL RITES ON THE WORN OUT FLAG/S to**  
11 **avoid misuse or desecration. [The flag shall be replaced**  
12 **immediately when it begins to show signs of wear and tear.]**

13           “**THE MANNER OF DISPOSAL OF THE WORN OUT FLAG/S**  
14 **SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RULES TO BE ISSUED BY**  
15 **THE NHCP.”**

16           “SEC. [15]14. *APPROPRIATE TIME FOR FLAG RAISING AND*  
17 *LOWERING. – The flag shall be raised at sunrise and lowered at*  
18 *sunset. It shall be on the mast at the start of official office hours,*  
19 *AND shall remain flying throughout the day.”*

20           “SEC. [16]15. *MANNER OF DISPLAYING THE FLAG. – The*  
21 *flag may be displayed:*

22           “(a) Inside or outside a building or on stationary **OR**  
23 **MOVABLE** flagpoles. If the flag is displayed indoors on a flagpole,  
24 it shall be placed at the left of the observer as one enters the room;

25           “(b) From the top of a flagpole, which shall be at a  
26 prominent place or a commanding position in relation to the  
27 surrounding buildings;

1           “(c) From a staff projecting upward from the window sill,  
2 canopy, balcony or facade of a building;

3           “(d) In a suspended position from a rope extending from a  
4 building **OR LAMPOST** to A pole erected away from the building;

5           “(e) Flat against the wall vertically with the sun and stars on  
6 top; and

7           “(f) Hanging in a vertical position across a street, with the  
8 blue field pointing east, if the road is heading south or north, or  
9 pointing north if the road is heading east or west.

10           “The flag shall not be raised [when the weather is inclement]  
11 **DURING INCLEMENT WEATHER**. If already raised **PRIOR TO**  
12 **INCLEMENT WEATHER**, the flag shall not be lowered.”

13           “**SEC. [17]16. MANNER OF HOISTING THE FLAG.** – The  
14 flag shall be hoisted to the top briskly and lowered ceremoniously.

15           “The flag shall never touch anything beneath it, such as the  
16 ground, flood, water or other objects.

17           “After being lowered, the flag shall be handled and folded  
18 solemnly as part of the ceremony.”

19                           *[C. Conduct of Flag Raising Ceremony]*

20           “**SEC. [18]17. FLAG CEREMONY IN PUBLIC OFFICES AND**  
21 **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.** – All government offices and  
22 educational institutions shall henceforth observe the flag-raising  
23 ceremony every Monday morning and the flag-lowering ceremony  
24 every Friday afternoon. The ceremony shall be simple and  
25 dignified and shall include the playing [or] **AND MANDATORY**  
26 **singing of the Philippine National Anthem.**”

1           [SEC. 19. The Office of the President upon the  
2 recommendation of the Institute shall issue rules and regulations  
3 for the proper conduct of the flag ceremony.]

4           “SEC. [20]18. *DIGNITY IN THE OBSERVANCE OF FLAG*  
5 *CEREMONY.* – The observance of the flag ceremony in official or  
6 civic gatherings shall be simple and dignified and shall include the  
7 playing [or] **AND MANDATORY** singing of the **NATIONAL** anthem in  
8 its original Filipino lyrics and march tempo.”

9           “SEC. [21]19. *FLAG-RAISING CEREMONY.* – During the  
10 flag-raising ceremony, the assembly shall stand in formation facing  
11 the flag. **PROPER ANNOUNCEMENT SHALL BE MADE PRIOR TO**  
12 **THE SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.** At the moment the first  
13 note of the **NATIONAL** anthem is heard, everyone in the premises  
14 shall come to attention; moving vehicles shall stop. All persons  
15 present shall place their right palms over their chest, those with  
16 hats shall uncover; while those in military, scouting, security guard,  
17 and citizens military training uniforms shall give the salute  
18 prescribed by their regulations, which salute shall be completed  
19 upon the last note of the **NATIONAL** anthem.

