



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6148

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BY REPRESENTATIVES ESCUDERO AND PRIMICIAS-AGABAS, PER COMMITTEE  
REPORT NO. 886

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AN ACT INCREASING THE PENALTIES FOR THE CRIME OF SLANDER BY DEED AND INCLUDING THE INTENTIONAL FILING OF A FALSE COMPLAINT IN COURT OR WITH ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY EXERCISING QUASI-JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS AS ONE OF ITS FORMS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE ARTICLE 359 OF ACT NO. 3815, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE REVISED PENAL CODE"

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

1           SECTION 1. Article 359 of Act No. 3815, otherwise known as "The  
2 Revised Penal Code", is hereby amended to read as follows:

3                   "Art. 359. *Slander by deed.* – The penalty of [*arresto*  
4                   *mayor* in its maximum] **PRISION MAYOR** IN ITS MEDIUM period to  
5                   [*prision correccional* in its minimum] **ITS MAXIMUM** period or a  
6                   *fine* [*ranging from 200 to 1,000 pesos*] **OF 100,000 PESOS, OR**  
7                   **BOTH**, shall be imposed upon any person who shall perform any  
8                   act not included and punished in this title, which shall  
9                   cast dishonor, discredit or contempt upon another person[.],  
10                   **INCLUDING THE INTENTIONAL FILING OF A FALSE COMPLAINT**

1 IN COURT OR WITH ANY GOVERNMENT AGENCY EXERCISING  
2 QUASI-JUDICIAL OR ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS. If said act is not  
3 of a serious nature, the penalty shall be [*arresto menor*] *PRISION*  
4 *MAYOR* IN ITS MINIMUM PERIOD or a fine [not exceeding 200  
5 pesos] OF 50,000 PESOS.

6 "IF DURING THE COURSE OF ANY FORMAL  
7 INVESTIGATION OR TRIAL OF THE CASE, IT IS PROVEN THAT  
8 THE ABOVE FALSE COMPLAINT HAS BEEN OR IS BEING USED  
9 BY THE COMPLAINANT TO GAIN ADVANTAGE OR TO RECEIVE  
10 A FAVORABLE DECISION, ACTION, OR RESOLUTION ON ANY  
11 MATTER, THE MAXIMUM PENALTY PROVIDED HEREIN SHALL BE  
12 IMPOSED."

13 SEC. 2. If any provision of this Act is declared invalid by a competent  
14 court, the remainder of this Act or any provision not otherwise affected by such  
15 declaration of invalidity shall remain in force and effect.

16 SEC. 3. All laws, decrees, executive orders, and rules and regulations  
17 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified  
18 accordingly.

19 SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication  
20 in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

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