20           “The assembly shall sing the Philippine [n]National  
21 [a]Anthem, accompanied by a band, if available, and at the first  
22 note, the flag shall be raised briskly.

23           “The same procedure shall be observed when the flag is  
24 passing in review or in parade.”

25           “SEC. [22]20. *FLAG-LOWERING CEREMONY.* – During the  
26 flag-lowering, the flag shall be lowered solemnly and slowly so that  
27 the flag shall be down the mast at the sound of the last note of the

1 NATIONAL anthem. Those in the assembly shall observe the same  
2 deportment or shall observe the same behavior as for the  
3 flag-raising ceremony.”

4 [D. Half-Mast]

5 “SEC. [23]21. *FLAG IN HALF-MAST*. – The flag shall be  
6 flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning on all the buildings and  
7 places [where it is displayed, as provided for in this Act] WHERE  
8 THE DECEASED WAS HOLDING OFFICE, on the day of official  
9 announcement of the death of any of the following officials:

10 “(a) The President or a former President, **THE FLAG SHALL**  
11 **BE FLOWN AT HALF-MAST** for ten (10) days;

12 “(b) The Vice President, the Chief Justice, the President of  
13 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, **THE**  
14 **FLAG SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-MAST** for seven (7) days; and

15 “(c) [Other persons to be determined by the Institute,] **THE**  
16 **INCUMBENT MEMBERS OF THE SUPREME COURT, THE CABINET,**  
17 **THE SENATE OR THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND SUCH**  
18 **OTHER PERSONS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE NHCP, THE**  
19 **FLAG SHALL BE FLOWN AT HALF-MAST** for any period less than  
20 seven (7) days.

21 “**TO GIVE DUE RECOGNITION AND TRIBUTE TO THE**  
22 **SELFLESS DEDICATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, THE FLAG**  
23 **SHALL BE ALLOWED TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-MAST AS A SIGN OF**  
24 **MOURNING ON THE DAY OF THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF**  
25 **THE DEATH OF A RETIRED OR INCUMBENT PUBLIC SCHOOL**  
26 **TEACHER, FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN FIVE (5) DAYS, ON**  
27 **DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) SCHOOLS OR DISTRICT**  
28 **OFFICES WHERE THE DECEASED WAS ASSIGNED TO TEACH.**



1            "At sa bansang kanyang sinasagisag  
2            "Na may dangal, katarungan at kalayaan  
3            "Na pinakikilos ng sambayanang  
4            "Maka-Diyos  
5            "Maka-tao  
6            "Makakalikasan at  
7            "Makabansa.

8            "[Such pledge] **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE**  
9            **PHILIPPINE FLAG** shall be recited while standing with the right  
10           hand with palm open raised shoulder high. Individuals whose faith  
11           or religious beliefs prohibit them from making such pledge must,  
12           nonetheless, show full respect when the pledge is being rendered  
13           by standing at attention."

14            "**SEC. 24. OATH OF PATRIOTISM. – THE FOLLOWING**  
15            **SHALL BE THE OATH OF PATRIOTISM TO THE PHILIPPINES**  
16            **WHICH SHALL BE RECITED BY STUDENTS IN ALL LEVELS IN**  
17            **ADDITION TO THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE PHILIPPINE**  
18            **FLAG:**

19            "**INIIBIG KO ANG PILIPINAS.**  
20            "**ITO ANG AKING LUPANG SINILANGAN.**  
21            "**ITO ANG TAHANAN NG AKING LAHI.**  
22            "**AKO'Y KANYANG KINUKUPKOP AT TINUTULUNGAN**  
23            "**UPANG MAGING MALAKAS, MALIGAYA,**  
24            "**AT KAPAKIPAKINABANG.**  
25            "**BILANG GANTI,**  
26            "**DIRINGGIN KO ANG PAYO**







1           “SEC. 29. *STANDARDS FOR FLAG REQUISITION.* – In order  
2 to establish uniform criteria in the making of our national flag and  
3 to guarantee its durability by the use of quality materials, the  
4 following standards and procedures shall be observed:

5           “(a) All requisitions for the purchase of the Philippine  
6 National Flag must be based on strict compliance with the design,  
7 color, craftsmanship and material requirements of the  
8 [G]overnment;

9           “(b) All submitted samples of flags by accredited suppliers  
10 offered for purchase for government use shall be evaluated as  
11 to design, color and craftsmanship specifications by the  
12 [Institute]NHCP, through its Heraldry and Display Section, which  
13 shall stamp its approval or disapproval on the canvass  
14 reinforcement of the flag sample submitted. The samples shall be  
15 sent to the [Institute]NHCP by the requisitioning office, not by the  
16 flag supplier; and

17           “(c) The Industrial Technology Development Institute  
18 (ITDI) or the Philippine Textile Research Institute (PTRI) of the  
19 Department of Science and Technology (DOST) shall evaluate the  
20 quality of material of all flag samples and certify whether the fabric  
21 for the blue, white, red and golden yellow colors, including the  
22 canvas submitted, conforms to government requirement as to  
23 quality of the material. The samples shall be sent annually to the  
24 ITDI/PTRI by the manufacturer. The laboratory test results shall be  
25 submitted by the said office to the [Institute]NHCP.”

1           “SEC. 30. *FLAG PURCHASE INSPECTION.* – All deliveries  
 2 of the flags requisitioned by the government shall be inspected by  
 3 the requisitioning agency’s internal inspector and by the  
 4 Commission on Audit (COA) using the flag stamped approved by  
 5 the [Institute]NHCP as reference.”

6           “[SEC. 31.] In carrying out [its] THE ABOVE responsibilities  
 7 [under Section 4 hereof], the [Institute]NHCP, THE COA, AND the  
 8 ITDI/PTRI shall prepare guidelines to be approved by [the Office  
 9 of the President] ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED.”

10          “SEC. [32]31. *STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS.*  
 11 – All government agencies and instrumentalities shall ensure that  
 12 the requirements under this Act with respect to the standards,  
 13 requisitions and delivery of the national flag are strictly complied  
 14 with.”

15          “SEC. [33]32. *FLAG REQUISITION BUDGET.* – All  
 16 departments, agencies, offices, and instrumentalities of the  
 17 government, government-owned or -controlled corporations, local  
 18 government units, including barangays, shall include in their annual  
 19 budgets the necessary outlay for the purchase of the national flag.

20          “FURTHERMORE, ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS ARE  
 21 DIRECTED TO ALLOCATE APPROPRIATE SUMS FOR A FLAG CODE  
 22 PUBLIC AWARENESS PROGRAM AS WELL AS THE PROPER  
 23 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE FLAG CODE.”

24   *[I. Prohibited Acts]*

25          “SEC. [34]33. *PROHIBITED ACTS.* – It shall be prohibited:

26           “(a) To mutilate, deface, defile, trample on or cast contempt  
 27 or commit any act or omission casting dishonor or ridicule

1 upon the flag, [or over its surface] ANTHEM, SEAL, MOTTO,  
2 COAT-OF-ARMS, AND OTHER HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES;

3 “(b) To dip the flag to any person or object by way of  
4 compliment or salute;

5 “(c) To use the flag:

6 “(1) As [a] drapery, festoon, tablecloth;

7 “(2) As covering for ceilings, walls, statues or other objects;

8 “(3) As [a pennant] DRAPERY in the hood, side, back and top  
9 of motor vehicles; ALL CLOTH FLAGS SHOULD BE DISPLAYED  
10 FREELY WAVING IN THE AIR;

11 “(4) As a staff or whip;

12 “(5) AS COVERING [F]For unveiling OF monuments or  
13 statues; and

14 “(6) As trademarks, or for industrial, commercial or  
15 agricultural labels or designs.

16 “(d) To display the flag:

17 “(1) Under any painting or picture;

18 “(2) Horizontally face-up. It shall always be hoisted aloft  
19 and be allowed to fall freely;

20 “(3) Below any platform; or

21 “(4) In discotheques, cockpits, night and day clubs, casinos,  
22 gambling joints and places of vice or where frivolity prevails.

23 “(e) To wear the flag [in whole or in part], SEAL,  
24 COAT-OF-ARMS as PART OF a costume or [uniform] AS A FASHION  
25 ACCESSORY OR MERELY AS A DESIGN ELEMENT: *PROVIDED*,  
26 THAT THE FLAG, SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS, MAY BE INCORPORATED  
27 AS PART OF THE UNIFORM OF FILIPINOS REPRESENTING THE

1 **PHILIPPINES IN INTERNATIONAL SPORTS, CULTURAL OR**  
2 **SCIENTIFIC COMPETITIONS OR OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS WITH THE**  
3 **APPROVAL OF THE NHCP;**

4 “(f) To add any word, figure, mark, picture, design,  
5 drawings, advertisement, or imprint [of any nature] on the flag[;],  
6 **SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS OR ANY REPRESENTATION THEREFOR;**

7 “(g) To print, paint or attach A representation of the flag,  
8 **SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS** on handkerchiefs, napkins, cushions and  
9 other articles of merchandise; **AND**

10 [(h) To display in public any foreign flag, except in  
11 embassies and other diplomatic establishments, and in offices of  
12 international organizations;]

13 “[(i)](H) To use[,] **OR** display **THE FLAG, SEAL,**  
14 **COAT-OF-ARMS,** or be part of any advertisement or infomercial[;]  
15 **WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE NHCP [and].”**

16 [(j) To display the flag in front of buildings or offices  
17 occupied by aliens.]

18 “CHAPTER II

19 “THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

20 “SEC. [35]34. *TITLE OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.* – The  
21 [N]national [A]Anthem is entitled Lupang Hinirang.

22 “SEC. [36]35. *LANGUAGE AND LYRICS OF THE NATIONAL*  
23 *ANTHEM.* – The [N]national [A]Anthem shall always be sung in  
24 the national language within or [without]OUTSIDE the country. The  
25 following shall be the lyrics of the [N]National [A]Anthem:

1           “Bayang magiliw,  
 2           “Perlas ng Silanganan,  
 3           “Alab ng puso,  
 4           “Sa dibdib mo’y buhay.  
 5           “Lupang hinirang,  
 6           “Duyan ka ng magiting,  
 7           “Sa manlulupig,  
 8           “Di ka pasisiil.  
 9           “Sa dagat at bundok,  
 10          “Sa simoy at sa langit mong bughaw,  
 11          “May dilag ang tula,  
 12          “At awit sa paglayang minamahal.  
 13          “Ang kislap ng watawat mo’y  
 14          “Tagumpay na nagniningning,  
 15          “Ang bituin at araw niya,  
 16          “Kailan pa ma’y di magdidilim[.].  
 17          “Lupa ng araw, ng luwalhati’t pagsinta,  
 18          “Buhay ay langit sa piling mo,  
 19          “Aming ligaya na pag may mang-aapi,  
 20          “Ang mamatay ng dahil sa iyo.”

21           “SEC. [37]36. *RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.* –  
 22          The rendition of the [N]national [A]Anthem[, whether played or  
 23          sung, shall be in accordance with the musical arrangement and  
 24          composition of Julian Felipe] **SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH**  
 25          **THE MUSICAL ARRANGEMENT AND COMPOSITION OF JULIAN**  
 26          **FELIPE, IN 2/4 BEAT WHEN PLAYED; AND WITHIN THE RANGE OF**  
 27          **100 TO 120 METRONOME, IN 4/4 BEAT WHEN SANG. THE NHCP,**

1           **IN COORDINATION WITH THE PROPER GOVERNMENT AGENCY,**  
2           **SHALL DISSEMINATE AN OFFICIAL MUSIC SCORE SHEET THAT**  
3           **REFLECTS THE MANNER IN WHICH THE NATIONAL ANTHEM**  
4           **SHOULD BE PLAYED OR SUNG.”**

5           **“SEC. [38]37. MANNER OF SINGING THE NATIONAL**  
6           **ANTHEM.** -- When the [N]National [A]Anthem is played at a public  
7           gathering, whether by a band or [by singing or both, or reproduced  
8           by any means,] **THROUGH THE PLAYING OF A RECORDING IN ANY**  
9           **FORMAT,** the attending public shall sing the NATIONAL anthem.  
10          The singing **SHALL BE MANDATORY AND** must be done with fervor.

11          **“As a sign of respect, all persons shall stand at attention and**  
12          **face the Philippine [f]Flag, if there is one displayed, and if there is**  
13          **none, they shall face the band or the conductor. At the first note, all**  
14          **persons shall execute a salute by placing their right palms over**  
15          **their left chests. [Those in military, scouting, citizens] THE**  
16          **MILITARY AND THOSE IN** military training and security guard  
17          uniforms shall give the salute prescribed by their regulations. The  
18          salute shall be completed upon the last note of the NATIONAL  
19          anthem.

20          **“INDIVIDUALS WHOSE FAITH OR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS**  
21          **PROHIBIT THEM FROM SINGING THE NATIONAL ANTHEM MUST,**  
22          **NONETHELESS, SHOW FULL RESPECT WHEN THE NATIONAL**  
23          **ANTHEM IS BEING SUNG OR PLAYED ON RECORD BY STANDING AT**  
24          **ATTENTION.**

25          **“The NATIONAL anthem shall not be played and sung [for]**  
26          **PRECEDING EVENTS OF** mere recreation, amusement or  
27          entertainment purposes except on the following occasions:

1           “(a) International competitions where the Philippines is the  
2 host or has a representative;

3           “(b) NATIONAL OR [L]Local SPORTS competitions;

4           “(c) During the ‘signing off’ and ‘signing on’ of radio  
5 broadcasting and television stations;

6           “(d) Before the initial and last screening of films and before  
7 the opening of theater performances[:]; *PROVIDED, THAT THE*  
8 *OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS SHALL BE*  
9 *MANDATED TO ENFORCE PROPER DECORUM AND IMPLEMENT*  
10 *THE PERTINENT PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; and*

11           “(e) Other occasions as may be allowed by the [Institute]  
12 NHCP.”

13           “SEC. [39]38. *STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH RULES FOR THE*  
14 *RENDITION OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.* – All officials and  
15 employees of the national and local governments, and any agency  
16 or instrumentality thereof, including government-owned or  
17 -controlled corporations, privately-owned entities or offices  
18 displaying the national flag and government institutions of learning  
19 are hereby directed to comply strictly with the rules prescribed for  
20 the rendition of the NATIONAL anthem. Failure to observe the rules  
21 shall be a ground for administrative discipline.”

22           “SEC. 39. *OBLIGATIONS OF EDUCATION REGULATION*  
23 *AGENCIES.* – THE DEPED, THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER  
24 EDUCATION (CHED) AND THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND  
25 SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) SHALL ENSURE  
26 THAT THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, AS ADOPTED BY LAW, SHALL BE  
27 COMMITTED TO MEMORY BY ALL STUDENTS OF BOTH PUBLIC  
28 AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, AND RENDERED



1 DURING THE FLAG CEREMONY CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE  
 2 WITH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS ISSUED BY THE NHCP. IN  
 3 ADDITION, THEY SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE THE VOCAL, PIANO OR  
 4 BAND SCORES OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, AS ADOPTED BY LAW,  
 5 TO ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AS WELL AS THE  
 6 GENERAL PUBLIC.”

7 “CHAPTER III

8 “THE NATIONAL MOTTO, THE NATIONAL

9 “COAT-OF-ARMS AND THE GREAT SEAL

10 “SEC. 40. *THE NATIONAL MOTTO.* – The National Motto  
 11 shall be ‘MAKA-DIYOS, MAKA-TAO, MAKAKALIKASAN AT  
 12 MAKABANSA’.”

13 [CHAPTER IV]

14 [THE NATIONAL COAT-OF-ARMS]

15 “SEC. 41. *THE NATIONAL COAT-OF-ARMS.* – The National  
 16 Coat-of-Arms shall have:

17 “[Paleways]FIELD of two (2) pieces, [azure and gules; a  
 18 chief argent] BLUE WITH AN EAGLE AND RED WITH A LION  
 19 RAMPART, A WHITE FIELD studded with three (3) [mulletts] STARS  
 20 equidistant from each other; and, in point of honor, [ovoid argent  
 21 over all the sun rayonnant with eight minor and lesser rays] WHITE  
 22 OVAL WITH THE PHILIPPINE SUN AT THE CENTER. Beneath shall  
 23 be the scroll with the words ‘REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS’,  
 24 inscribed thereon.”

## [CHAPTER V]

## [THE GREAT SEAL]

1  
2  
3       “SEC. 42. *THE GREAT SEAL.* – The Great Seal shall be  
4 circular in form, with the arms as described in the preceding  
5 section, but without the scroll and the inscription thereon.  
6 Surrounding the whole shall be a double marginal circle within  
7 which shall appear the words ‘Republika ng Pilipinas’. For the  
8 purpose of placing The Great Seal, the color of the arms shall not  
9 be deemed essential but tincture representation must be used.”

10           [The Great Seal shall also bear the National Motto.]

11       “SEC. 43. *WHERE TO AFFIX THE GREAT SEAL.* – The  
12 Great Seal shall be affixed to or placed upon all commissions  
13 signed by the President and upon such other official documents and  
14 papers of the Republic of the Philippines as may be provided by  
15 law, or as may be required by custom and usage. The President  
16 shall have custody of the Great Seal.”

## “CHAPTER [VI]IV

## [OFFICIAL SEAL AND OTHER]

## “HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES

17  
18  
19       “SEC. 44. *ADOPTION OF HERALDIC AND SIMILAR DEVICES.*  
20 – Any government entity, including the military, may adopt  
21 appropriate HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES SUCH AS MEDALS,  
22 coat-of-arms, administrative seals, logo, insignia, badges, patches,  
23 and banners; and initiate awards, citations, orders or decorations;  
24 as may be authorized by Congress or the Office of the President.”  
25

26       “SEC. 45. *REPORTORIAL REQUIREMENTS.* – Such heraldic  
27 devices and items shall be filed with the [Institute]NHCP for

1 recording and evaluation as to precedence, design, customs  
2 and traditions. The [Institute]NHCP shall promulgate the  
3 corresponding rules and regulations which shall be submitted for  
4 approval to the Office of the President or to Congress.”

5 “SEC. 46. *PURCHASE OF HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES*  
6 *FROM ACCREDITED SOURCES.* – All government offices  
7 including the military are hereby ordered to purchase all heraldic  
8 items and devices from manufacturers accredited and authorized by  
9 the [Institute]NHCP. Such items and devices shall be subject to  
10 inspection by the purchasing agency’s internal inspector and the  
11 COA representative using the design and specifications approved  
12 by the Office of the President or by the Congress, through the  
13 [Institute]NHCP.”

14 [SEC. 47. No government official or employee shall accept  
15 any order or decoration from any foreign government without the  
16 consent of Congress, and without the prior evaluation and  
17 documentation of such order or decoration by the Institute.]

18 “CHAPTER [VII]V

19 “PENALTIES

20 “SEC. [48]47. *PUBLIC CENSURE/CANCELLATION OF*  
21 *PERMIT.* – Failure or refusal to observe the provisions of this Act;  
22 and any violation of the corresponding rules and regulations issued  
23 by the [Office of the President,]NHCP shall, after proper notice  
24 and hearing, be penalized by public censure which shall be  
25 published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation.

1           “The [Department of Education, Culture and Sports]DEPED  
2           and the [Commission on Higher Education]CHED, upon the  
3           recommendation of the [Institute]NHCP and after proper notice  
4           and hearing, shall cause the cancellation of the recognition or  
5           permit of any private educational institution which fails or refuses  
6           to observe the provisions of this Act for the second time.”

7           [SEC. 49. – The Department of Education, Culture and Sports  
8           (DECS) and the Commission on Higher Education shall ensure that  
9           the National Anthem, as adopted by law, shall be committed to  
10          memory by all students of both public and private educational  
11          institutions, and performed during the flag ceremony conducted in  
12          accordance with the rules and regulations issued by the Office of  
13          the President. In addition, they shall make available the vocal,  
14          piano or band scores of the National Anthem, as adopted by law, to  
15          all private and public schools, as well as the general public.]

16          “SEC. [50]48. *PUNISHMENT FOR VIOLATIONS.* – Any  
17          person WHO or ANY juridical entity which violates  
18          any of the provisions of this Act shall, upon conviction,  
19          be punished by a fine of not less than [Five]FIFTY thousand  
20          pesos [(P5,000)] (PHP50,000.00) nor more than [Twenty]ONE  
21          HUNDRED thousand pesos [(P20,000)] (PHP100,000.00)[, or]  
22          AND by imprisonment for not more than [one (1) year]  
23          TWO (2) YEARS[,] : [or both such fine and imprisonment,  
24          at the discretion of the court: *Provided*, That for any  
25          second and additional offenses, both fine and  
26          imprisonment shall always be imposed:] *Provided*, [further,]

1 That in case the violation is committed by a juridical person, its  
2 President or Chief Executive Officer thereof shall be liable.

3 **“THE NHCP MAY PRESCRIBE IN THE IMPLEMENTING**  
4 **RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ACT, OTHER ACTS OR**  
5 **OMISSIONS WHICH SHALL BE DEEMED DISRESPECTFUL, AND**  
6 **THUS PROHIBITED, RELATIVE TO THE FLAG, NATIONAL ANTHEM,**  
7 **GREAT SEAL, COAT-OF-ARMS, NATIONAL MOTTO, AND OTHER**  
8 **HERALDIC ITEMS AND DEVICES.”**

9 **“SEC. 49. CITIZEN’S ARREST. – ANY CITIZEN SHALL**  
10 **HAVE THE POWER TO CONDUCT A CITIZEN’S ARREST IF A PERSON**  
11 **IS ACTUALLY VIOLATING ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT**  
12 **IN ONE’S PRESENCE AND CAN SUMMON ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
13 **OFFICERS TO ASSIST IN CONDUCTING CITIZEN’S ARREST. ALL**  
14 **SECURITY PERSONNEL AND USHERS IN MOVIEHOUSES ARE**  
15 **LIKEWISE AUTHORIZED TO ARREST THE VIOLATORS.”**

16 **“CHAPTER [VIII]VI**

17 **“COMMON PROVISIONS**

18 **“SEC. [51]50. ISSUANCE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS AND**  
19 **THEIR ENFORCEMENT. – The [Institute]NHCP shall issue the**  
20 **necessary rules and regulations [to implement the provisions of this**  
21 **Act] within ninety (90) days after [effectivity] THE APPROVAL OF**  
22 **THIS ACT. The [Institute]NHCP shall submit its rules and**  
23 **regulations to the Office of the President and the Congress of the**  
24 **Philippines.**

25 **“[SEC. 52.]The [Institute]NHCP shall [also] be responsible**  
26 **for the strict enforcement of the provisions of this Act. It may call**  
27 **upon any government department, agency, office, or government**

1           instrumentality, including government corporations[,] and local  
2           government units, for such assistance as it may deem necessary for  
3           the effective discharge of its functions under this Act.”

4           SEC. 2. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules  
5           and regulations, part or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this  
6           Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

7           SEC. 3. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reason, any portion or  
8           provision of this Act shall be declared unconstitutional, other parts or  
9           provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall continue to be in full  
10          force and effect.

11          SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from  
12          the date of its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any newspaper of  
13          general circulation.

          Approved,

○